



## St. James Lutheran Church

*Reflecting the Light of Christ in Crystal*

# Gospel "E"

Weekly Email Newsletter

January 16, 2014

## Weekly Devotion: Practicing Patience (Psalm 40:1-11)

*I Waited patiently for the Lord (Psalm 40:1)*

You and I were not born with patience. As infants, we demanded what we needed. As children we demanded what we wanted. As we matured, we learned to wait more patiently, usually without crying!

Today's song of thanksgiving tells us another pilgrim has trekked along this arduous path to patience, and seems not to have been disappointed. He could honestly exclaim, "Happy are those who make the Lord their trust" (v.4). His testimony offers the same encouragement to us that our Lord Jesus may have received from this very psalm in his own trying times.

Yes, learning to practice patience was absolutely essential for Jesus. It is no less essential for Christians today. Happily, as we learn to become more patient with ourselves, with others, and above all, with God, we are enabled to live with more inner joy and gratitude. By God's grace, we can be empowered to endure calmly, to suffer without yielding, and to forgive what once seemed unforgivable. Just consider how patiently our dear Lord still waits for us!

**O God of infinite patience and unfailing mercy, teach me to put my trust in you alone. Help me to wait with the patience of Christ, in whose name I pray. Amen.**

*(From Christ in Our Home for 1/16/14)*

## Annual Meeting & Potluck

The 2013 Annual Meeting of St. James will be on Sun., Jan. 26 with a potluck at noon and the meeting beginning at 12:30 p.m. in Wold Hall. We hope you can make it!

Annual reports are now available in the narthex. Financials will be available the morning of the meeting.

## QPR Session Sponsored by Bonfire

QPR is a free one-hour presentation sponsored by NAMI Minnesota on Mon., Feb. 3, 7:00-8:30 p.m. at House of Hope Lutheran Church. QPR covers the three steps anyone can learn to help prevent suicide. Just like CPR, QPR is an emergency response to someone in crisis and can save lives. QPR is the most widely taught gatekeeper training program in the U.S., and more than one million adults have been trained in a classroom setting in more than 48 states. NAMI Minnesota's mission is to champion justice, dignity and respect for all people affected by mental illness. Open to parents, school staff, youth workers, and community members. Certificate of attendance will be available.

Please RSVP to 763-504-4981 with name and number attending. Free childcare is available, please reserve your spot when you register.

Bonfire Ministry is one of the proud sponsors for this SPARC series session.

### Mark your Calendar

1-26 *Annual Meeting & Potluck, noon*

1-27 *Over 55's at Old Country Buffet, 11:30 a.m.*

### Office Closed

The church office will be closed on Mon., Jan. 20 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

### Contact Us

6700 46th Place North  
Crystal, MN 55428  
763-537-3653  
[www.stjamesincrystal.org](http://www.stjamesincrystal.org)