

May 2015

St. James Herald

What's INSIDE

A publication of St. James Lutheran Church of Crystal, Minnesota

Happenings

Children & Youth

Important Info

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Bonfire News



Office Hours

The church office is open:
Mon.-Wed. 7:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Thurs. 7:00 a.m.—noon

Sunday Morning Schedule

9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Education for all ages
11:10 a.m. Contemporary Worship
(Through May 17. See page 2 for
summer worship times.)

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

Pastoral Reflection

Friends in Christ,

In these first days of May, we draw encouragement from the warmth and beauty of spring and new life emerging in gardens and farm fields.

Plans for summer vacations, family gatherings, and outdoor activities stretch before us in splendid abundance. It's appropriate that our worship and scripture selections during May also stress the splendid abundance of life we receive from God through Christ our Lord. Because we are saved by God's grace, there is nothing for us to do for our salvation. All that is good we receive from God's overflowing love for us. Having been saved by God's grace alone, we are free to live abundant lives, no matter the circumstance. John 15: 1-8.

The last two Sundays of April and first Sunday of May, we will be celebrating God's generosity extended to our congregation, and the generous stewardship of our congregation. During my life, I have been inspired by many faithful, generous stewards. Think of someone who inspires and encourages you. Is it because of their wealth and fame, or does the blessing you receive from them come from some other source? For me, these special people share the love of God with others through their generous sharing of both financial and time resources, even though they have struggled with trials and difficulties in their lives. Indeed, those who have the most struggles are often the ones who inspire most. Through their trials, they have known the faithful, steadfast love of God. Through their generosity, they shared the love of God through what God has entrusted to them.

We are free to choose our attitude, we are free to choose who we will serve, and we are free to choose who we will love and follow. Having been chosen and saved by the love of God, given freely through Christ, we are invited by our Savior to choose the abundant life for which God has created us, for which Jesus has given his life, and for which the Holy Spirit calls, gathers and enlightens us. By stating and re-stating these central tenants of our faith, we encourage and sustain one another in times of loss, sorrow, conflict, doubt or disbelief, as well as times of celebration, joy, love and new life. We are not spared the difficult things, but grow from them to share in the joy of God's love. John 15:9-17.

May you experience, and share, love, joy and acceptance within the community in Christ at St. James Lutheran. Come visit the Stewardship Ministry's "Sprouting Stewardship" Kissing Booth on Sunday May 3. In addition to Hershey's kisses, you can check out electronic giving, and explore pledging. The life of discipleship, of following Jesus Christ, is an invitation to make choices throughout our life which are life-giving and which bring glory and honor to God. The life of discipleship is also the life of the steward, one who faithfully cares for what has been entrusted by God to the steward's care. We are protected by the God of our salvation, who has made us holy through Christ and therefore will not abandon or forsake us. John 17:6-19.



Love in Christ,
Pastor Randy

St. James' Staff

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Deanna Loken
Choir Director

Mary Brown
Ringin' Praise Bell Choir
Director & Organist

Ron Skalicky
Custodian

Amy Jermstad
Sunday Morning Custodian /
Sunday School Coordinator

St. James Website Accepts Donations

The St. James website 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.



Summer Worship Schedule

Beginning on Sun., May 24 and continuing through Labor Day, St. James will have one worship service at 9:30 a.m.



Over 55's Schedule

- **May**– Open
- **June**– Cruise Mississippi River on Minneapolis Queen. Cost \$16. Date TBD.
- **July**– Minnesota Pops Orchestra
- **August**– Lord Fletcher's on Lake Minnetonka. Lunch on the wharf at noon.

Car Care Saturday

The next Car Care Saturday has been scheduled for Saturday, June 6, 8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Volunteers will be needed to help with changing oil, cleaning cars, registration, hospitality, and child care. Please sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office!

Car Care is a ministry of St. James that provides oil changes to people in need in our community.

