

August 2015

# St. James Herald

What's INSIDE

A publication of St. James Lutheran Church of Crystal, Minnesota

## Happenings

Children & Youth

Important Info

Thank You Notes

Bonfire News



## Office Hours

The church office is open:  
Mon.-Wed. 7:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.  
Thurs. 7:00 a.m.—noon

## Sunday Morning Schedule

9:30 a.m. Worship \*  
10:45 a.m. Adult Ed  
\*through September 13

## St. James Lutheran Church

6700 46th Place North  
Crystal, MN 55428  
Phone: 763-537-3653  
Fax: 763-537-3828  
office@stjamesincrystal.org  
www.stjamesincrystal.org

## Pastoral Reflection

Friends in Christ,

As I write this note, it is the eve of our senior high youth trip to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Detroit. Tomorrow morning at 6:30 am, two rental vans will depart from St. James Lutheran with 13 teens, our youth minister, Ryan Walesch, Pastor Kristen and me, all headed for a long day of driving to Detroit.

The theme of the Gathering is “Rise Up Together.” The theme reminds me of worship, when we rise up together, and then sit down together. Either way, we are acting together. When we make a personal commitment to follow Christ, we are making a commitment to be a member of a community, a church. We take action together when we follow the commands of Christ.

The greatest joy in life is living in Christian community, where we experience Christian love, support and encouragement. It's because of what Jesus Christ has done for us through his incarnation, life, death, resurrection and ascension that we have this gift of a new, joyful life. Our youth will share an intense week together focused on joyful living in Christian community, together in Christ through learning, worship, Bible study, service, fellowship and prayer. It is because of the generosity of our congregation that this trip is possible for many of our youth. Thank you!

A key element of our trip is for each of us to be on the lookout for what God is doing in our lives and in the world. In fact, seeing God at work is a key element of what it is to be a person of faith, a follower of Christ in the world. Perhaps it comes after we have engaged in the seven key discipleship practices: worship, prayer, giving generously, study, serving, encouraging and inviting. More likely, God's presence and action in our lives comes during these discipleship practices, and sometimes, it is a mighty act of God which draws us into action and deeper relationship with God.

Perhaps the greatest privilege of serving as your pastor is sharing with you in the many ways God is active and revealed to us in our daily lives. Far too many people today live in the darkness of fear. Through God's Holy Spirit, you are light, you are salt, and you are signs of God's new creation breaking into the world.

Please join our youth in their Christian adventure of community, discovery and growth with your prayers and your watchfulness for God's presence and action in our midst and in the world. The first Sunday after our return, we will together bear witness to God's action as we install Pastor Kristen as our Associate Pastor. I thank God that our church has heard and witnessed the Holy Spirit's call to deeply faithful, gifted women, and men, to lead our church in the ministry of Word and Sacrament. I thank God that over 30,000 Christians within the ELCA have been called to join in ministry at the ELCA Youth Gathering in Detroit. I thank God that the people of St. James Lutheran are joined with them in God's great mission in community, through Christ.

*Love in Christ,  
Pastor Randy*

## St. James' Staff

**Pastor Randall Romsdahl**  
romsdahl@stjamesincrystal.org

**Pastor Kristen Brehler**  
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**Lana Teigen**  
lteigen@stjamesincrystal.org  
Financial Coordinator

**Amanda Burns**  
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Director of Communication

**Ryan Walesch**  
ryan.stjamesyouth@gmail.com  
Director of Youth Ministry

**Deanna Loken**  
Choir Director

**Mary Brown**  
Ringin' Praise Bell Choir  
Director & Organist

**Ron Skalicky**  
Custodian

**Amy Jermstad**  
ajermstad@stjamesincrystal.org  
Sunday School Coordinator

## St. James Website Accepts Donations

The St. James website accepts one-time and recurring donations via checking, savings or credit card (Visa, MasterCard, or Discover). Click on the "Donate Now" button located on the left side of the homepage.



## New Website

St. James will go live with a new website on August 1! Please visit [www.stjamesincrystal.org](http://www.stjamesincrystal.org) to check it out. We hope you like the new design and mobile-friendly layout!

