



St. James Lutheran Church

Reflecting the Light of Christ in Crystal

Gospel "E"

Weekly Email Newsletter

May 20, 2014

Weekly Devotion: 'After the Storm'

Then God said to Noah, "Go out of the ark." (Genesis 8:15-16)

Imagine what it must have been like for Noah and his family to leave the safety of the ark after the rains stopped. They set food on dry land, in a place that looked very different from their familiar homeland. What a challenge for them to begin all over again!

When the members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Brant Beach, New Jersey, returned to their church building after Superstorm Sandy moved on, they found damage from wind, water, and sand. The electrical system was destroyed. The organ and piano were badly damaged. Carpets and pews were water-soaked. The church vegetable garden was washed away. But the stained glass windows— in vibrant blue hues, all depicting biblical scenes on or near the water— were secure.

As church leaders began to assess the damage, offers of assistance poured in. Lutheran Disaster Response, individual congregations, neighbors, members of Holy Trinity— all expressed a desire to help. The response was overwhelming and gratefully received.

Thank you, God, for your presence among us when we live through times of recovery. Help us to always trust in your goodness. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

(From Christ in Our Home, May 21, 2014 based on Genesis 8:13-19 © Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.)

Summer Worship Begins Sunday

This coming Sunday, May 25, St. James will move to one worship service on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. Adult Ed will be held at 10:45 a.m. This schedule will continue through August 31.

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

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

5-26 *Church office closed*

5-31 *Car Care Saturday*

Youth Cookie Making

The St. James Youth are making cookies to sell at the Garage Sale on May 31. There are lists of items to be donated in the narthex. Please consider donating!

Contact Us

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