

### St. James Lutheran Church

Reflecting the Light of Christ in Crystal

# Gospel "E"

Weekly Email Newsletter

July 23, 2014

### Pastoral Devotion

Beloved in Christ,

After only two and one-half days on the job, I'm so thankful for the life, ministry and vitality of our congregation! We have so many gifts and strengths upon which to build! Pastor Kristen, Ron, Lana and Amanda have been helpful, encouraging and welcoming in every way. They have gone above and beyond what I would expect as the staff new-comer. They are already trusted, valued and beloved co-workers in Christ. I'm excited to continue meeting our other staff members and learning more about our ministries and the mission which God desires for our congregation, a mission which certainly includes building up, encouraging and equipping our members for life through Christ in faith; and a mission which certainly includes our response to our Lord Jesus' invitation to ministry in the world.

My first council meeting at St. James was Monday night, June 21, and I was moved by the giftedness of our council, the faith and passion for ministry they share, and their commitment to serve God by building on our strengths for the future to which God is calling us. Diana and I have been warmly welcomed as "new visitors" in worship on both July 13 and July 20. We can see why others will want to join our congregation and share in the life in Christ we enjoy here at St. James. We will be forming a new member class in the next few weeks, and Diana and I are excited to be a part of that class. If you know someone who is looking for a church, please welcome them to St. James and introduce them to me!

Blessings,

Pastor Randy

### Bonfire Ministry Bonfire on Sunday

The next bonfire will tonight at 6:30 p.m. at St. James. Our new Sr. Pastor, Randy Romsdahl, will be here to greet everyone! We hope you can make it for some s'mores and singing.

## Welcome Pastor Randy!

Please give Pastor Randy and his wife, Diana, a warm St. James welcome on his first week as St. James' new senior pastor. Stop by and introduce yourself, or send a welcome email to <a href="mailto:rromsdahl@stjamesincrystal.org">rromsdahl@stjamesincrystal.org</a>.

We will install Pastor Randy during the worship service on Sun., Aug. 10 at 9:30 a.m. Minneapolis Area Synod Bishop Ann Svennungsen will be presiding. There will be a reception in Wold Hall following worship. Donations of bars are needed and can be brought to the kitchen that morning.

#### Mark your Calendar

**7-26** *CPR Training, 9:00 a.m.* 

7-27 Bonfire Ministry bonfire, 6:30 p.m.

8-16 Men's Breakfast, 8:00 a.m.

#### **NEAR School Supplies**

During the month of July, St. James will be collecting school supplies for the NEAR Food Shelf. Please watch for sales and bring donations in by July 31. Thanks for helping prepare these kids!

#### Contact Us

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