Watch for a St. James app for your smartphone this fall!

## Rally Sunday September 13

St. James is planning an awesome Rally Day celebration following the 9:30 a.m. worship service on Sun., Sept. 13. Mark your calendars now so you don't miss it. More information will be in the September *Herald* newsletter.

Fall worship times of 9:00 and 11:10 a.m. will begin on September 20th.

## Summertime Potluck Picnics

St. James will host a potluck picnic following worship on August 30. Please bring a dish to share; St. James will provide hotdogs and beverages.

## Second Sunday Singers this Summer

Join us the second Sunday of every month this summer to sing in worship. Rehearsal begins at 9:00 a.m. for a piece we will sing during the offering at the 9:30 service. All ages and abilities are welcome! The final date for the summer is August 9. We hope to see you there.

## Over 55's

Enjoy lunch on the wharf at Lord Fletcher's on Mon., Aug. 3. They open the wharf at 11:00 a.m., with first come first served - no reservations. Dress casually and have fun dining lakeside. More information later, with menu and prices. Meet at church to car pool at 10:15 a.m.

The Over 55's are also invited to attend a Home Sale Seminar on Aug. 12 at 1:00 p.m. at Covenant Village in Golden Valley. Get vital tips and techniques to help you downsize, sell your house or just move---painlessly! RSVP to 1-887-338-3101.

## St. James Garage Sale

The garage sale is going to be in a couple weeks. Have you been collecting your items from home?

The sale is Fri., Aug. 14: noon—7:00 p.m. and Sat., Aug. 15, 8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Delivery of your items is on the following days. Sun., Aug. 9: 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mon., Aug. 10: 3:00-6:00 p.m., Tues., Aug. 11: 9:00—11:00 a.m., 3:00-6:00 p.m., Wed., Aug. 12: 9:00—11:00 a.m., 4:00-7:00 p.m. Please do not bring items at other times; we do not have room to store them. All items must be at church by the end of the day Wed., Aug. 12. Please bring your items to the appropriate areas in the church when you come so it will be organized (plan for extra time to put items in the desired locations).

We are looking for many people to help at the sale so be sure to sign up for a time slot (or more than one). Please come 30 minutes before your shift so we can give you information as to what you will be doing.

All electronics must be in working order since we have to pay to recycle them. No TV's, computers, printers, mattress and box springs, etc. No copies of DVDs, VCR tape, or musical tapes; originals only. When bringing clothes, please be sure they are clean and neat, labels with the size on masking tape. We will be selling jewelry. Earrings should be placed in snack bags so they do not get lost and necklaces should come untangled. There will be a sheet available to keep record of your donation; pick this up at the time of your drop off.

A portion of the proceeds will be going to NEAR Food Shelf and Home Free Women's Shelter.

Questions can be directed to Sue Berke at 763-559-5136.



## Men's Breakfast

The next Men's Breakfast is Sat., Aug. 15 at 8:00 a.m. at Fat Nat's (36th Ave. & Winnetka Ave).

## Recycling

Please place your paper, plastic, cardboard or can recycling in any of the blue bins throughout the building. This is kept separate from the trash.

## Summer Watering

There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for keeping the St. James flowers looking spectacular!! Please consider doing this.

## Freezer Meal Clubs

Short on time to make dinner some nights? Want to try some new meals? Join a freezer meal club at St. James!

What is a freezer meal club? It's a group of 4-6 families of similar size and food preferences. Each member makes one freezable main dish multiple times (*i.e.—for a club of 6 members, you would make 1 lasagna for your family and 5 to exchange.*) Each club will meet at St. James on regular intervals to exchange or assemble the frozen meals.

Registration sheets and detailed guidelines are available on the round table in the narthex. Please return registration sheets to the church office by August 1 so that the initial clubs can be organized. Registrations will be ongoing; those taken after August 1 will be fit into groups as they become available.

Questions? Direct them to Amanda Burns at [aburns@stjamesincrystal.org](mailto:aburns@stjamesincrystal.org).





## Sunday School Room Painting

The Sunday School rooms are in need of some painting before the program year. There is one remaining evening when volunteers will be needed to help paint.

