

St. James Herald

October 2014

What's INSIDE

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

Happenings

Children & Youth

Important Info

Thank You Notes

Bonfire News



Office Hours

The church office is open:
Mon.-Wed. 7:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Thurs. 7:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
Fri. 7:00—9:30 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

Pastoral Reflection

Beloved in Christ,

During October, we are focusing our worship on the theme of “Making Disciples.” Unlike our September worship theme, “Making Friends”, Making Disciples may seem less clear. We all have friends and have had some experience with making friends. However, when it comes to making a disciple, we must first come to an understanding about what it means to be a disciple.

“Disciple” is a word which can be defined both in a Christian and non-Christian context. The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines disciple as “one who accepts and assists in spreading the doctrines of another: as a : one of the twelve in the inner circle of Christ’s followers according to the Gospel accounts” or “b : a convinced adherent of a school or individual.” In my experience in the church and as a seminary student, I’ve come to understand that a disciple of Jesus is not limited to twelve identified in the inner circle of Jesus’ followers, but rather all who follow Jesus. A disciple of Jesus is not focused on spreading doctrines but rather on living the life to which Jesus invites us.

Jesus’ last command to the disciples gathered with him on a mountain top prior to his ascension into heaven was “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:18-20. Unlike the scam artists, manipulators and oppressors who take up much of our daily news, Jesus does not command us to make disciples for his sake, but for our own sake. Jesus’ command is a loving invitation to live the best possible life, a life which converts and transforms us from brokenness to new life in him.

Within his instruction for us to make disciples, Jesus also tells us how to go about it. We baptize in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and we seek to live lives which are obedient to Jesus. Such lives are a daily affirmation of our baptisms. The many teachings of Jesus lead us to his primary commands: love God, and love your neighbor. A disciple’s life therefore is a life of love, for God and for others. Within that love, we are also freed and empowered to love ourselves as God loves us, which is not easy!

On Sunday evening, September 14 through Tuesday morning, September 16, most of our Minneapolis Area Synod pastors attended the annual Bishop’s Theological Conference, which was entitled “A New Pentecost; Becoming a Culturally Competent Leader.” We were challenged to think about cultural competence by developing a deeper understanding of the life experiences and realities which so powerfully shape our values about what is right and wrong and our relationships with both those who may share our cultural reality, and those who do not. As much as we seek to love and be loved, it is not easy. Loving enemies, loving strangers, and loving those who are very different from us can be especially difficult.

Our gospel reading on October 5 (Matt. 21:33-46) will invite us into a parable about tenant farmers who refuse to pay their rent, beat up the landlord’s slaves when they try to collect, and then kill the landlord’s son. October 12 (Matt. 22:1-14) will find us at a wedding banquet which is spurned by the invited guests. A question about paying taxes will frame our reflections about making disciples on October 19 (Matt. 22:15-22). Finally, on October 26 (Matt. 22:34-46), we will see disciple-making in action as we gather to celebrate and witness our ninth graders affirming their baptisms and their discipleship in Jesus Christ. In each instance, we will explore how our lives can flourish through God’s desire for our continuing growth, renewal and transformation as disciples of Jesus Christ.

*Love in Christ,
Pastor Randy*

St. James' Staff

Pastor Randall Romsdahl
rromsdahl@stjamesincrystal.org

Pastor Kristen Brehler
kbrehler@stjamesincrystal.org

Lana Teigen
lteigen@stjamesincrystal.org
Financial Coordinator

Amanda Burns
aburns@stjamesincrystal.org
Director of Communication

Ryan Walesch
intern@stjamesincrystal.org
Director of Youth Ministry

Deanna Loken
Choir Director

Mary Brown
Ringin' Praise Bell Choir
Director & Organist

Ron Skalicky
Custodian

Amy Jermstad
Sunday Morning Custodian /
Sunday School Coordinator

Super Herald Deadline

Please start looking ahead if you are planning an event for your group. We will be having a Super Herald covering the months of December, January, February and March. Articles must be submitted by November 1 to be included in this newsletter. Please email to Amanda at aburns@stjamesincrystal.org.

Over 55's

Please let Ruth Stanchfield know if you are interested in attending the Plymouth Playhouse for "Ring of Fire", the life and music of Johnny Cash.

