

Pews News

November 2, 2014

Reflecting the Light of Christ in Crystal

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

www.stjamesincystal.org

November Food Drive

We don't want to forget the hungry in our community during the NEAR Food Drive. The census bureau tells us that 46.2 million Americans now live in poverty. It is a fact that families in our community are living proof of this statistic.

Foods most needed are canned meals, canned meats, green beans, peas, 1 lb. spaghetti, canned fruit, juice and soup. You may check out the display case to see what a family of four receives once every 30 days. There is also other information there about NEAR. Each family will receive an extra box of food during November and December. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

The toy distribution will be on Sat., Dec. 13 at the Crystal Community Center. Set up will be on Fri., Dec. 12. Many hands are needed. Gently used warm winter wear, Christmas decorations and toys are also needed.

Psychologists tell us that your brain gives you a warm fuzzy feeling when you give to others. Please consider a donation of food, items or money to the NEAR Food Shelf. If you chose to give a monetary donation, you may make a check out to St. James with NEAR on the memo line. Thanks to all of you who volunteer at NEAR or donate to NEAR.

Lutefisk Dinner

St. James' Lutefisk Dinner is set for Sat., Nov. 22 with seatings at 4:00, 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. Tickets are now available for \$18. Advance sales only.

Listen to old time music while enjoying: Lutefisk with cream sauce and melted butter, Swedish meatballs and gravy, boiled potatoes, homemade lefse, coleslaw, rice pudding with lingonberries, coffee and milk.

Many volunteers are needed for this event; sign-up sheets are in the narthex. Please consider helping in any way you can!

Matching funds for NEAR Food Shelf are provided by Thrivent Northwest Minneapolis Chapter.

Adopt-A-Student Challenge

KidPack Adopt-A-Student update: St. James has lovingly adopted 96 students at \$54.00 for the KidPack Adopt-A-Student challenge. Thank you for the support of our youngest citizens. Our goal at St. James is to adopt 350 students for the 2014-2015 school year Kid-Pack initiative.

If you are able to adopt a student, please consider making a donation as part of your workplace charitable giving (simply enter under Community Shares Bonfire Ministry non-profit and write "KidPack Adopt-A-Student). Or live in a community where you no longer receive Trick-or-Treaters? How about considering a \$54.00 donation for Halloween? Thanksgiving memorials are also a consideration for KidPack Adopt-A-Student. Thank you to all for giving of your time and resources to support children living with weekend hunger in our own back yards.

Women's Christmas Brunch

Tickets go on sale today for the Women's Christmas Brunch *A Nordic Noel* on Sat., Dec. 6 at 10:00 a.m. Tickets are \$8.

This brunch is put on each year by Mary Circle and always includes delicious food and great entertainment.

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.)

Karen
Arnette, for recovery
Joanne
Phillip Bruer and family, as he leaves for Afghanistan
Bob Leinonen
Thomas Ritter
Thanks for blessings of the past week
All caregivers
Kathy & Jim W.
Kristine
Dan M.
Families living in stressful confirmations

Ryan K.
Jody
Sarah & her family
The health workers of West Africa
Kevin
Naomi
Wendy
Everyone seeking employment
Carrie, going to Jordan to serve for 27 months
Jim, for strength
Evie
Butch Kesler, with health issues
Don

Craft Sale

The annual Craft Sale will be Sat., Nov. 8, 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Proceeds benefit the youth fund.

Questions about having a booth? Contact Kristi VonDeylen at atvbabe@comcast.net.

Youth Craft Retreat Fundraiser

Calling all crafty people! The youth will be holding another craft retreat Sat., Nov. 15, 9:00 a.m.—9:00 p.m. Come and get an early start on those holiday projects and gifts, or catch up on some unfinished projects.

The cost is \$35 and includes at least 4 feet of work space, lunch, dinner, refreshments, and door prize drawings. All proceeds benefit the youth group.

Sign-up sheets on the bulletin board outside the office; deadline is Nov. 8.

Contact Amy Jermstad with any questions, 612-868-3411 or ajermstad@gmail.com.

Parent Connection Group Started

A new group, Parent Connection, will meet Sunday mornings at 10:15 a.m. in the Wally Krahn area (outside Wold Hall). Parents will meet for support and connections. All are invited to participate. For more information contact Pastor Kristen.

Adult Ed

Everyone is welcome to attend Adult Ed in the Peter & Paul room on Sunday mornings at 10:10 a.m. Grab a cup of coffee or lemonade on your way!