Bring yourself and wear paint clothes on Wednesday, Aug. 5, 5:30-8:00 p.m. Come for as long as you are able.

Contact Pastor Kristen Brechler at [kbrechler@stjamesincrystal.org](mailto:kbrechler@stjamesincrystal.org).

## Faith Milestones:

Faith milestones help parents carry out the promises they made at their child's baptism and give them tools to incorporate faith into the daily life of their family. For more information contact Pastor Kristen.

### Upcoming Milestone/Blessing Events:

- August 2 – Summer Camp Milestone

## Worship Leadership

Sunday School families sign up to help bring the communion elements forward during worship. Sign-up is outside the church office on the Children's Ministry bulletin board and found online via a sign-up genius page. Contact Pr. Kristen for more information

## Sunday School Coordinator

We are thrilled to announce that Amy Jermstad has accepted the position of Sunday School Coordinator at St. James.

## Children's Ministry

Children's Ministry is here to partner with families to nurture and grow the faith of children! We believe as parents, you are the primary faith nurturers for your children and our goal is to help you in inspiring that faith!

We believe in pointing children to God and teaching them about who God is and how to develop a relationship with Jesus. Our Children's Ministry programs include opportunities for worship, fellowship, learning, service, and outreach.

## Lighthouse Sunday School Registration



Students age 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade learn God's Word in individual classes, based upon age or grade level. Each class has caring volunteer teachers who stay with the group throughout the year. We would love to have your family join us! Everyone is welcome. Information and registration materials are found on the bulletin board outside the office or on the St. James website.

When: Sundays 10:00-10:50 a.m.

Where: Lower level Gathering Space & Classrooms

Age: 3 years-5<sup>th</sup> grade

Cost: Free

Contact: Pr. Kristen Brechler [kbrechler@stjamesincrystal.org](mailto:kbrechler@stjamesincrystal.org) or Amy Jermstad [ajermstad@stjamesincrystal.org](mailto:ajermstad@stjamesincrystal.org).

## Volunteers

Caring, Committed adults are needed to make a difference in the lives of children. If you haven't had a chance to volunteer in Children or Youth Ministries, consider doing so. We have teaching and non-teaching volunteer opportunities. All new volunteers will need to attend the Protect our Children Training. Contact Pr. Kristen or Amy Jermstad for more information.

## Pray for Campers

Please pray for the following campers and their families as they enjoy a week at camp, dive deeper into faith and discover new relationships. Pr. Kristen and Pr. Randy will be visiting both camps during the week, on alternating schedules.

Onamia (August 3-8): Alyssa Von Deylen, Aliza Norling, Grant Jermstad, Sophia Jermstad, Hannah Perkins, Noah Perkins, Jacob Sauber, Travis Knight, Ryan Gruthmiller, Catherine Van Wey, Erika Eastlund, Kendra Walesch, Valerie Kearly, New Year Gauch and Erin LaMotte.

Wapogasset (August 2-7): Piper Harms, Sidona Kautz, Nyador Gauch

## Protect our Children Training

We will have a Protect Our Children (POC) Training event on Wed., Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. for ALL Sunday School, Confirmation, Nursery and Power of One volunteers/leaders. Please put this important training on your calendar and make every attempt to be there. This (POC) training is valid for three years. Those who completed the training prior to 2012 are expected to participate in order to remain current on policies and expectations. If you are unsure when you were trained or have other questions please contact Pr. Kristen.

## Confirmation

Through St. James' confirmation experience, students "confirm" the promises their parents made in faith at the time of their baptism.

It is an intense time of spiritual discernment and spiritual growth. We understand that Middle School years are filled with transition and our goal is to support them in their faith journey and help them know they are not alone.

During confirmation we give them the tools to understand their lives in the context of God's great ongoing story.

Our program is designed to help students better understand their relationship with God and how to keep their Baptismal promises and walk as a disciple/follower of Jesus Christ.

