



# St. James Lutheran Church

Reflecting the Light of Christ in Crystal

## Gospel "E"

Weekly Email Newsletter

September 17, 2014

### Pastoral Devotion

Matthew 20:1-16. Do you enjoy standing in line? Me neither! The longer the line, the more impatient I get. Think about the lines at the airport, and how first-class ticket holders are spared the aggravation of long lines! If the line is too long, I may forgo whatever I was waiting for rather than waiting. Yes, it's easy to become impatient. We are conditioned, trained and taught that measurable results are to be expected and those who work the hardest and longest can expect the greatest success and go to the front of the line, or perhaps the short, first-class-privileged line. But Jesus invites us to see the grace and blessing intended by God first for those we may consider unworthy of such grace and blessing. Through our participation in God's mercy, by either receiving it or sharing it with another, we receive fullness of life in God's kingdom among us, regardless of whether we are first in line, or last.

Pastor Randy

### Men's Fellowship Dinner

All men are invited for the Wildfire Men's Fellowship Dinner to be held at Holy Nativity (3900 Winnetka Ave N, New Hope) on Sun., Oct. 5 at 5:00 p.m.

The program will be by Can Do Canines. This organization is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for people with disabilities by creating mutually beneficial partnerships with specially trained dogs. They provide service in the areas of healing, mobility, diabetes, seizure response and autism.

The menu will be ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, coleslaw, bread and dessert. Cost is \$10.

Reservations are due to Roland Smith (763-545-0049) by Sun., Sept. 28.

### Adopt-A-Student Challenge

Bonfire is challenging each congregation to raise enough funds for 350 students through the KidPack Adopt-A-Student program (\$18,900).

\$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 \$4,099.**

### Fall Work Day October 11th

It's time to get St. James clean before winter! The Fall Work Day has been set for Sat., Oct. 11 beginning at 8:30 a.m. A light brunch will be provided. Come for as long as you are able. Many hands make light work!

#### Mark your Calendar

9-20 *Men's Breakfast 8:00 a.m. at Fat Nat's*

10-5 *Pet Blessing*

10-11 *Fall Work Day*

#### Third Grade Bible Class

Third graders and a parent are invited to a special class to learn more about the Bible on Sat. Sept. 20 at 9:30 a.m., before receiving their Bibles in worship on Sun., Sept. 28. For more information, contact Pastor Kristen at [kbrechler@stjamesincrystal.org](mailto:kbrechler@stjamesincrystal.org).

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