



St. James Lutheran Church

*Reflecting the Light of Christ in Crystal*

# Gospel "E"

Weekly Email Newsletter

December 8, 2014

## *Pastoral Devotion*

The brokenness of our world can seem overwhelming. We observe and experience the darkness of environmental degradation, war, oppression, injustice, indifference and cruelty in our human family. We cry out for God to put things right, and grow impatient in our waiting. But the Gospel of John offers hope in the face of this present darkness: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." The Word of God is restoring all creation. Is each and every act of love a Word of God, uttered with God's own Holy Spirit? Is God's kingdom so near?

*Pastor Randy*

## *Christmas Caroling & Potluck Sunday*

Please join us on Sun., Dec. 14 for a potluck at 11:00 a.m., with Christmas caroling at different care facilities in the area following the meal. All are welcome, so invite your family and friends to come too! It will be a fun afternoon!

## *Children's Christmas Program*

Mark your calendars for the Children's Christmas Program—Sun., Dec. 21 at 9:00 a.m. Rehearsal will be Sun., Dec. 14 at 10:10 a.m.

## *Christmas Eve Worship*

Christmas Eve worship will be held Wed., Dec. 24 at 4:30 and 10:00 p.m.

## *Discovery Meetings*

During January and early February, 2015, St. James will be joining in a series of Discovery Meetings. The meetings are for two purposes: (1) help Pastor Randy become more acquainted with St. James; and (2) provide a forum for sharing in conversation about God's mission for our congregation.

Please sign up in the narthex to attend one of the Discovery meetings that will best fit your schedule.

### **Mark your Calendar**

**12-14** *Christmas Caroling & Potluck, 11:00 a.m.*

**12-21** *Christmas Program, 9:00 a.m.*

### **Holiday Office Hours**

The church will be closed on Wed., Dec. 24, Thurs., Dec. 25, Wed., Dec. 31 (close at noon), and Thurs., Jan. 1.

In case of an emergency, contact Pastor Randy at 612-803-2879.

### **Contact Us**

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