### 6-8<sup>th</sup> grades

When: Wednesdays 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Where: Wold Hall

Age: 6-8<sup>th</sup> grades,

Tuition Cost: \$70

Orientation: Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm

Contact: Pr. Kristen Brechler [kbrechler@stjamesincrystal.org](mailto:kbrechler@stjamesincrystal.org)

### 9<sup>th</sup> grade

When: Sundays – 10:00 a.m. AND Wednesdays 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Where: Sundays – Pr Kristen's Office, Wednesdays-Youth Room

Age: 9th grade,

Tuition Cost: \$70

Orientation: Wednesday September 9<sup>th</sup> – 7:30 p.m.

Contact: Pr. Kristen Brechler [kbrechler@stjamesincrystal.org](mailto:kbrechler@stjamesincrystal.org) or Ryan Walesch [ryan.stjamesyouth@gmail.com](mailto:ryan.stjamesyouth@gmail.com).

Confirmation for this age group is focused on getting ready for the Confirmation celebration on Reformation Sunday. **Students meet on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. and Wednesday evenings** where they participate in small group discussions about key faith elements, connect with mentors and work on faith statements that will be shared during the confirmation worship celebration.

### **Confirmation Celebration 2015—Sunday, October 27th—9:00 a.m.**

**Registration:** Registration for Confirmation education is now open. Fill out your registration form and turn into the office with your tuition payment. Scholarships are available on a needs basis.

**Volunteers:** If you haven't had a chance to volunteer in Confirmation ministries, consider doing so. We have teaching and non-teaching volunteer opportunities. New volunteers will need to attend the Protect our Children Training. Contact Pr. Kristen for more information.

## Youth Nights at St. James

This month's youth nights are Wed., Aug. 12 and 26 at 6:00 p.m.

Questions can be directed to Ryan Walesch at 763-537-1702 or by email at [ryan.stjamesyouth@gmail.com](mailto:ryan.stjamesyouth@gmail.com).

## Summer Worship Leadership Schedule

We have an updated confirmation worship leadership schedule for the summer. If you will be away please contact other confirmation families to find a replacement. Contact Pastor Kristen for additional information.

## Youth Gathering - Detroit

Thanks to all who supported the Youth and leaders who went to the National Youth Gathering in Detroit. We had a great trip. Check out some of our pictures on the St. James Facebook page.

We will have a recap gathering in the near future. Dates are yet to be determined. Stay tuned for more information.



## Communion Alternatives

St. James has gluten-free communion wafers available for those with gluten, wheat, dairy, corn or soy allergies, as well as grape juice. Just ask for one of these alternatives when receiving communion.

## “Gospel E” Weekly Email Newsletter

St. James has a weekly email newsletter, the “Gospel E,” which is sent each week to St. James members who want to receive this newsletter. It features an article from Pastor Randy and a few upcoming events each week.

To sign up for the Gospel E, please email Amanda Burns at [aburns@stjamesincrystal.org](mailto:aburns@stjamesincrystal.org).

## Borrowing Items from Church

St. James’ policy is not to lend or rent out items (including tables and chairs) to anyone; unfortunately this includes members. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

## Facebook Friends

We want to be your friend...on Facebook! Search for St. James Lutheran Church (not a group page; it will show like a person’s account) and ‘Friend’ us.

We post on a regular basis, so it’s an easy way to keep up to date with the activities at St. James!

## Thanking People in Worship

Have you noticed people really going out of their way to help out? Want to give them a shout-out before worship begins?

There is a sign-up sheet outside Pastor Randy’s office to allow people to thank others on Sunday mornings.

Contact Pastor Randy at [rromsdahl@stjamesincrystal.org](mailto:rromsdahl@stjamesincrystal.org) for more information.

## Book Club News

The Page Turners Book Club does not meet in July and August. We will meet again on Tues., Sept. 1 at 7:00 p.m.

September’s book pick is Love Anthony by Lisa Genova. Please watch the August *Pews News* and *Herald* for details.

If you would like more information about book club, contact Linda Judge (at 763-533-4081 or [judgelinda@msn.com](mailto:judgelinda@msn.com)).