Pr. Kristen Called to St. James

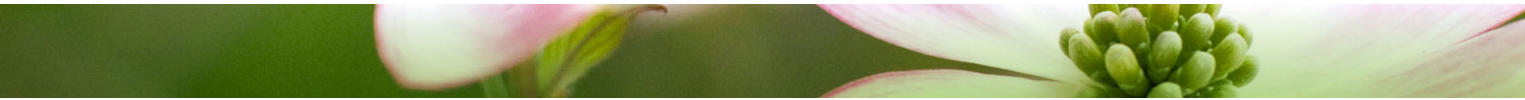
St. James Lutheran Church members voted Sun., April 12 in a congregational vote to call Pastor Kristen Brechler to serve as Associate Pastor. Pastor Kristen has been serving as Interim Associate Pastor since September 2013. We are thrilled to have her as a member of our staff! Watch for information about her installation.



Garage Sale Leader

Are you passionate about garage sales? Would you love to see one at St. James? We are looking for someone who would be interested in spearheading a garage sale this summer at St. James. This would involve creating a committee and then leading the group through the process of holding a garage sale.

If you are interested in leading this initiative, please contact Pastor Randy.



Pentecost Geraniums

Geranium plants may be ordered to help decorate for Pentecost Sunday on May 24. Your geranium orders need to be placed by noon on May 10. Plants can be picked up following the 9:30 a.m. Pentecost Sunday worship service.



Number of plants ordered Amount paid

_____ dozen @ 31.00 = _____

_____ half dozen @ \$ 18.00 = _____

_____ single plant @ \$3.75 = _____

Given in MEMORY / HONOR of : _____

Given by: _____

I'd like to donate _____ (indicate #) of my plants for planting outside at St. James.



Men's Breakfast

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

Recycling

Please place your paper, plastic, cardboard or can recycling in any of the blue bins throughout the building. This is kept separate from the trash.

Office Closed

The church office will be closed Mon., May 25 for Memorial Day. In case of an emergency, contact Pastor Randy at 612-803-2879.

Synod Assembly

Synod Assembly will be May 15-16 at Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Ramsey.



Congregational Vote Results on Same Gender Marriage

St. James council members held two congregational discernment sessions to discuss the possibility of St. James performing same gender marriages in January of this year. A congregational vote was held on Sun., Feb. 8. With a 62 to 19 vote, St. James members passed the Same Gender Marriage Policy to allow gay marriages at St. James.

As outlined in the ELCA 2009 social statement on human sexuality, our denomination understands sexuality as a gift from God that has proper expression between two people — whether same or opposite gender — in a loving, committed, monogamous and publicly accountable relationship. Our congregations are encouraged to welcome and invite everyone into the full life of the church. In states where same-gender marriage is legal, Lutheran congregations may provide wedding hospitality.

Nursery Volunteers Needed

Caring adults and youth are needed to serve at each worship service in our Nursery. If you are interested in helping, please contact the church office, or Pastor Kristen Brechler.



Donations of Children's Books

When you find books your children no longer read, please donate them to the library for Car Care this spring.

Just drop them off in the library. The Car Care clients really appreciate this ministry.

St. James Library Has Kids Books and DVDs

Parents, please stop by the library and help your child select a book from the large selection of children's books available. The library is always open and staffed on Sunday mornings to make it convenient for you. A love of reading, encouraged early, can be a lifelong pleasure.

There are a limited number of family friendly DVDs available. A recently acquired title is: Misty and Wildfire, the Arabian Heart. If you have suggestions for titles of DVDs or books you would like us to purchase, please leave your suggestions on the desk or in the office cubby.

Lighthouse Sunday School Schedule

The final day of Sunday School and Teacher Appreciation will be on Sun., May 3 at 10:10 a.m.

Kids will sing in worship on Sun., May 10 at the 9:00 a.m. worship service.



Wildfire VBS "Crocodile Dock"

This year we are partnering with other churches in the community to provide an evening VBS for students (current age 3-5th grade) in our community. Other Wildfire churches will join us onsite here at St. James for a fun filled week learning about Jesus as we explore "Crocodile Dock," June 22-25 from 5:45 to 8:00 p.m.

Fill out a yellow registration form (available outside the office or online at www.stjamesincrystal.org/camping.htm) and return to the church office. Friends are always welcome. Space may be limited, so sign up today! Cost: VBS is our gift to you! (*We will accept donations to offset costs.*)

VBS Project Helpers needed! We are in need of people to help with small and large projects to decorate and make VBS a fun environment as we turn St. James into a "Crocodile Dock". If you are willing to do a take-home project contact Pr. Kristen for additional information.

