

Pews News

Reflecting the Light of Christ in Crystal

May 3, 2015

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

www.stjamesincrystal.org

Welcome Joshua

Today we joyfully welcome through Holy Baptism, Joshua Lloyd Anderson, son of Joel & Shayna Anderson. His godparents are Mark & Lisa Anderson and Jeff & Julie Anderson. His congregational sponsors are George & Orla McClure.

Spring Work Day

It's time for some spring cleaning! Spring work day will be held Sat., May 16 beginning at 8:30 a.m. Please come for as long as you are able. A continental breakfast for volunteers will be served at 10:30 a.m.

Compassion Sunday

Today, a child needs you to help escape from poverty. Each one of us has the opportunity to respond to this call on Compassion Sunday. After the service, visit the Compassion table in the narthex where you can view packets showing boys and girls who need a sponsor right now. This is your opportunity to release children from poverty in Jesus' name. You will give them a future and a hope through the loving intervention of a Christ-centered program run by a local church in their neighborhood.

For more information, contact Maddi Myers at memayry@gmail.com or visit compassionsunday.com

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 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 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, earning 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.

Altar Guild Looking for Members

The St. James Altar Guild is very short of members. Current membership is at an all-time low of 8 members. Representatives of this small group are at every service for the entire year.

Just what does the Altar Guild do? Prepare the communion table for each service, change paraments, keep the altar candles filled with oil, put out the items needed for baptisms. We also prepare communion for funerals, when requested. None of these tasks are difficult, and there are checklists to help.

Historically Altar Guild members served for a month at a time, either with a partner or alone. Starting in June, we will be signing up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex for two weeks, or even one week, at a time. New volunteers always serve with a partner.

If you can consider helping with this ministry, please talk to one of the members: Nancy Dahlquist, Eunice Kistner, Sonya Lodahl, Barb Rierson, Ruth Stanchfield, Sharon Stromback, Margaret Thomsen and Maria Weiland, or to Pastor Randy.

Please prayerfully consider participating.

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.)

Global Health Ministries
Otis, for peace
For permanent employment
Connie
Butch Kessler, with health issues
John, for peace and contentment
Sarah & her family
Kevin
Naomi
Wendy
Everyone seeking employment

Jayson
Daniel, for good news
Kathy & John
All immigrants
All who hunger
Paul, as he mourns
Bob Leinonen
Make us your servants
George, for good health
Mr. Hill's newborn boy

Teacher Appreciation

Thanks to all the teachers and leaders who have faithfully served during Sunday School, confirmation and other events this year. Your partnership in sharing the gospel makes a difference in the lives of children, youth and families in our community. You are a blessing!



Flower Fundraiser

Flowers have arrived. Pick up your flowers today! Thank you for supporting summer camping ministry.

Summer Worship

St. James will move to one worship service at 9:30 a.m. during the summer beginning on May 24 and continuing through September 6.

Pr. Randy on Vacation

Pr. Randy is on vacation and will return to the office on Wed., May 13. Contact Pr. Kristen with questions.

Installation Service

Save the date for Pastor Kristen Brechler's Installation as Associate Pastor at St. James on July 26.

Butter Braids

If you have not picked up the Butter Braids that were ordered through the youth fundraiser, they are located in the storage room freezer (next to the kitchen).

Financial Statements

First quarter financial statements are available. Stop by for a kiss and your statement in the narthex today!

Kids Sing in Worship

The children will sing in worship on Sun., May 10 at 9:00 a.m.

Worship Participants

Assisting Minister: Deanna Loken
Lector: Emily Loken
Communion Assistants: Connie Blom, Nancy Lohmann, Troy Loken, Stan & Connie Tikkanen
Ushers: Junior Kautz, Vern Christensen, Roger A. Johnson, Ken Lutz

This Week's Events

Sunday, May 3:

9:00 a.m. Worship
 10:10 a.m. Adult Ed / Band Practice /
 Teacher Appreciation
 11:10 a.m. Worship
 4:00 p.m. GriefShare / Piano Recital

Monday, May 4:

6:30 p.m. Scouts
 7:00 p.m. Property Committee

Tuesday, May 5:

1:00-3:00 p.m. Parish Nurse
 5:15 p.m. Men's Golf
 5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts
 7:00 p.m. Kung Fu / Book Club

Wednesday, May 6:

9:30 a.m. Women's Golf
 6:00 p.m. Youth
 6:30 p.m. Confirmation
 7:00 p.m. Choir /GA

Thursday, May 7:

9:00 a.m. Archives
 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl
 7:00 p.m. Kung Fu

Friday, May 8:

4:00 p.m. Violin

Saturday, May 9:

10:00 a.m. Youth Scavenger Hunt
 12:00 p.m. Piano Recital

Sunday, May 10:

9:00 a.m. Worship
 10:10 a.m. Adult Ed / Band Practice
 11:10 a.m. Worship
 2:00 p.m. Violin Recital

Last Sunday's Statistics

- Mission & Ministry: \$3,500
 Received to date: \$129,296
- Capital Fund: \$292
 Received to date: \$24,822
- Special Offering (FMSC) \$826
- Attendance: 188

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

Contact St. James:

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

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!

May's Outreach Partner: Global Health Ministries

As an outreach partner of Global Health Ministries, St. James will again provide much needed "newborn kits" which will be assembled in October. Material for the kits is collected all year. GHM will send them to the areas where they are needed so that the midwives and the new mothers may feel that they are not alone, that someone cares and that they can welcome the babies into a safer world. Please help as we collect the contents for these kits which will be assembled in October.

Bath towel (no longer than 48"), wash cloth, 36" square of muslin or sheeting, wrapped Ivory soap, newborn stocking cap, baby shirt (to waist only) and receiving blanket. We are also making receiving blankets of donated t-shirt material. Nancy Dahlquist will be storing these items until we are ready to assemble the kits. Contact her at 763-537-1002.

GriefShare

If you personally have experienced a 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 on Sunday afternoons, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. The next series begins on Sun., May 31. There is a \$10 fee for the GriefShare seminars, and scholarships to cover this fee are available.

Spring Craft Retreat

Save the date of May 30th for the Spring Craft Retreat. Watch the Pews News for more details in the coming weeks.

Office Hours

St. James' Office Hours are Monday-Wednesday, 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Thursday 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The Page Turners Book Club

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. His developing friendship with 3 adults and a young woman his own age brings him to the beginnings of wisdom about love, honor, and loss. [from Booklist]

May's Book Club Meeting is Tues., May 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Peter and Paul room. Join us! All are welcome.

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

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!

Parking Information

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

Please note that the drive-through is now a loading zone only.

Worship Leader Roles for Children & Youth

Students and children are encouraged to sign up to help with summer leadership roles (acolyte, cross bearer, communion elements). Contact Pr. Kristen for more information by email at kbrechler@stjamesincrystal.org.

Library News

In recognition of Mothers' Day on May 10, the library has selected books about mothers. We would also like to display your favorite mother and child picture. Stop in the library to pick up a book and drop off a picture.

Geraniums For Pentecost

Geranium plants may be ordered to help decorate for Pentecost Sunday, May 24. Your geranium orders need to be placed by 10:45 a.m. on Sun., May 10. Plants can be picked up following the 9:30 a.m. Pentecost Sunday worship.



Number of plants ordered	Amount paid	Given in MEMORY / HONOR of:
_____ dozen @ \$31.00 =	_____	_____
_____ half dozen @ \$18.00 =	_____	_____
_____ single plant @ \$3.75 =	_____	_____
Total paid _____		Given by: _____

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