



# Gospel "E"

Weekly Email Newsletter

July 8, 2014

## Weekly Devotion: 'Confidence in the church'

*You yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, and able to instruct one another. (Romans 15:14)*

I have played on the same soccer team for eight years. We do our best when we have players who defend well, possess the ball, and can score. We also do well when the entire team shows up, which allows for substitutions during a game. Lately, we have had many injured players, and this has reduced our potential. Such is the nature of sports: you win some, and you lose some.

In his letter to the Christians in Rome, Paul makes it clear that this adage does not hold true for the church. He trusts that the church is always up to the task. Through the Holy Spirit, God gathers together the assembly of believers with all the gifts needed for being the body of Christ in that place and time. We need not doubt this, although we may need to be reminded of it. Conflicts may arise. Challenges may threaten. Christ's church, however, will not fail. Christ's very being fills the church with goodness, knowledge, and community. Hold fast to this good news. Proclaim it to your church. Serve boldly.

**Dear God, fill the church with the Holy Spirit and strengthen us to faithfully proclaim your love through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*(From Christ in Our Home, July 8, 2014 based on Romans 15:14-21 © Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.)*

## Pastor Randy To Begin July 21

St. James has voted to call Pastor Randall Romsdahl as the next Senior Pastor. He will begin in the office on Mon., July 21. There will be a Bonfire Ministry bonfire at St. James on Sun., July 27 at 6:30 p.m. Please come welcome him to St. James and introduce yourself!

## Directory Sessions Are Filling Up

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](http://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](mailto: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.*

7-16 *Splash Pooza, 6:30 p.m.*

7-20 *Pastor Dave's Farewell Picnic*

### 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

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