



St. James Lutheran Church

Reflecting the Light of Christ in Crystal

Gospel "E"

Weekly Email Newsletter

May 12, 2014

Weekly Devotion: 'God Chooses Us!'

Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt? (Exodus 3:11)

If you are like me, you sometimes come up with reasons for why you can't or shouldn't do something. When invited to join in on a ministry project, we may protest that it doesn't fit our schedule, we can't afford it, or we don't think we have the ability. For whatever reason, we choose to say no.

Moses didn't think he was cut out to save the Israelites from Egypt. He listened to God, and then searched for ways to say no. But God was persistent and patient with Moses, as God is with each one of us. The good news is that we don't choose God. Instead, God chooses us—ragamuffin saints and sinners—to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. Even as we come up with excuses for why we can't serve, God comes up with reasons for why we can!

It is good to have boundaries in our lives and even to say no sometimes; we can't do everything. Still, may we look for the situations where God desires to use us to shine a light or to be a presence of grace in someone's life.

God, thank you for the gift of choices, and even more, for choosing us. Open our hearts to embrace the mission opportunities you lay before us, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(From Christ in Our Home, May 12, 2014 based on Exodus 3:1-12 © Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.)

Shayna Anderson's Farewell

.Director of Family Ministry, Shayna Anderson's last day will be May 14. We will host a farewell celebration for her at 10:00 a.m. on Sun., May 18 in Wold Hall. Please come thank her for everything she has done for the families at St. James. She will be missed!

Congregational Meeting June 1

The Senior Pastor Call Committee has chosen a final candidate and the council has given their approval. Now it's up to **YOU** to vote and make it official.

The congregational vote on the Senior Pastor candidate will be **Sun., June 1 at 10:45 a.m.** in the worship center (following worship at 9:30).

Updated Church Directory

St. James will be creating a new directory! 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 with portrait sign ups on Sunday mornings in June and greeting our families during photography the week of June 23-27. This would be a great opportunity for student community service hours!

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

Mark your Calendar

5-17 *Craft Retreat*

5-25 *Summer Worship begins, 9:30 a.m.*

5-26 *Church office closed*

Over 55's

The Over 55's will meet at St. James on Mon., May 19 at 1:00 p.m. in Wold Hall.

Contact Us

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