

Pews News

August 17, 2014

Reflecting the Light of Christ in Crystal

St. James Lutheran Church, 6700 46th Place North, Crystal, Minnesota 55428

www.stjamesincrystal.org

Worship Service Recommendation Listening Session Today

The worship committee has made a recommendation to the St. James Council that we continue with our 9:30 a.m. worship service in the "blended" worship format we have enjoyed this summer and which has brought a new energy and vitality to our worship life. The council will vote on the recommendation Aug. 18.

We would not be giving up on a second service, but will be focusing on creating a new, contemporary worship. A task force will be formed to pursue possibilities in format, time, day of the week and needed resources to make a very high-quality, engaging contemporary worship experience.

The council will be holding two listening sessions to allow for feedback and input regarding this proposed change. The first was on Aug. 13. The second will be TODAY at 10:45 a.m.

9:57 (Sunday School) Registrations

Registrations for 9:57 (Sunday School) for children age 3 to 5th grade are available on the bulletin board outside the church office, or online at www.stjamesincrystal.org/957.htm. Rally Day kicks off the 9:57 year on Sun., Sept. 7 at 9:57 a.m. in Wold Hall. (*Time of Sunday School may fluctuate with the outcome of the recommendation to continue with one worship service.*)

If you have any questions, contact Pastor Kristen Brechler at 763-537-3653 or kbrechler@stjamesincrystal.org.

Children's Ministry Team

"We all want for our kids, a faith that sticks." Therefore, I am forming a team of parents who will help shape the future of Children's Ministry at St. James. All are invited to be part of this group. Our first meeting will be Wed., Aug. 20 at 6:30 p.m. Come share in the planning for a new season at St. James!

Pr. Kristen Brechler

Over 55's

Over 55's members will eat at Lord Fletcher's on Mon., Aug. 18 for the \$5 (cash only) hamburgers/chicken on the wharf. Car pool will leave St. James at 10:30 a.m.

KidPack Fundraiser TODAY

Shop at Frattalone's Ace Hardware and help KidPack! Mark Jennings, manager, and his wife, Dorothy Tischer, at Frattalone's on 36th and Winnetka, will donate to the KidPack program for purchases made **today** (store hours are 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.).

They will donate \$1.00 for any purchase, or \$2.00 for a purchase of \$10.00 or more (pre-tax). There is no need to keep any receipts; the store will keep track of sales and inform KidPack of the results.

At Frattalone's large garden center and paint department, you are certain to find things you need.

If you have questions, please contact Al Anderson of First Lutheran Church of Crystal at 763-537-1876. Thank you for your support of the KidPack Program.

Prayer Concerns:

(Prayer slips are available in the pews. Please fill out and place in the offering plate. Names will be listed in the following week's Pews News.)

Arnold	My Muslim neighbors
Sarah & her family	Ryan K., for a job fitting his likes and talents
Wendy	All caregivers
Kevin	Kristine
Naomi	Jim & family
All immigrants	Judy & Fred
Everyone seeking employment	Tyler
Michael	Kirsten
Jackson	All teachers and kids getting ready to go back to school this fall
Bob Leinonen	All homeless
Tom Ritter	
All who hunger	
My Jewish neighbors	

Worship Information

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray. God of all peoples,

C: your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Readings

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

[Paul writes:] I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Service Participants:

Preaching: Pastor Kristen Brechler

Musician: Mary Brown

Assisting Minister: Deanna Loken

Lector: Tim Smith

Special Music: Jan Brown, Nancy Lohmann

Altar Guild: Sonya Lodahl

Greeters: Eric & Stacy Sauber

Communion Assistants: George & Orla McClure

Ushers: Mike Stanchfield, Jim Olsen, Stan Tikkanen, John Lindstrom, Wayne Rierson, Don & Deb Edmondson

Altar Flowers Sign-Up Sheet Outside Office

If you would like to purchase flowers in honor, memory or celebration of someone, a sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board across from the church office. Cost is \$30.

This Week's Events

Sunday, August 17:

9:30 a.m. Worship
10:45 a.m. Adult Ed / Listening Post
4:00 p.m. Grief Support Training

Monday, August 18:

10:30 a.m. Over 55's car pool leaves
10:45 a.m. Dinner at Your Door
7:00 p.m. Council

Tuesday, August 19:

7:00 p.m. Kung Fu

Wednesday, August 20:

6:30 p.m. Children's Ministry Meeting
7:00 p.m. GA

Thursday, August 21:

7:00 p.m. Kung Fu / Prayer Shawl

Friday, August 22:

4:00 p.m. Violin

Saturday, August 23:

Sunday, August 24:

9:30 a.m. Worship
10:45 a.m. Adult Ed
12:00 p.m. Youth Potluck (@ Walesch's)
4:00 p.m. Grief Support Training
6:30 p.m. Bonfire bonfire (@HOH)

Last Sunday's Statistics

- Mission & Ministry: \$2,604
Received to date: \$218,869
- Capital Fund: \$413
Received to date: \$57,587
- Special Offering (*Forest Elementary School*) \$375
- Attendance: 167

Office Hours

Summer Office Hours: Monday-Wednesday, 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Parking Information

When coming to church on Sunday mornings, please be mindful of those who need to park closer to the church entrance.