Advent Decorating

Advent decorating will held Sat., Nov. 29 at 9:00 a.m. Many hands are needed to help get all the decorations out! *(Please note the Herald said Nov. 1, which was All Saint's Decorating.)*

The Church Photo Directory is HERE!

If you had your picture taken for the new church photo directory, please pick it up today in the narthex. *(One per family photographed.)*

If you were unable to get your photo taken, we will announce when the books will be open for all St. James members to take home. Watch the Pews News for more information!

This Week's Events

Sunday, November 2:

9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Adult Ed / Sunday School
4:00 p.m. Grief Support

Monday, November 3:

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

Tuesday, November 4:

5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts
6:00 p.m. Bells
7:00 p.m. Kung Fu / Book Club

Wednesday, November 5:

6:30 p.m. Confirmation (*off-site*)
7:00 p.m. GA / Choir

Thursday, November 6:

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

Friday, November 7:

4:00 p.m. Violin
5:00 p.m. Craft Sale Set Up

Saturday, November 8:

9:00 a.m. Craft Sale

Sunday, November 9:

9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Adult Ed / Sunday School
4:00 p.m. Grief Support

Last Sunday's Statistics

- Mission & Ministry: \$5,028.17
Received to date: \$292,445
- Capital Fund: \$327
Received to date: \$69,793
- Special Offering (*GHM*) \$646
- Attendance: 225

Next Week's Texts

Amos 5:18-24

Matthew 24:1-13

Parking Information

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



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 and
Sunday School Coordinator

Office Hours

Office Hours: Monday-Wednesday,
7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Thursday 7:00 a.m.
to noon; Friday 7:00 - 9:30 a.m.

Contact St. James:

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

Loaves and Fishes

Brunswick Methodist is now serving every Wednesday and Thursday night. Care to volunteer, contact 763-533-3933.

Over 55's

Not enough people wanted to go the Plymouth Play House in November.

Stuffed Animals Needed

The decorating committee needs stuffed animals for the Advent and Christmas season this year. If you have something to share, please bring it to church labeled with your name on it by Sat., Nov. 29. It will be kept in the area behind the altar.

Check with Sandy Johnson or Judy Olsen for more information.

The stuffed animals will be returned the first part of January.

Moonlight Madness

When: Fri., Nov. 14 – Sat., Nov. 15 (9 p.m. - 7 a.m.)

Who: Middle School Students

Cost: \$35

Moonlight Madness is a city-wide youth event with open gym, dance, Grand Slam, movies and 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 today. Contact Pastor Kristen for more information.

Robbinsdale Area Moment

The Robbinsdale Area School Board voted to place two school funding requests on the November 4 ballot.

Question 1 is a renewal of an existing operating levy at no tax increase and question 2 adds technology levy with a tax increase of \$7 (based on the median district home value of \$195,000). Be an informed voter.

For more information about the November 4 referendum, including fact sheets, polling locations, the absentee voting process and tax impact charts, visit www.rdale.org. Questions can be directed to referendum@rdale.org or 763-504-8022. Additional information is also available at yes281.org.

Nursery Volunteers

We are in need of caring volunteers to help with childcare during the worship service. Please consider the time you can give, and sign up on the sheet outside the nursery, or call the church office. Thank you!

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.

Commitment Sunday

Sun., Nov. 23 will be Commitment Sunday at St. James. Watch for stewardship information in your mail in the coming weeks.

The Page Turners Book Club

November's pick: The Singing Wilderness by Sigurd F. Olson.

"The singing wilderness has to do with the calling of the loons, northern lights, and the great silences of a land lying northwest of Lake Superior," Olson writes. Olson tells his story through descriptions of the simple events in nature that bring meaning to his life. His insights are sharpened by his knowledge of the natural world and warmed by his passion for the outdoors. The Singing Wilderness is an essential antidote to the trials of modern life. [from University of Minnesota Press]

November's Book Club Meeting: Tues., Nov. 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the Peter and Paul room. Join us! All are welcome.

December's pick: The Paris Wife by Paula McLain

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

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 can be 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.

Grief Support Group

Bonfire Ministry will be hosting a Grief Support Group with different topics through mid-December. 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.

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

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Thanksgiving Eve worship will be held at First Lutheran Church this year on Wed., Nov. 26 at 7:00 p.m.

Donations of pies are needed for the pie social following the worship service. Watch for the sign-up sheet next week in the narthex!

Blessing of the Keys

We will bless the keys of Sr. High youth drivers on Sun., Nov. 16 during the 9:00 a.m. worship service.