



Gospel "E"

Weekly Email Newsletter

July 15, 2014

Weekly Devotion: 'An Anchor for the soul'

We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul. (Hebrews 6:13-20)

"This hope" is the steadfast faithfulness of God. It is the assurance that God's promises are true— so true that they anchor all of life. Abraham was so certain of God's faithfulness that he and Sarah left behind all they knew and went to the land God showed them. They were so certain of God's faithfulness that they considered the birth of Isaac, one son, to be sufficient evidence that God's promise of myriads of descendants would indeed come true. Their faith was anchored in the unchangeable word of God.

There have been times in my life, and perhaps in yours too, when I have needed the assurance that God's promises are really true. When I moved away from home for the first time, I looked for a community of believers that would support me and help me adjust to the move. When my father died, I turned to my childhood pastor who gave me the assurance that my father was held in God's loving embrace. During such times, I have sought out the anchor of other believers to support me in my faith. Perhaps you have too.

Faithful God, strengthen us to trust the certainty of your word and to know that your promises are kept for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(From Christ in Our Home, July 15, 2014 based on Hebrews 6:13-20 © Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.)

Splash Palooza Wednesday Night

Come join us for a TON of water fun. We'll have stations of: Water baseball, squirt gun races, sponge balls, water balloon pinata and slip n' slide. We'll also have some awesome relay races with kids vs. youth! Ages 3+ are welcome to attend. Tomorrow - July 16 - 6:30-8:00 p.m. at St. James. Snack and quiet activities will be provided. Wear a suit, bring a towel and even a friend!

Photography is Next Week!

St. James will be creating a new directory! Photography will be July 21-25, 2:00—9:00 p.m. Book your session on Sunday mornings in the narthex or by following the link online at www.stjamesincrystal.org. Everyone will receive a **FREE** 8x10 and directory for participating. Sessions are starting to fill up; book yours today! Follow the link on the St. James website.

This would be a great opportunity for an extended family or generational picture. Please book a separate session from for these photographs. Pets are welcome at all sessions because they are part of the family too!

If you are unable to attend this particular week, there are other churches photographing this summer that you could visit and still be in St. James directory. Homebound? We can arrange for a photographer to come to you! Contact Amanda at 763-537-3653 (M-W) for more information.

This project will require some volunteer effort. If you would be willing to volunteer a few hours of your time, please contact the church office at office@stjamesincrystal.org. We are looking for people to help greet our families during photography the week of July 21-25. This would be a great opportunity for student community service hours! All volunteers will receive a **20% off** coupon for any portrait session purchases.

Please notify us of any changes to address, phone, or email so the directory can have the most updated information!

Mark your Calendar

- 7-16 *Over 55's Car Pool, 8:30 a.m.*
- 7-21 *Pastor Randy begins*
- 7-27 *Bonfire Ministry bonfire, 6:30 p.m.*

Farewell Picnic

St. James will hold a Farewell Picnic for Pastor Dave Valen as he ends his interim ministry at St. James after worship on Sun., July 20. Hotdogs and dessert will be provided. Please bring a dish to share.

Contact Us

6700 46th Place North
Crystal, MN 55428
763-537-3653
www.stjamesincrystal.org