Possible dates are the first part of November. Wednesday and Thursdays at 1:00 are \$28 (or \$23 if there are 12 people). These tickets need to be paid for ahead of time.

Alternative Worship Update

The new Alternative Worship task force met on Thursday evening, September 11. Sarah Valentine, Jeannette Valentine, Emily Valentine, Betty Sultvedt and Pastor Randy attended. After enjoying a pizza, we visited about our hopes and dreams for a new worship service at St. James.

The team members agreed to scout contemporary worship services in the Twin Cities over the next three weeks to gather ideas for what we may want to do at St. James. If you would like to join this effort, please feel free to contact one of the team members listed above.

Our next meeting is Tues., Oct. 7 at 6:30 p.m. A light dinner will be provided. Please RSVP to Pastor Randy at rromsdahl@stjamesincrystal.org by Sun., Oct. 5 if you plan to attend the meeting.

Fall Work Day

It's time to get St. James sparkling clean before winter. The Fall Work Day will be on Sat., Oct. 11 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.

Sunday Mornings

9:00 a.m.— Worship

10:10 a.m.— Education (Age 3 through adult)

Financial Update

The finance committee reports that we are approximately \$7,000 over budget at the end of August.

All Saints Day Roses

White roses, echoing the white of baptismal garments and of the funeral pall, may be given in memory of loved ones for the worship service on Sunday, November 2.

Cost per rose is \$2. **Orders must be received by Oct. 19.** To place an order, mail this form along with your payment to the church office, attention All Saints Day roses. You may also drop it off in the office.

A rose given in memory of: _____

Given by: _____

Number of roses ordered: _____ Amount paid: _____



Faith Journey: Lana Teigen

Lana Teigen grew up in a small community in northeastern Iowa. Her family belonged to a German Lutheran church where her father served as president. Lana attended church services as well as Sunday School, Luther League and 'time release' classes. One of her memories of that church was the celebration of their merger with a neighboring Norwegian church. There was a processional into the church and a big ceremony.

After graduating from high school, Lana attended one of the many Lutheran colleges in Iowa, where chapel service was not only required, but they took attendance. She was encouraged by a professor to move to Minneapolis and find a position with Augsburg Publishing. After graduation, she chose instead to join her friends and move to the 'Big City' where she took a job with an insurance company. It was there in Rochester that she met her future husband, Terry.

Terry's career in restaurant management required them to move around quite a bit. Eventually they chose to settle in Crystal because they had heard good things about the Robbinsdale School District. In 1974, they were invited by their neighbors to attend a service at St. James. Pastor Knutson visited them at home after the service and they decided to become members. Lana remembers being part of the Family Choir, and they are still friends with many of the families.

There have been some very difficult times in her life that made Lana realize that she could not have gotten through everything without her trust in God: when her daughter struggled with the difficult pregnancy of their first grandchild; when within a month her father had a major surgery; her brother was hospitalized in Rochester in critical condition; and both her parents were hospitalized at the same time in two different cities. Lana felt the prayers and support of the community of St. James were a large part of her faith during that period.

A number of years ago Lana was invited by Terry, a member of the personnel committee at the time, to apply for a part-time job in the church office. Four offices later, Lana is still playing a key role in our church as the Financial Coordinator. She feels blessed to be a part of the community of St. James and especially as a member of the staff. She is energized to see how the gifts that have been given to St. James are being put to good use. She remembers a particular endowment gift from Marion Anderson that was used to provide the air-conditioning system for the building.

Lana says that this is a very exciting time with Pastor Randy joining our staff and with so many people being received into membership. She believes that the church will continue to grow and become even more diverse with more and more involvement opportunities for the congregation. And with so many worthwhile programs available Lana says, "Why not give generously?"



Men's Breakfast

The next Men's Breakfast is Sat., Oct. 18 at 8:00 a.m. at Fat Nat's (36th & Winnetka). All men are welcome to attend for some good food, fellowship and fun!

Loaves & Fishes

Still want to help out at Loaves and Fishes? You can at Brunswick Methodist on Wednesdays--helping prepare at 3:30 or serving at 5:30-6:30 p.m.

