

# Pews News

November 23, 2014

*Reflecting the Light of Christ in Crystal*

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

www.stjamesincrystal.org

## Commitment Sunday

Today is Commitment (Pledge) Sunday. Please place your pledge cards in the offering plate. Extra pledge cards are available in the narthex.

## Grief Support Group

Bonfire Ministry is hosting a Grief Support Group with different topics through December 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.

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

## Interested in a New Alternative Worship Service?

Come join the discussion at a Sunday morning brunch on December 7<sup>th</sup>, starting at 10:15 a.m. in Wold Hall following the morning service! A small group of people have been discussing what it would look like to bring back Wednesday evening community meals, fellowship, and an open invitation to our Crystal neighbors to experience the Light of Christ.

We would like to present the congregation with our ideas and make YOU a part of the conversation! Topics discussed will include the format of this new Alternative Worship Service, how everyone can be involved with the success and continuation of the service, and how we hope to bring in new members of the surrounding community to share the Gospel in an exciting and fresh way.

## November Food Drive

What if we make the following scripture verse as a motto for St. James? "The Lord is just and feeds the poor". The songs we sang last week mentioned taking care of the hungry and homeless. This can happen with the help of this congregation. Please know that the NEAR clients truly appreciate your help in feeding themselves and their families. They will have a happier Thanksgiving and Christmas because of each one of you.

The Christmas Distribution is Dec. 13th at the Crystal Community Center. You might be getting a call for a volunteer opportunity. The morning shift is 8:30-12:00 with the afternoon shift 11:30 -2:30 and closing. Please park by the swimming pool and ladies leave your purses at home. You may bring Christmas decorations, gently used warm clothes or any gifts you might choose.

## Adopt-A-Student Challenge

KidPack Adopt-A-Student update: St. James has lovingly adopted **100** students at \$54.00 each 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 KidPack 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). 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.

## 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  
Carrie, as she struggles to adjust to living in Jordan  
Arnette, for healing  
Joanne G., for recovery  
JoAnn W., for healing  
Phillip Buer & family as he leaves for Afghanistan  
Evelyn Jacobs  
Vivian Benrick  
Ozzie Hellen  
Sarah & her family  
Everyone seeking employment

Scholastical  
The health workers of West Africa  
Bob Leinonen  
Dan M.  
Tom Ritter  
All who hunger  
Ryan K, for employment  
The young man seen filling out job applications  
All caregivers  
Everyone traveling over Thanksgiving weekend  
For more patience in my daily life

## Advent Decorating

Advent decorating will take place Sat., Nov. 29 at 9:00 a.m. Many hands are needed to help get all the decorations out.

## 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. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex.



## Office Closed

The church office will close at noon on Wed., Nov. 26 and be closed all day Nov. 27-28 for Thanksgiving. In case of an emergency, contact Pastor Randy at 612-803-2879.

## 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!

## Women's Christmas Brunch

Tickets are on sale for the Women's Christmas Brunch *A Nordic Noel* on Sat., Dec. 6 at 10:00 a.m. Tickets are \$8. You may purchase tickets on Sunday mornings throughout November or from the church office.

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

## Advent Family Event

Kick off the Advent season with games, activities and some cool things to take home. Come to Wold Hall on Sun., Nov. 30 at 10:10 a.m. with your family and find out all that is in store!

## Christmas Program

Mark your calendars for the Children's Christmas Program—Sun., Dec. 21 at 9:00 a.m.