VBS Set-up will be on Sat., June 20. Come help setup and get ready for VBS. All helpers welcome!

Sun., June 28 – Bonfire and VBS Celebration. Watch the Pews News and June Herald for more details.



Faith Milestones: Connecting Families with their Faith

Faith milestones help parents carry out the promises they made at their child's baptism and gives them tools to incorporate faith into the daily life of their family. Important faith concepts are taught through child/parent workshops, worship experiences and classroom lessons. For more information contact Pastor Kristen.

Upcoming Milestone/Blessing Events:

- May 3 – Teacher Appreciation
- June 7 – Graduation
- July 12 – Sr. High NYG Commissioning
- August 2 – Summer Camp Milestone

Confirmation Schedule

- May 6 – Wildfire @ Cross of Glory

National Youth Gathering Pre- trip Meetings

On May 20 and June 17, those going to the National Youth Gathering will meet for connection, training and “getting ready” for our upcoming trip in July. We will meet 6:00-8:30 p.m. Locations to be determined. Contact Pr. Kristen or Ryan Walesch for more information.

New Worship Leader Schedule for Confirmation Students

There will be a new worship leadership schedule coming out soon for the summer months. If you will be away, please contact other confirmation families to find a replacement. Contact Pastor Kristen for additional information.

VBS Staff Applications Still Being Accepted

Sr. High students and Middle School students are invited to participate as staff of VBS this year. Fill out an application form, found outside the church office, and return to Pastor Kristen. There are a number of paid positions available.

This is a great way to get service hours, learning credit for school, or leadership opportunities to put on scholarship requests.

All Sr. High students will be given an adult mentor to provide help/guidance as we prepare and throughout the VBS week.

Contact Pr. Kristen for more information at kbrechler@stjamesincrystal.org.

Flower Fundraiser Flowers Arrive May 3

Flowers will be available for pick-up on Sun., May 3.



Graduate Recognition

We will be honoring Graduates on June 7th during the 9:30 a.m worship service. Graduates, please turn in your information sheet and picture to the church office by May 20th.

Youth Nights at St. James

This month’s youth nights are Wed., May 6 and 20 at 6:00 p.m.

Questions can be directed to Ryan Walesch at 763-537-1702 or by email at ryan.stjamesyouth@gmail.com.

Youth Forum

On Sunday mornings, during the school year through May 3, middle school and High school youth will gather for a youth forum during the education hour (10:10 a.m.). This will be a time of discussion, speaker or video led conversation. Join us Sunday mornings during education hour in Ryan’s office. For more information contact Ryan Walesch or Pastor Kristen.

National Youth Gathering

The ELCA Youth Gathering takes place every three years, where peers from across the US and the world who share a common faith in Christ, gather for worship, fellowship, study, service and fun!

The Gathering will be July 14-20th in Detroit, Michigan. This trip is open to all 8-12th graders (2014-2015). Both Pastor Randy and Pastor Kristen will be attending with the St. James youth.

There will be a variety of fundraisers before the trip to help offset the costs.

If you have any questions, please contact Ryan Walesch.

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 Randy and a few upcoming events each week.

To sign up for the Gospel E, please email Amanda Burns at 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.

Facebook Friends

We want to be your friend...on Facebook! Search for St. James Lutheran Church (not a group page; it will show like a person’s account) and ‘Friend’ us.

We post on a regular basis, so it’s an easy way to keep up to date with the activities at St. James!

Church Parking Update

The drive-up in front of St. James has been re-classified as a 15-minute loading zone only. This means that there will be no day parking allowed on the drive-up to St. James.

We will offer valet parking for worship services during the winter when

there is bad weather. Watch for more information about this option this fall.



Book Club News

May’s pick: The Samurai’s Garden by Gail Tsukiyama. Tsukiyama uses the Japanese invasion of China during the late 1930s as a somber backdrop for her unusual story about a 20-year-old Chinese painter named Stephen who is sent to his family’s summer home in a Japanese coastal village to recover from a bout with tuberculosis. Here he is cared for by Matsu, a reticent housekeeper and a master gardener. Matsu is a samurai of the soul, a man devoted to doing good and finding beauty in a cruel and arbitrary world, and Stephen is a noble student, learning to appreciate Matsu’s generous and nurturing way of life and to love Matsu’s soulmate, gentle Sachi, a woman afflicted with leprosy. [from the amazon.com]

Join “Page Turners” this month in reading the book The Samurai’s Garden. The group meets Tues., May 5 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).