## Endowment Corner

### Wills – 10 Reasons to Update your Estate Plan

You may have completed all your planning, completed your Will and have a Health Care Directive. Below are reasons why these need to be reviewed from time to time:

- New Children, Grandchildren or other Heirs
- Move to a Different State
- Sale or Purchase of a Major Asset
- Reaching Age 70 ½
- Your Selected Beneficiary is Deceased
- Divorce or Remarriage
- Substantial Change in Value
- Adding a Major Property to a Living Trust
- Selected Executor or Trustee is Not Available
- **Passage of Time**

If any or several of these affect you, it may be time to review your Estate Plan. The above are excerpts from the book titled Provide & Protect by A. Charles Schultz that is in the St. James Library.

## Box Tops for Education, Milk Caps and Campbell’s Soup Labels...

What do those three things have in common?

They’ve been able to purchase gym equipment, educational videos, books and other items to help enhance learning at Forest Elementary! Even during the summer, St. James continues to collect them in the drawers near the front door. Milk caps must have a sticker on them (please rinse the caps!), and Campbell’s needs only the UPC barcode with the logo on it. Thank you.



## Library News

Come in and pick up a good book this summer....The book rack still has good reads for men, check it out.. "Learning, reading, and inspiration never take a vacation."

Your support of the library is creating yearlong and lifelong learning during these summer months. We Minnesotans love getting the most out of every drop of summer. The library is an ever-ready companion to any adventure (or relaxation) you have planned.

If children read just five or six books in the summer it helps them keep reading at their grade level. It's worth a shot with nothing to lose and everything to gain. Happy summer, happy reading! We'd love to visit with you; come on in!

## August's Outreach Partner: Forest Elementary School

St. James is collecting school supplies of all types for the neighboring Forest Elementary School during the month of August. Teachers will then be able to provide school supplies to students who need them. Watch for the sales at the local stores and help St. James provide much needed supplies for the teachers.

When purchasing supplies, please keep in mind that it is for elementary school aged children.

Any monetary donations during August will go to Forest to allow them to purchase additional supplies. Please put Forest on the memo line of your check.

## Power of One Volunteers Needed for 2015-2016 School Year

The Power of One is a partnership between St. James members and Forest teachers, who work together to build developmental assets of children. Through the Power of One, teachers are able to pair a caring adult with students they identify as needing help building skills such as reading, writing, math and relationships.

Could you give one hour per week to help a child with reading, math or other subjects? Talk to Sandy Johnson today about what you need to do to become a volunteer!

## Evergreen Montessori Ever learning, Ever growing... Now Enrolling for Fall 2015

The Evergreen Montessori School (located in the St. James building) is now accepting applications for fall 2015.

Evergreen Montessori is a preschool for children age 33 months—5 years. They offer a variety of scheduling options including 3-5, half, mid and full days.

St. James members receive a discount, so be sure to check it out when searching for a preschool.

For more information visit [www.evergreenmontessori.org](http://www.evergreenmontessori.org).

## Dinner at Your Door Drivers

Drivers are needed for the Dinner at Your Door Program. Regular and substitute drivers are needed. Regular drivers can expect to volunteer about one hour each month. Substitute drivers are called as needed. This is a very small amount of time to give to a program that means so much to so many people. Having a meal delivered each day allows many people to remain independent. You will find volunteering for this program to be very rewarding.

For more information call Barbara Parsons at 763-227-2282.

## NEAR's Needs and Your Garden Bounty

The NEAR Food Shelf is in need of paper and plastic grocery bags, as well as nutritious easy-to-make meals for families that have kids at home during the summer (i.e.– Spaghetios, Macaroni and Cheese, etc.).

You are more than welcome to share your garden bounty, such as cucumbers, green beans, tomatoes, and squash with the NEAR Food Shelf.

Items may be dropped off in the morning at 5209 West Broadway, bring to church with NEAR written on it, or call Emily Huan (763-533-1929) for a pick-up.

When they weigh it at the food shelf, be sure to have them mark it down for St. James. Thanks for sharing God's goodness.





## Prayer Concerns

### Hospitalizations

Donna Reinking  
Beth Miller

## Altar Guild Looking for Members

The St. James Altar Guild is very short of members. Current membership is at an all-time low of 8 members. Representatives of this small group are at every service for the entire year.

