

Pews News

September 7, 2014

Reflecting the Light of Christ in Crystal

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

www.stjamesincrystal.org

Rally Day Celebration Today

Worship will be held at 9:00 a.m. this morning.

Following worship there will be:

Sunday School Orientation. Families are encouraged to register their children for Sunday School downstairs in Wold Hall and stay for a short orientation, then join the congregation outside.

Youth Trip Meeting. Meeting will be held in Ryan's office; families will join the congregation outside following the meeting.

Potluck Picnic. A potluck picnic will be held on the east lawn. Hotdogs and buns will be provided; please bring a dish to share. If you didn't bring one, you are more than welcome to enjoy the picnic!

Ministry Fair will be held in the narthex and hallways. Please check out all the different ministries of St. James. New members to all the groups are always welcomed!

Bounce House will be held outside on the east lawn for the children.

Lighthouse Sunday School

Today we are starting a "New Season" with exciting new changes in our Children's Ministry. We are building upon a strong foundation of 9:57; we will continue with a similar formation but at a different time.

We will focus on fully reflecting our light and will do this with the image of a Lighthouse guiding our way. Lighthouse Sunday School will be at 10:10 a.m. from Luke 9:57 "we will follow you wherever you go" and fully moving into embracing the theme of 'reflecting our light'. We will do this through the image of a LIGHT House.

Orientation will be today at 10:10 a.m. in Wold Hall. All families are expected to attend. For more information contact Amy Jermstad or Pastor Kristen.

Adopt-A-Student Challenge

Bonfire is challenging each congregation to raise enough funds for 350 students through the KidPack Adopt-A-Student program.

\$54 provides weekend KidPacks for one student for the entire school year, \$675 for half a classroom, and \$1,350 for an entire classroom of 25 students. There are pew envelopes available specifically for this cause. Please help KidPack fund the 2014-2015 school year. **We are at \$3,552.**

Tennis Tournament

Once again, Corey Loken of St. James will be hosting a tennis tournament to raise money and awareness for Bonfire KidPack. We're trying something new this year: a doubles tournament! So grab your partner (or let us find one for you) and head out to the courts! It will be held on Sat., Sept. 13 at the Cooper High School tennis courts. The entry fee is \$20/person, which includes a t-shirt if you sign-up by September 6th. Play will be 8 game sets, with no-ad scoring, and everyone is guaranteed at least two matches. All abilities are welcome! Questions? Contact Corey at coreyloken@aol.com or 763-234-7838.

Altar Flowers

Today's altar flowers are given by the Olson family in celebration of Jo Olson's 85th birthday.

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

Ryan K.

Bob Leinonen

Tom Ritter

Jackson

Kristine

All caregivers

My Muslim neighbors

My Jewish neighbors

Thanks for blessings of this past week

Dan M.

Man seen filling out a job application

My parents

Sarah & her family

Everyone seeking employment

The people of Liberia

Our children as they start a new school year
Elva, for relief of severe headaches and to
find the cause

Bruer family, for Phil's deployment to Af-
ghanistan

Kevin

Wendy

Naomi

The people in West Africa dealing with
Ebola virus

Jim & family

Susan, in her new job

Rose, with a broken hip

Welcome New Members

Today we joyfully welcome the following new members:

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

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. 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, 10:10 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.

This Week's Events

Sunday, September 7:

9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Rally Day Celebration /
Sunday School Orientation

Monday, September 8:

12:30 p.m. Thrivent Meeting
7:00 p.m. Finance Committee

Tuesday, September 9:

9:30 a.m. Quilting
10:45 a.m. Dinner at Your Door
5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts
6:30 p.m. Bells / Altar Guild
7:00 p.m. Kung Fu

Wednesday, September 10:

6:00 p.m. Youth
6:30 p.m. Confirmation Orientation
7:00 p.m. GA / Choir

Thursday, September 11:

7:00 p.m. Kung Fu

Friday, September 12:

4:00 p.m. Violin

Saturday, September 13:

8:00 a.m. Car Care Saturday
9:00 a.m. Tennis Tournament

Sunday, September 14:

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

Last Sunday's Statistics

- Mission & Ministry: \$1,650
Received to date: \$229,171
- Capital Fund: \$261
Received to date: \$59,443
- Special Offering (*Forest Elementary School*) \$823
- Attendance: 159

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.

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

Genesis 50:15-21
Matthew 18:21-35

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

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.

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.

Directory Pictures

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

DAYD Drivers Needed

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 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.

Men's Breakfast

The next Men's Breakfast is Sat., Sept. 20 at 8:00 a.m. at Fat Nat's (36th & Winnetka Ave). All men are welcome to attend!

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild will be Tues., Sept. 9 at 6:30 p.m. Anyone interested in learning more is welcome to attend.

Grief Support

Bonfire Ministry will be hosting a Grief Support Group with different topics for the next 12 weeks. It will be held from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday evenings in the Peter & Paul room.

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

NEAR School Supplies Update

NEAR would like to thank St. James for the \$583, the many school supplies, and back packs this July. NEAR served 200 client families with 546 students. WOW! That is 30 more families than last year with 112 more students. Thanks to St. James members who helped with the distribution.

The breakdown was 299 elementary, 129 middle school, and 142 high school students. Thanks again for all your help in this Outreach Ministry.

The Page Turners Book Club

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

Harry de Leyer first saw the horse he would name Snowman on a truck bound for the slaughterhouse. On Harry's modest farm on Long Island, he ultimately taught Snowman how to fly. One show at a time, against extraordinary odds, the pair climbed to the very top of the sport of show jumping. Their story captured the heart of Cold War-era America. They were the longest of all long shots - and their win was the stuff of legend. [from amazon.com]

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

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

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

ELCA Moment

Today is "God's Work; Our Hands" Sunday all across our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the ELCA are joining to serve in their communities on this day to make a statement about our commitment to serving God in our communities and the world. Over 60 volunteers from our Wildfire partner churches, including twelve from St. James, joined in this effort yesterday, working at both Second Harvest and at House of Hope, where they tied blankets for the ELCA's Camp Noah ministry. Our relationship with other ELCA churches helps us make a bigger impact when sharing our resources and makes good ministry sense. Today, you are invited to take home a copy of our ELCA's publication, "Stories of Faith in Action" to learn more about the difference we are making together in the ELCA.

Mpls. Area Synod Moment

Here are some facts about our synod:

- Number of congregations: 155
- Baptized membership: 188,710 (2010)
- Annual giving: \$109,000,000
- Total assets: \$680,000,000
- Weekly average worship attendance: 50,463 (2010)
- Church school weekly attendance average: 38,776
- Average congregational size: 1,300 members
- Number of rostered leaders: 700 pastors, associates in ministry, deaconesses and diaconal ministers
- Budget of the Minneapolis Area Synod: \$3.2 million
- The Minneapolis Area Synod covers these 7 counties: Anoka, Carver, Hennepin, Isanti, Scott, Sherburne (part), and Wright (part).