The Pastor is Bart Fletcher. The representative at Brunswick is Mary Hagen. You may call her at 763-546-2669 when you want to volunteer, or email her at hagendav@juno.com.

It is so close to home, let's help out in our own community.

DAYD

Drivers needed for Dinner at Your Door. If you have a car and an hour a month to spare, you can help our elderly, disabled, shut-ins and those recovering from surgery by delivering a hot nourishing meal.

Meals are picked up at Crystal Community Center around 10:30 a.m. and delivered to 6-8 homes in the area. You may be a regular or substitute driver.

Volunteering for this ministry is very rewarding. Be a DAYD driver. Please contact Barbara Parsons at 763-228-2272 for more info or to sign up.

Lutefisk Tickets Go On Sale

Tickets to the annual Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner will go on sale Sun., Oct. 19. Watch the Pews News for pricing and seating information. The dinner will be held on Nov. 22.

Have Lefse Pan. Will Bake.

Come and help bake lefse on Saturdays Oct. 18 and Nov. 1, beginning at 8:00 a.m. If you have a lefse pan, please bring it. Never made lefse before or don't have a pan? Come and find out how it's done!

Prep work for the bakes will be done the Friday prior, beginning at 8:00 a.m.

The lefse will be served at the annual Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner on Nov. 22.

Willing to help make meatballs for the Lutefisk Dinner? Come at 4:00 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 24 to help prep and bake them.

Sun. Morning Youth Forum

Middle School and Senior High youth will meet on Sunday mornings at 10:10 a.m.

Youth Nights at St. James

This month's youth nights are Wed., Oct. 8 and 22 at 6:00 p.m.

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

Nursery Volunteers Needed

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



Confirmation Service

The Affirmation of Baptism service will be Sun., Oct. 26 at 9:00 a.m. for all 9th grade confirmands.

A rehearsal will be held Sat., Oct. 25, 10:00 a.m.—noon. A light lunch will be provided for the confirmands and their families. Pictures will be taken at this time.

Pet Blessing

Please bring your pet(s) to a special Pet Blessing service on the church patio at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday morning, October 5. If you prefer, you may bring a photo of your pet for the blessing.

Children are also encouraged to bring their favorite stuffed animal toy pets to the children's message during the 9:00 a.m. worship service for a special blessing of their beloved toy pets.

Lighthouse Sunday School

The year has begun with a great start! We have a different format and great leadership. We are so thankful for Amy Jermstad and the wonderful teachers leading this great group of students. We will be beginning a rotation schedule soon. We also will be involved in many service/family opportunities in the next months. Be sure to invite your friends and family to be part of Lighthouse Sunday School. All are welcome!

Contact Amy Jermstad or Pastor Kristen for more information!



Moonlight Madness

When: Friday, November 14 – Saturday, November 15 (9pm-7am)

Who: Middle School Students

Cost: \$35

Moonlight Madness is a city wide youth event with open gym, dance, Grand Slam, movies & bowling. This is a fun way to meet new people at St. James and around the Twin Cities. It's a Blast! Cost is \$35 per person. We have limited spots (8-10) for this fall event. Completed registration forms with payment will reserve your spot. A waiting list will be created if necessary. Deadline to register is Wed., Nov. 2. Contact Pastor Kristen for more information.

Milestones

We will have a Faith 5 Focus in worship on Sun., Oct. 12. Where we will talk about ways we can share our faith in the home. Join us in worship this Sunday for a special blessing for our young families.

National Youth Gathering

We will be going to the National Youth Gathering July 15-20, 2015. All 8-12 graders are invited to join us as we learn, grow and worship together with other youth from across the nation. The cost of the trip is approx \$1,100. A Deposit of \$200 is due to reserve your spot. Contact Ryan Walesch for more information.

Important Info

Book Club News

October's pick: [The Eighty-Dollar Champion: Snowman, the horse that inspired a nation](#) by Elizabeth Letts

November 1958: the National Horse Show at Madison Square Garden in New York City. In the atmosphere of wealth and tradition, sleek hotheaded thoroughbreds piloted by seasoned professionals waited their turn to take on a course of towering jumps. Into the ring trotted the most unlikely competitors — a drab white former plow horse named Snowman and a young riding instructor named Harry de Leyer. Harry first saw the horse he would name Snowman on a rickety truck bound for the slaughterhouse.