## This Week's Events

### Sunday, November 23:

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

### Monday, November 24:

6:30 p.m. Scouts

### Tuesday, November 25:

8:30 a.m. Herald Assembly  
9:30 a.m. Quilting  
4:00 p.m. KidPack packing  
5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts  
6:00 p.m. Bells  
7:00 p.m. Kung Fu

### Wednesday, November 26:

9:00 a.m. Worship Planning  
12:00 p.m. Office Closing  
7:00 p.m. GA / Worship (@ First)

### Thursday, November 27: Office Closed

### Friday, November 28: Office Closed

### Saturday, November 29:

9:00 a.m. Advent Decorating

### Sunday, November 30:

9:00 a.m. Worship  
10:10 a.m. Adult Ed / Advent Fair  
4:00 p.m. Grief Support

## Last Sunday's Statistics

- Mission & Ministry: \$4,032  
Received to date: \$312,221
- Capital Fund: \$1,772  
Received to date: \$73,949
- Special Offering (NEAR) \$631
- Attendance: 173

## Next Week's Texts

Isaiah 64:1-9

Mark 13:24-37

## 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

## 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. To volunteer, contact 763-533-3933.

## Nursery Attendant Job Opening

St James is seeking a nursery attendant to create a clean, safe, and nurturing environment for young children two hours a week on Sunday mornings (8:45-11a.m.). We are looking for someone with proven childcare experience, first aid/CPR training and able to pass a background check. This person will be expected to model kindness, compassion, and concern to families and all they encounter.

The pay for this position is dependent on experience, beginning at \$10.00 per hour. To indicate your interest in this position, please submit your qualifications and 2-3 references to [romsdahl@stjamesincrystal.org](mailto:romsdahl@stjamesincrystal.org) by Wed., Nov. 26, 2014.

## Parent Connection Group

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.

## 'Tis the Season

'Tis the Season to Remember to hang the Christmas lights and decorate the tree.

'Tis the Season to Remember to get everyone's Christmas list and shop & shop & shop.

'Tis the Season to Celebrate with Friends and Family and St. James.

'Tis the Season to Celebrate Advent and the wonderful story of Jesus' Birth.

'Tis the season to Remember St. James' Mission & Ministry Programs through Worship, Adult Education, Youth programs, Congregation life gatherings, Pastoral visits and Outreach into our Community.

'Tis the Season to Remember that our current Mission & Ministry deficit is \$13,000, an annual tradition at St. James.

'Tis the Season to Remember that our extra giving in Nov. and Dec. has eliminated our past deficits, another tradition at St. James.

'Tis the Season to Remember our individual, extra Gifts to St. James last year and the year before and many years before that.

'Tis the Season to Remember to do it all Again!!

'Tis the Season to Celebrate what the Lord has given us and to say Thank You.

Thank you Lord and thank you St. James!

*St. James Finance Committee*

## The Page Turners Book Club

December's pick: The Paris Wife by Paula McLain.

Chicago, 1920: Hadley Richardson is a quiet 28-year-old who has all but given up on love and happiness — until she meets Ernest Hemingway. Following a whirlwind courtship and wedding, the pair set sail for Paris, where they become the golden couple in a lively and volatile group - the fabled "Lost Generation" - that includes Gertrude Stein, Ezra Pound, and F. Scott Fitzgerald. A deeply evocative story of ambition and betrayal, captures the love affair between Ernest Hemingway and his wife Hadley. [from The Publisher]

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

January's pick: The African Queen by C. S. Forester

For more information, contact Linda Judge (at 763-533-4081 or [judgelinda@msn.com](mailto:judgelinda@msn.com)).

## Christmas Worship

Celebrate Christ's birth on Wed., Dec. 24 at 4:30 or 10:00 p.m.

## KidPack Packing Day

The next KidPack packing day is Tues., Nov. 25 at 4:00 p.m. at the Emergency Food Network (8501 54th Ave N- New Hope). Please contact Melodie Hanson for more information at 763-504-4981.

## 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!

## 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.

## Poinsettias

Poinsettias are now for sale for Christmas for \$8.00 each. You may take your plant home after the 10:00 p.m. service on Dec. 24. The names of the honorees will be included for the Christmas Eve services. Orders must be received in the church office by **Sun., Dec. 7.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate how many of each color you would like.

\_\_\_\_\_ Red \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Jingle Ball (Red & White)

Total number of poinsettia plant(s) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$8.00 each Total Due: \_\_\_\_\_

In (circle one) memory / honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In (circle one) memory / honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

