



# St. James Lutheran Church

*Reflecting the Light of Christ in Crystal*

## Gospel "E"

Weekly Email Newsletter

October 22, 2014

### *Pastoral Devotion*

From over 100 applicants, 36 women were carefully selected to participate in a 3-day Charis spiritual retreat at the Minnesota State Correctional Facility for women in Shakopee. After a day of talks introducing them to God, the participants were invited to write the names of those who they needed to forgive on blank slips of white paper. Names of abusers, pushers, rapists, murderers, parents, friends, and for most, their own name. I was entrusted with the slips and charged with the task of burning them in my wood stove. When I arrived at home last Friday night, Diana had a nice fire burning, and I tossed the great flock of over fifty white slips of paper into the crackling flames. The slips flashed for an instant in the great power of the flames and were gone. Could the power of God's love and forgiveness be so strong that the uncounted years of heartache and sorrow and all of the enormous hurts and blinding, twisting guilt scrawled across those slips of paper be transformed in an instant of God's mercy and grace to light, heat, and a wisp of smoke rising to heaven?

*Pastor Randy*

### *Lefse Making October 31 & 1*

Come help bake lefse on Sat., Nov. 1, beginning at 8:00 a.m. If you have a lefse pan, please bring it. Never made lefse before or don't have a pan? Come and find out how it's done!

Prep work for the bakes will be done the Friday prior, beginning at 8:00 a.m. Many potato peelers are needed!

The lefse will be served at the annual Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner on Sat., Nov. 22. *(Tickets are now available!)*

### *Intergenerational Event Sunday*

St. James will be assembling newborn kits and making rolled bandages for Global Health Ministries, October's Outreach Partner, on Sun., Oct. 26 in Wold Hall at 10:10 a.m. All ages are invited to help at this event! Youth & children will be participating as their group activity on Sunday morning rather than their regularly scheduled classes.

Bath towels, full size bars of Ivory soap, washcloths, white sheets, and any color material is still needed. Monetary donations will be used to purchase the items still needed to make the kits and bandages.

### *KidPack Adopt-A-Student Update*

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 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 nonprofit 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.

#### **Mark your Calendar**

**10-25** *Ordination Service for Kaitlyn Ferguson at 5:00 p.m.*

**10-26** *Confirmation Sunday, please wear red to worship*

**11-2** *All Saints' Sunday*

#### **Kaitlyn Ferguson Ordination**

Kaitlyn Ferguson will be ordained on Sat., Oct. 25 at 5:00 p.m. at St. James. All St. James members, and friends of St. James, are welcome to attend!

#### **Contact Us**

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