He bought him for \$80. One horse show at a time and against extraordinary odds, the pair rose to the very top of the sport of show jumping. [from Elizabeth Letts webpage]

Join "Page Turners" this month in reading the book [The Eighty-Dollar Champion](#). The group meets Tues., October 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).

November's pick: [The Singing Wilderness](#) by Sigurd F. Olson.

Faith Journey: Amanda Burns

Amanda Burns has her faith roots in the Iron Range. She grew up in Virginia, Minnesota and attended a Lutheran church with her family. As she grew up she was involved in all the traditional church things, but then drifted away from the church after her graduation. While in high school, Amanda attended an event at the College of St. Benedict in St. Joseph, MN and decided that was where she was going to go. She was so confident in her decision that she didn't even apply anywhere else.

While attending classes at St. Ben's (gasp – a Catholic college) she found her passion for the study of history. The women in European history who were important figures during the Reformation of the church became a personal interest in her studies. Following her graduation, Amanda began her career search which, fortunately for St. James, brought her here to become our Director of Communications. A few years later, she and her husband, Andy, became members of the congregation. Amanda says they like the sense of safety that they have for their children at St. James. There is a sense of community where everyone knows who you are and kids feel comfortable within the church, which is probably why you will see her daughter, Lydia, running down the halls without a care in the world.

Amanda does admit that it can be challenging being both a member of St. James and a church employee. She tries very hard to distinguish between her work life and her congregation / worship life.

When talking about the future, Amanda is encouraged by the number of young families. Programs that focus on kids and families are a high priority for her (especially as they expect their third child in December), and she hopes that we will see more parenting classes and family group activities.

Craft Show November 8th

Registration forms for artists and crafters are now available in the narthex for the Holiday Craft Show on Sat., Nov. 8, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Wold Hall.

Cost is \$30 for a 9x10 space. Electricity is \$2; table is \$2. Checks can be made payable to St. James and mailed along with contact information and craft description to Kristi VonDeylen 6913 52nd Ave N, Crystal, MN 55428. Register by October 31. Event is a fundraiser for the Senior High Youth.

For questions and more information, contact Kristi VonDeylen at 612-590-3072 or atvbabe@comcast.net.

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.

Please Pray For:

Hospitalizations

- Gary Peterson

Birth

- Allie Ferguson & Matt Peterson, girl, Riley Skye
- John Renze & Rosalynn Torralba, boy, Alex

Sympathy

- Jeannette Valentine on the death of her brother
- Jim Valentine on the death of his sister

Thank You

Sunday Altar Flowers



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.

New Members

The following new members were welcomed during worship on Sun., Sept. 7th:

Rebecca Bithow

814 Newton Ave N
Minneapolis, MN 55411
206-372-5275

Jenyang, Nyadoar, New Year, Martha

Helena Davies

7212 Camden Ave N Apt 120
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430
Scholastical, Success

Adam & Tonia Elbert

5015 Lakeside Ave N
Crystal, MN 55429
612-483-8778
Eisley

Gary & Maddy Myer

612-501-7641
Charles

JMike Sumo & Oretha Gbalenchey

2928 Northway Drive Apt 203
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430
612-840-2219
Patience, Matthew

Ruth Gbalenchey

2928 Northway Drive Apt 203
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430
763-497-8033

Pr. Randy & Diana Romsdahl

11811 Pheasant Lane
Minnetonka, MN 55305
952-238-0949

Letters of Thanks

A huge thank you to Roger Eggen & Jim Hauan for putting my new desk together! You guys are amazing!

Amanda Burns

Intergenerational Event to Assemble Newborn Kits & Rolled Bandage for October Outreach Partner



An intergenerational event will be held Sun., Oct. 19 in Wold Hall at 10:10 a.m. All ages are invited to help assemble newborn kits and make rolled bandages for Global Health Ministries.

Material has been collected to assemble newborn kits, but still needed are regular bars of wrapped Ivory soap, washcloths, regular size bath towels, receiving blankets, sheets or any color material that can be cut into 36" squares and white sheets or material for making rolled bandages. The most needed items are bath towels. Family Dollar Store and Wal-Mart have the Ivory soap in packs of 10 for around \$4.