June’s pick: The Book of Fate by Parinoush Saniee. (Book Club does not meet in July & August.)

Spring Work Day

It’s time to do a little spring cleaning at St. James! The Spring Clean Up Day will be on Sat., May 16 beginning at 8:30 a.m. A light brunch will be provided. Come for as long as you are able! Many hands make light work.

Fore! It’s Time for Golf

It’s time to commit to playing in a St. James golf league for the 2015 season.

Men’s nine-hole-play is scheduled for Tuesday evenings at Theodore Wirth Golf Course, May 5 to July 21. If you are interested in some great fellowship and want to play golf with some fellow St. James members, contact Stan Tikkanen before April 30 (763-546-8155 or saltikkanen@hotmail.com). Friends, co-workers or relatives are welcome to join as well.

The women’s golf season will be held at French Park each Wednesday morning beginning May 6 at 9:00 a.m. Contact Eunice Kistner for more information at 763-416-3268.



Caring for Each Other in Christ

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 request prayers 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 email office@stjamesincrystal.org.

Endowment Funds Report

There are five separate Endowment funds: Ruth Lund, Children's Ministries, Una Lamb, General-Capital and General-Benevolent. The total amount for all five funds as of December 31, 2014 was \$112,800. The collective growth was \$5,400, or just under 5%. Two grants were made in 2014, both from the Children's Ministries Fund. They were: \$288 for the 2014 youth summer trip and \$1,000 toward the 2015 National Youth Trip. All monies have been carried over into 2015. Any additional distributions other than the 2015 youth trip will be considered as the need arises. It should be noted that there are restrictions on most of the funds as to how much may be used and for what purposes.

There is Still Time to Register for Summer Camp

Students and friends of St. James are going to camp! Church camp proves to be a transforming experience for children and students. Join us for camp the first week of August at Camp Onomia or Camp Wapo. Pr. Randy and Pr. Kristen will rotate between the two camps.

Reserve your spot with a \$100 deposit. Fundraising information is available. Contact Pr. Kristen for more information.

Camp Onomia

Pioneers (grades 1-3) on August 3-6, 2015. Cost: \$215.

Explorers (grades 3-6) on August 3-8, 2015. Cost: \$420.

Register online at www.camponomia.org.

Camp Wapo

Youth camp (grades 6-8)* on August 2-7, 2015. Cost: \$400.

Register online at www.campwapo.org.

*Middle school students are encouraged to attend Camp Wapo.

Dinner at Your Door Drivers

Drivers are needed for the Dinner at Your Door Program. Regular and substitute drivers are needed. Regular drivers can expect to volunteer about one hour each month. Substitute drivers are called as needed. 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. You will find volunteering for this program to be very rewarding.

For more information call Barbara Parsons at 763-227-2282.

Library News

As part of the Car Care outreach, the library sponsors a book giveaway for the clients. Where do the books come from? You, of course. You can donate books at any time by leaving them in the library or under the coat rack in the Narthex. Children's books are especially popular. Care Car this year will be held on Saturday, June 6. Since there are a limited number of clients there are always many books left over that are offered to the congregation on the following Sunday. Donations at that time are always welcome since the library is not a budget item and is self-supporting.

Prayer Concerns

Births

Nicole Ocampo, boy, Antonio

Funerals

Ada George

May's Outreach Partner: Global Health Ministries

Global Health Ministries provides a gift of life, both spiritual and physical, through Lutheran health care work across the world. St. James has several volunteers who donate their time to sort and pack medical supplies every Thursday. Global always welcomes more volunteers. Collections are being taken all year for the intergenerational event held in October. St. James will be assembling newborn kits and making rolled bandages for GHM. The rolled bandages are made from donated white sheets. Please consider donating items for the kits.