Just what does the Altar Guild do? Prepare the communion table for each service, change paraments, keep the altar candles filled with oil, put out the items needed for baptisms. We also prepare communion for funerals, when requested. None of these tasks are difficult, and there are checklists to help.

Historically Altar Guild members served for a month at a time, either with a partner or alone. Beginning in June, we started signing up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex for two weeks, or even one week, at a time. New volunteers always serve with a partner.

If you can consider helping with this ministry, please talk to one of the members: Nancy Dahlquist, Eunice Kistner, Sonya Lodahl, Barb Rierson, Ruth Stanchfield, Sharon Stromback, Margaret Thomsen and Maria Weiland, or to Pastor Randy.

Please prayerfully consider volunteering to be a part of this ministry.

## Usher & Financial Assistant Schedule

### August 2

9:30 a.m.

Vern Christensen, Roger A. Johnson

*Financial Assistants:* Capt. Ozzie Hellen, Becki Smith, Jackie Harlow

### August 9

9:30 a.m.

*Ushers:* George McClure, Terry Teigen, Roger E. Johnson, Rick Jones, Judy Berney, Ken & Phyllis Nelson

*Financial Assistants:* Capt. Stan Tikkanen, Dawn Skare, Lorraine LaFontaine

### August 16

9:30 a.m.

*Ushers:* Mike Stanchfield, Jim Olsen, Stan Tikkanen, John Lindstrom, Wayne Rierson, Don & Deb Edmondson

*Financial Assistants:* Capt. Rich Pearson, Dee Burrington, Joyce Held

### August 23

9:30 a.m.

*Ushers:* Marv Berke, Jim Hauan, Becki Smith, Clarence Peterson, Tim Buck

*Financial Assistants:* Capt. Gary Peterson, Frode Jespersen, Lillian Jespersen

### August 30

Team III

## Sunday Morning Hospitality

St. James is looking for someone to take over the Sunday Morning Hospitality (*formerly Sunday Morning Custodian*) position.

This position would involve opening and closing the building, making coffee and putting out treats, and a variety of other things.

If you are interested in this paid position, contact Pastor Randy Romsdahl at [rromsdahl@stjamesincrystal.org](mailto:rromsdahl@stjamesincrystal.org) or 763-537-3653.

## St. James' Publication Schedule

St. James' publication deadlines are as follows:

**Pews News** Monday at noon for the following Sunday's newsletter.

**Herald** the 15th of the month prior to the publication (i.e.– August 15 for the September newsletter).



## Letters of Thanks

Congratulations on the success of your ELCA youth project. The NW Minneapolis Chapter of Thrivent considers it a privilege to be able to help support your project. Please accept the check for \$1,000 to match your funds raised up to the projects approved limit.

Karen Seauer

*NW Minneapolis Chapter of Thrivent*

## Gifts Given to St. James

**Choir Fund** in honor of Nancy Lohmann's 80th birthday from Joanne Clausen.

**Endowment Fund** in honor of Fran LaMotte's 100th birthday from Eunice Kistner and Ozzie Hellen. In honor of Nancy Lohmann's 80th birthday from Eunice Kistner.

**KidPack** in honor of Fran LaMotte's 100th birthday from George & Orla McClure.

## Caring for Each Other in Christ

**Sunday Morning Cards:** Who receives them? Members of St. James who have been ill, hospitalized, shut-in, welcomed a new baby. We also do sympathy cards for members who have lost a parent, child or sibling. Unfortunately, in-laws are not included in this policy. If someone you know falls into these categories, please let the church office know. Sometimes the staff is unaware of such instances and therefore a heads-up is very much appreciated so we can do a card for the following Sunday.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Prayer shawls knit by the Prayer Shawl Ministry group are given to members and non-members alike, who are in need of extra prayers and comfort, most often when recovering from an illness or surgery.

**Prayer Chain:** Anyone can request to be put on the prayer chain. We do ask that, if you are putting someone else on the prayer chain, that you first have the person's permission. An email and phone line request prayers for all kinds of occasions such as healing, recovery, strength, and comfort. To request to be put on the prayer chain, contact the church office at 763-537-3653 or email [office@stjamesincrystal.org](mailto:office@stjamesincrystal.org).