Next Week's Texts

Romans 12:1-9
Matthew 16:13-20

Directory Pictures

If you had your photo taken for the new directory and did not place an order, your free 8x10 is in the office!

St. James Staff

Pastor Randy Romsdahl (612-803-2879)
Pastor Kristen Brechler (651-307-6563)
Lana Teigen, Financial Coordinator
Amanda Burns, Director of Communications
Ryan Walesch, Senior High Youth
Ron Skalicky, Custodian
Mary Brown, Organist and Bell Choir Director
Deanna Loken, Choir Director
Amy Jermstad, Sunday Morning Custodian

Contact St. James:

6700 46th Place North
Crystal, MN 55428
763-537-3653 (phone)
office@stjamesincrystal.org
www.stjamesincrystal.org

Forest School Supplies

During the month of August, St. James is collecting school supplies for our neighboring Forest Elementary School. All money collected for the Special Offering will go to Forest to help them purchase additional supplies. Please write Forest Elementary on the memo line of your check.

Confirmation News

Confirmation season is almost here! Confirmation at St. James starts in 6th grade and ends the fall of their 9th grade year. These years are incredibly formative in the faith that will carry them for the rest of their lives. Here's what you need to get ready

1. Confirmation registration is available at church and online. The price is \$70. <http://www.stjamesincrystal.org/confirmationyouth.htm>
2. Orientation meetings are as follows. 6-8th Graders – Wed., Sept. 10, 6:30-8:00 p.m. in Wold Hall. 9th Graders – Sun., Sept. 14, 9:57 a.m. in Pr. Kristen's office.

Students and one parent are expected to attend the orientation meeting. All forms and payment will be due at that time.

Current confirmation students: All make-up work needs to be done by Mon., Sept. 1.

Power of One

The Power of One is a partnership between St. James members and Forest teachers, who work together to build developmental assets of children. Through the Power of One, teachers are able to pair a caring adult with students they identify as needing help building skills such as reading, writing, math and relationships.

Could you give one hour per week to help a child with reading, math or other subjects? Please contact the church office if you are interested. (*Power of One hosts the Forest Teacher Lunch on Wed. Aug. 27 at 11:30 a.m.*)

God's Work. Our Hands.

All across the country, member churches of the ELCA will be spending a day serving their communities. The eight Wildfire churches are joining together for a day of service, fellowship and worship. This is a family event!

We will participate in two service projects the morning of Sat., Sept. 6 and then gather at Northwood Park on 38th & Boone Ave. for food, fellowship and worship. You (and your family) can choose to serve at Second Harvest Heartland from 9:00-11:30 a.m., or join the group at Holy Nativity to tie fleece quilts for Camp Noah. Remember—this is a family event, and members of all ages are encouraged to participate. (There is a minimum age of 8 at Second Harvest).

Even if you are unable to participate in the service projects, you are encouraged to join everyone at the Wildfire potluck picnic and worship at Northwood Park at noon.

People participating in the service events are encouraged to purchase a t-shirt beginning Aug. 31 for \$6.60. Sizes S-XXL. St. James is getting only 25 shirts, so get yours while your size is still available!

Bonfire Ministry Bonfire

The next bonfire will be Sun., Aug. 24 at 6:30 p.m. at House of Hope Lutheran Church. We hope you can make it for some s'mores and singing.

The Page Turners Book Club

September's pick: [Housekeeping](#) by Marilynne Robinson.

This is the story of Ruth and her younger sister, Lucille, who grow up haphazardly, first under the care of their competent grandmother, then of two comically bumbling great-aunts, and finally of Sylvie, their eccentric and remote aunt. Ruth and Lucille's struggle toward adulthood beautifully illuminates the price of loss and survival, and the dangerous and deep undertow of transience. [from [barne-sandnoble.com](#)]

September's Book Club Meeting: Tues., Sept. 2 at 7:00 p.m. In the Peter and Paul room. Join us! All are welcome.

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

For more information, contact Linda Judge (at 763-533-4081 or jungelinda@msn.com).

Mpls. Area Synod Moment

We are grateful for our Bishop Ann Svennungsen's presence and ministry in our midst last Sunday, August 10. Her encouragement celebrated what God is doing at St. James and in our community through the ministries we share in Christ. The many Wildfire congregation members who came to celebrate Pastor Randy's installation also encouraged us in the work we share with them.

ELCA Moment

When we work together as the [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#), we are doing God's work in ways that no individual or none of the 10,549 congregations can do alone. By sharing our time, talents, and possessions generously, God's Spirit inspires others to give generously! Your Mission Support dollars support the whole church, including:

- Congregations seeking new pastors in the call process
- 61 new congregations started in 2010
- 195 existing congregations intentionally focused on renewal
- 250 missionaries in 50 countries, including 49 young adult volunteers
- Ministry and projects in over 90 countries
- Eight seminaries
- 26 colleges and universities
- 180 campus ministries
- 145 outdoor ministries
- 1,530 Lutheran early childhood education centers, from birth through age five
- 257 Lutheran elementary schools, K-8, and 14 high schools
- Health and pension benefits for retired clergy, mission personnel and lay church workers
- Long-term community development
- Advocacy with the United Nations, federal and state governments and corporate development
- Partnerships with The Lutheran World Federation, World Council of Churches, and the National Council of Churches of Christ