Newborn kit:

- 1 - 36 " square muslin or sheeting (unhemmed from any color sheet)
- 1 bath towel (new or gently used). No longer than 48"
- 1 wash cloth (new or gently used)
- 1 regular size bar of wrapped Ivory soap (10 packs at Family Dollar Store)
- 1 newborn stocking cap (patterns are available)
- 1 small shirt (patterns are available) or can be gently used
- 1 receiving blanket (new or gently used)

Especially needed are regular size bars of Ivory soap and bath towels.

Last year, St. James assembled 200 kits and a nice boxful of wrapped bandages. Hopefully we can make even more kits this year. Donated items can be left at the church and will be stored by Nancy Dahlquist until they are needed. Donations of money can also be used for purchasing materials for the kits. Just mark your check "Global Health Ministries Newborn Kits." Call Nancy Dahlquist at 763-537-1002 with any questions.

Usher & Financial Assistant Schedule

May 3

9:00 a.m. *Ushers:* Junior Kautz, Vern Christensen, Roger A. Johnson, Ken Lutz
Financial Assistants: Capt. Ozzie Hellen, Becki Smith, Jackie Harlow

May 10

9:00 a.m. *Ushers:* George McClure, Terry Teigen, Roger E. Johnson, Rick Jones, Judy Berney, Pat Ferguson, Ken & Phyllis Nelson
Financial Assistants: Capt. Stan Tikkanen, Dawn Skare, Lorraine LaFontaine

May 17

9:00 a.m. *Ushers:* Mike Stanchfield, Jim Olsen, Stan Tikkanen, John Lindstrom, Wayne Rierson, Don & Deb Edmondson
Financial Assistants: Capt. Rich Pearson, Dee Burrington, Joyce Held

May 24

9:30 a.m. *Ushers:* Marv Berke, Jim Hauan, Becki Smith, Clarence Peterson, Tim Buck
Financial Assistants: Capt. Gary Peterson, Frode Jespersen, Lillian Jespersen

May 31

9:30 a.m. Team II



Ever learning, Ever growing...

Evergreen Montessori

Evergreen Montessori Now Enrolling for Fall 2015

The Evergreen Montessori School is now accepting applications for fall 2015.

Evergreen Montessori is a preschool for children age 33 months—5 years. They offer a variety of scheduling options including 3-5 half, mid and full days.

St. James members receive a discount, so be sure to check it out when searching for a preschool. (Evergreen Montessori rents space in our building.)

For more information visit www.evergreenmontessori.org.

Letters of Thanks

Thank you for your generous gift of \$500 as a donation from St. James Lutheran Church. Your contribution to our meal program is vital to the thousands of families and individuals who rely on Loaves & Fishes for nutritious meals, comfort, and kindness. Loaves & Fishes has been steadfast in feeding people since the early 1980s and we continue even stronger today; in fact this year we will break an all-time record of 400,000+ meals served as compared to 340,000 in 2013. Our board of directors has set sights on continuing our work into greater Minnesota so that no one in our great state will go without a meal. Thank you for your continued loyalty and interest in Loaves & Fishes.

*With gratitude,
Cathy Maes, Executive Director, Loaves & Fishes*

Dear St. James,

Thank you so much for your wonderful participation in the March food and money drive. Your NEAR Food Shelf representatives did a great job getting the word out to how important this food and money drive really is. We are so grateful to all of you who really care about our client families, who have too much month and not enough money. They struggle to keep a roof over their heads every single month because the rents are so high. Thank you Christians for being so compassionate. Your totals are as follows: \$2,351 and 197 pounds of food. We thank you and our families thank you.

*May God Bless,
Jan Monroe, Fund-raiser, NEAR Food Shelf*

Sunday Altar Flowers

The 2015 Altar Flower Sign-Up Sheet is 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 Randy's office. Cost is \$30.



Loaves & Fishes

Brunswick United Methodist has recently started a Loaves & Fishes program.

They are looking for volunteers on Wednesday and Thursday nights, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

To volunteer call Ali at 612-326-3673 or sign up online at www.loavesandfishesmn.org.

Brunswick is located at 6122 42nd Ave in Crystal.

In 2013, St. James discontinued serving at the River of Life Loaves & Fishes location due to lack of volunteers to take leadership of St. James' meal each month.

Please help support this local program by volunteering!



