

Pews News

Reflecting the Light of Christ in Crystal

April 19, 2015

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

www.stjamesincrystal.org

Congregational Vote Results

St. James Lutheran Church members voted last Sunday in a congregational vote to call Pastor Kristen Brechler to serve as Associate Pastor. Pastor Kristen has been serving as Interim Associate Pastor since September 2013. We are thrilled to have her as a permanent member of our staff!

Women's Spring Tea Tickets Available for Saturday

Mary Circle will host its annual Springtime Dessert Buffet Tea on Sat., Apr. 25 at 12:15 p.m.

Goodies and tea sandwiches will be served at the brunch.

Tickets are \$8.00. Advance ticket sales only today or from the church office. Make checks payable to Mary Circle. Reserve your tables of 8 today.

Entertainment will be provided by **The Looney Lutherans**, a trio of wacky gals—Ginger, Bella, and Lois. The Looney Lutherans were born in a basement in 2006 when the founding members were appearing in the cast of the hit musical “Church Basement Ladies.” All original material is comedic, family-friendly and interactive. You won't want to miss it!

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. For more information and/or to register for this upcoming session, please call Bonfire Parish Nurse, Debbie Haney, at 612-408-2049.

“Living Better Longer”

Bonfire Parish nurse, Debbie Haney, and the Bonfire Health and Wellness committee invite you to a free senior event entitled *Living Better Longer* on Thurs., Apr. 23, 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the North Memorial Outpatient Center (3435 Broadway Ave., Robbinsdale, MN 55422).

This is a free event (and free parking), but pre-registration is required. Register online at northmemorial.com/events or call 763-581-2410.

There will be speakers on senior wellness, advance care planning, and funeral celebration planning. There also will be representatives from various community resources for seniors.

As an added bonus, there will be treats, raffles and free advice!

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).

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.*)

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.)

All those dealing with depression, anxiety,
or a mental illness
Otis, for peace
For permanent employment
Sarah & her family
Kevin
Naomi
Wendy
Paul, who is grieving
Connie
Dan M., for encouragement and progress
Paul, with health issues

Ryan K., for suitable employment
Paul, seeking work
All caregivers
Kathy & Jim
All who hunger
All immigrants
Bob Leinonen
The Collins family
Jim, for strength
Butch Kessler, as he struggles with health
issues

Lenten Offering Cans

Please return your offering cans. The Lenten Can Offering will be used to support Families Moving Forward (FMF).

No Parking on St. James' Drive-Up

The drive-up in front of St. James has been re-classified as a 15-minute loading zone only. This means that there will be no day parking allowed on the drive-up to St. James.

New Member Classes

A new member class will be held today at 10:10 a.m. New members will be received in worship on Sun., April 26.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Randy Romsdahl at rromsdahl@stjamesincrystal.org.

Over 55's

The Over 55's will enjoy a gourmet meal at Hennepin Technical College (9000 Brooklyn Blvd.) on Mon., Apr. 27 with serving starting promptly at 11:30 a.m.

Financial Statements

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

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.

Teacher Appreciation

Teacher appreciation day for Lighthouse Sunday School will be Sun., May 3. This will also be the final day of Sunday School for the program year.

Worship Participants

Assisting Minister: John Lindstrom
Lector: Jacob Sauber
Communion Assistants: Nyadoar Gach, Eunice Kistner, Mike & Erin LaMotte, Eric Sauber
Cross Bearer: Sidona Kautz
Acolytes: Beck Petrie, Jenyang Gach
Ushers: Mike Stanchfield, Jim Olsen, Stan Tikkanen, John Lindstrom, Wayne Rierson, Don & Deb Edmondson.

This Week's Events

Sunday, April 19:

9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Adult Ed / Sunday School /
New Member Class / Band
Practice
11:10 a.m. Worship
4:00 p.m. GriefShare

Monday, April 20:

10:45 a.m. Dinner at Your Door
6:30 p.m. Scouts
7:00 p.m. Council

Tuesday, April 21:

1:00 p.m. Library Work Day
1:00-3:00 p.m. Parish Nurse
5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts
7:00 p.m. Kung Fu
7:30 p.m. Band Practice

Wednesday, April 22:

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

Thursday, April 23:

9:00 a.m. Archives
7:00 p.m. Kung Fu

Friday, April 24:

4:00 p.m. Violin

Saturday, April 25:

9:00 a.m. CPR Training
12:15 p.m. Spring Tea
4:30 p.m. Feed My Starving Children

Sunday, April 26:

9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Adult Ed / Sunday School /
Band Practice
11:10 a.m. Worship
4:00 p.m. GriefShare

Last Sunday's Statistics

- Mission & Ministry: \$4,890
Received to date: \$121,539
- Capital Fund: \$807
Received to date: \$23,565
- Special Offering (FMSC) \$151
- Attendance: 180

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

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.

Contact St. James:

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

VBS Staff

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 by April 15. 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.

Summer Camp for Children & Youth Grades 1-8

Students and friends of St. James are going to camp! Church camp proves to be a transforming experience for children and students. Join us for camp the first week of August at Camp Onomia or Camp Wapo. Pr. Randy and Pr. Kristen will rotate between the two camps.

Reserve your spot with a \$100 deposit. Fundraising information is available. Contact Pr. Kristen for more information.

Camp Onomia

Pioneers (grades 1-3) on August 3-6, 2015. Cost: \$215.

Explorers (grades 3-6) on August 3-8, 2015. Cost: \$420.

Register online at www.camponomia.org.

Camp Wapo

Youth camp (grades 6-8)* on August 2-7, 2015. Cost: \$400.

Register online at www.campwapo.org.

*Middle school students are encouraged to attend Camp Wapo.

Garage Sale Leader

Are you passionate about garage sales? Would you love to see one at St. James?

We are looking for someone who would be interested in spearheading a garage sale this summer at St. James. This would involve creating a committee and then leading the group through the process of holding a garage sale.

If you are interested in leading this initiative, please contact Pastor Randy.

Kids Sing in Worship

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

CPR Training

There will be a CPR Training session on Sat., April 25 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you are interested, please contact John Lindstrom at 612-669-5962 to participate.

April's Outreach Partner: Feed My Starving Children

Every day 18,000 children die from starvation. Feed My Starving Children (FMSC), along with nearly 600,000 volunteers, has packaged over 100 million meals for starving children in nearly 70 countries all over the world. Each Feed My Starving Children meal provides the key nutrients a starving child needs to survive and thrive.

All monetary donations collected through the special offering in April will support FMSC. Please make checks payable to St. James and write FMSC on the memo line.

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 & August.)

Library News

Please stop by the library and pick up any Bibles you brought to share during Lent. Many people stopped by to examine the many unique and mostly very old Bibles.

Car Care will be coming up in June. You may bring donated books to the library at any time and leave them in the Narthex under the coat racks.

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!

KidPack Packing Day

The next KidPack packing day is Tues., April 28 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.

Fore! It's Time for Golf

It's time to commit to playing in a St. James golf league for the 2015 season.

Men's nine-hole-play is scheduled for Tuesday evenings at Theodore Wirth Golf Course, May 5 to July 21. If you are interested in some great fellowship and want to play golf with some fellow St. James members, contact Stan Tikkanen before April 30 (763-546-8155 or sactikkanen@hotmail.com). Friends, co-workers or relatives are welcome to join as well.

The women's golf season will be held at French Park each Wednesday morning beginning May 6 at 9:00 a.m. Contact Eunice Kistner for more information at 763-416-3268.