Donations of money can also be used to purchase items we are short of. Just mark your check "Global Newborn Kits."

Global Health Ministries Ebola Outbreak Response Shipments

In close communication with the Ministry of Health in Liberia and our partner hospitals in Liber, Phebe and Curran, Global Health Ministries is responding to the Ebola virus outbreak by sending 'personal protection equipment,' gloves, gowns, masks, face shields, hand sanitizer, etc. via suitcases, air freight, and sea containers. To donate for this response, write on your check "Global Health- Ebola."

Changes of Address

Judy Hanson

125 Inland Ln N
Plymouth, MN 55447-3596

Vickee Plafcan

914 9th Ave S Apt 7
Hopkins, MN 55343-8015

Arlys Swentek

5500 Boone Ave N Apt 401
New Hope, MN 55428-3634

GriefShare Support Group

Bonfire Ministry is hosting a Grief Support Group with different topics during their 12 week program that began on Sept. 14. It is being held from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday evenings in the Peter & Paul room.

You are welcome to begin attending at any point. Each session is "self-contained," so you do not have to attend in sequence.

Weekly topics:

- Is this normal
- Challenges of Grief
- The Journey of Grief-part 1
- The Journey of Grief-part 2

- Grief and Your Relationships
- Why?
- Guild and Anger
- Complicating Factors
- Stuck
- Lessons of Grief- part 1
- Lessons of Grief—part 2
- Heaven
- What Do I Live for now?

Contact Bonfire Parish Nurse Debbie Haney for more information, 612-408-2049.



Serving Up Weekend Snacks Tennis Tournament A Success

Thank you to everyone who supported the Bonfire KidPack tennis tournament. With your help, we've raised over \$25,000 to help provide weekend snacks to help kids in poverty in our school district.

30 players played, including 6 from St. James, and many more came to watch, making the tournament a great success!



Memorials & Gifts

Helping Our Neighbor Fund in honor of Pr. Randy's installation from George & Orla McClure.

Kid Pack in memory of Jesse Stanchfield from Mattie Erdahl, Tim & Becki Smith, Don & Lorraine Benson, Arlin & Vicky Butcher, Carol Koosmann, Peg Tutila, Greg & Dianne Johnson.

Kid Pack Adopt-A-Student Sponsorship in memory of Virginia Piorsky from Roger & Sandy Johnson. In memory of Pearle & John Thomsen from Margaret Thomsen. In memory of Ross Keske from Oda Keske. In memory of Sara Becker from Carole Thoe. In memory of Ernest Hall from Pr. Randy & Diana Romsdahl. In memory of Jesse Stanchfield from Ruth Stanchfield. In memory of Bob Horberg from Nancy Horberg. In honor of Tatum, Taverie & Calin from Terry & Lana Teigen.

Music Fund in memory of Jesse Stanchfield from Nancy Lohmann, Bill & Eunice Kistner.

Box Tops for Education, Milk Caps and Campbell's Soup Labels...

What do those three things have in common?

They've been able to purchase gym equipment, educational videos, books and other items to help enhance learning at Forest Elementary! Even during the summer, St. James continues to collect them in the drawers near the front door. Milk caps must have a sticker on them (please rinse the caps!), and Campbell's needs only the UPC barcode with the logo on it. Thank you.

Bonfire Women's Retreat

Bonfire is having a Women's Retreat this fall with the theme "Getting to Know You!"

The retreat is Sat., Nov. 15, 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Camp Ihduhapi in Loretto, MN. A carpool will leave from House of Hope at 8:30 a.m.

It will be a day of fun, laughs and action as we get to know each other.

The cost is \$35 for the day, including lunch and dinner. (\$30 extra if you'd like to do the zip line!) Checks made out to House of Hope.

Space is limited so register and pay now with either Deb Mans at 763-525-1324 or Karen Brehmer at 612-799-7069.

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH
6700 46TH PLACE NORTH
CRYSTAL MN 55428

NON PROFIT
ORG.
**US POSTAGE
PAID**
TWIN CITIES, MN
PERMIT NO.
1265

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