Respite Care

Respite Care is held at House of Hope the first and third Tuesday of each month, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The caregivers support group is held there from 10:00 to 11:45 a.m. those same days.

This is a ministry of Bonfire's Health & Wellness team and is open to any family, member or non-member.

There is a nominal cost for the program, that can be negotiable if necessary. Lunch is served each time the program is run.



GriefShare Support Ministry

If you personally have experienced the death of a loved one or a friend, you are invited to attend the upcoming GriefShare ministry seminar series. GriefShare is a 12 week course that uses a series of videos to stimulate conversations to help participants work through their grief. GriefShare seminars are sponsored by Bonfire Ministry and are open to anyone who is experiencing grief. The GriefShare ministry seminars are held at St. James Lutheran Church on Sunday afternoons, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The next GriefShare series begins on Sunday, May 31, 2015. There is a \$10.00 fee for the GriefShare seminars, and scholarships to cover this fee are available. For more information and/or to register for this upcoming session, please call Debbie Haney, the Bonfire Ministry Parish Nurse @ 612-408-2049.



KidPack Packing Days 2015

KidPack packing days begin at 4:00 p.m. at The Food Group (8501 54th Ave N, New Hope). Please wear comfortable clothing and closed toe shoes.

The date for the remainder of the school year is as follows:

- May 26 (KidPack Gives Back to EFN)

To volunteer contact Melodie Hanson at 763-504-4981.



Bonfire Exec. Director's Message

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

There is an old adage that says, "the only constant in life is change." We don't like change, we like things the way they have always been. We like what we perceive to be the stability of the past and we fear the unknown of the future, when change is in the air. Bonfire Ministry has changed the way our three congregations do ministry outside of the walls of the building we occupy. Bonfire Ministry has been a "change agent" in this community demonstrating the vitality of the Gospel as we have and reaching out to make a difference in the lives of the people in this community. It was a change when I was called to serve as the Executive Director; we had never done it that way before. Now there is another change on the horizon. Melodie Hanson has been the point person for Bonfire and our KidPack ministry. She has taken care of ordering the food each month through The Food Group. She has taken care of reminding our volunteers of the packing times and dates. She has kept the tally of the number of students at each school receiving KidPacks, etc. She has been an invaluable gift to KidPack. Now, because of her work requirements, she is no longer able to spend the time needed to do all these KidPack related jobs. First of all a HUGE – THANK YOU to Melodie. We appreciate all you have done; you are a blessing to us and to this community! Second, we will need a volunteer to take over the jobs Melodie has been doing. This person will not be responsible for writing Grant Applications, just doing the tasks listed above. I ask that each of you reading this note prayerfully consider volunteering your time and your gifts to this ministry. If you are interested, I will set up a meeting time with you, Melodie and myself to go over the specific tasks

and expectations. There is someone within the Bonfire Ministry congregations who has the gifts, the time, and the willingness to help. Please pray about it.

Springtime is right around the corner. That means Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day are not too far away. This year, Bonfire Ministry has an opportunity for you to support KidPack and show your love for mothers and fathers at the same time. Representatives at each congregation will be selling a "flower bouquet" picture and a "dress tie" picture before each of these celebrations days. We would encourage you to consider purchasing one of these pictures, for \$10.00 each, as gifts on Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day. The advantage of these pictures is that the flowers won't die after a week. Mom can look at the picture and be reminded of your love all year long and dad really doesn't need another tie. He can look at the picture and be reminded of your love all year long. And, you will be supporting the KidPack ministry of Bonfire Ministry at the same time.

Check elsewhere in this newsletter for information on the upcoming Bonfire Ministry GriefShare sessions that begin on May 31.

Thank you for all the ways you support this ministry of outreach that is really a vital part of the mission work of each congregation. Bonfire Ministry is your congregation reaching out in your name with the good news of the Gospel.

For more information, check out the Bonfire web site at <http://www.bonfireministry.org>.

*Blessing to you and Peace,
Pr Daniel Babine
Bonfire Ministry – Executive Director*

Parish Nurse

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.

Publication Schedule

St. James' publication deadlines are as follows:

Pews News Monday at noon for the following Sunday's newsletter.

Herald the 15th of the month prior to the publication (i.e.– May 15 for the June newsletter).



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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For Everything There is a Season