## Sunday Altar Flowers

The 2015 Altar Flower Sheet is available. If you would like to purchase flowers in honor, memory or celebration of someone, a sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board outside Pastor Randy's office. Cost is \$30.



## Loaves & Fishes

Brunswick United Methodist has recently started a Loaves & Fishes program.

They are looking for volunteers on Wednesday and Thursday nights, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

To volunteer call Ali at 612-326-3673 or sign up online at [www.loavesandfishesmn.org](http://www.loavesandfishesmn.org).

Brunswick is located at 6122 42nd Ave in Crystal.

In 2013, St. James discontinued serving at the River of Life Loaves & Fishes location due to lack of volunteers to take leadership of St. James' meal each month.

Please help support this local program by volunteering!

St. James donated \$120. of their Loaves & Fishes money for kitchen equipment for the site at Brunswick Methodist.



## Wildfire Event

God's Work, Our Hands Wildfire Event this fall will be held at Global Health Ministries on Sat., Sept. 12, 9:00 a.m.—noon.

Volunteers will be sorting medical supplies to ship overseas.

GHM is located at 7831 Hickory St NE, Fridley, MN 55432.

## KidPack Packing 2015-2016

KidPack packing days begin at 4:00 p.m. at The Food Group (8501 54th Ave N, New Hope). Please wear comfortable clothing and closed toe shoes.

The dates for the school year are as follows:

- September 29
- October 27
- November 24
- January 5
- January 26
- February 23
- March 29
- April 26
- May 24 (KidPack Gives Back)

To volunteer contact Melodie Hanson at 763-504-4981.

KidPack is a program of Bonfire Ministry that provides weekend snack packs for students at Forest and Meadow Lake Elementary schools. The intention is that it will help bridge the gap between meals for area children that might otherwise go hungry.



## GriefShare Support Ministry

If you personally have experienced the death of a loved one or a friend, you are invited to attend the GriefShare ministry seminar series. GriefShare is a 12 week course that uses a series of videos to stimulate conversations to help participants work through their grief. GriefShare seminars are sponsored by Bonfire Ministry and are open to anyone who is experiencing grief.



The GriefShare ministry seminars are held at St. James Lutheran Church on Sunday afternoons, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The next GriefShare series begins in September, but you are welcome to attend at any time because each session is "self-contained." There is a \$10.00 fee for the GriefShare seminars, and scholarships to cover this fee are available.

For more information and/or to register for this upcoming session, please call Debbie Haney, the Bonfire Ministry Parish Nurse @ 612-408-2049.

**August 2**– Complicating Factors

**August 9**– Stuck

**August 16**– Lessons of Grief– Part One

**August 23**– Lessons of Grief– Part Two

**August 30**– Heaven

**September 6**– *no meeting*

**September 13**– What Do I Live for Now?

## Bonfire Ministry Bonfire

The final bonfire for the summer will be Sun., Aug. 30 at 5:30 p.m. at House of Hope Lutheran Church (4800 Boone Ave. N.). All are welcome for some great fellowship and s'mores!

## The Gathering

### The Gathering

Bonfire Ministry Respite Care

The Gathering is the Bonfire Ministry Respite Care ministry. It is held at House of Hope Lutheran Church on first and third Tuesdays of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. During the day those attending The Gathering are encouraged to participate in all kinds of activities that increase their quality of life. During the time of The Gathering there is also a support group offered for caregivers. Currently there are three openings for participants at The Gathering. There are always openings for volunteers at The Gathering. The volunteers assist the participants with the activities and enjoy lunch with the participants. If you would like more information on The Gathering, to volunteer or to participate, please call Debbie Haney, the Bonfire Ministry Parish Nurse @ (612) 408-2049. The Gathering is open to any person in the community, and the participants need not be members of a Bonfire Ministry congregation. There is a small donation that is requested, but not required, at each of The Gathering meetings.



## Bonfire Exec. Director's Message

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Summer is now in full swing and no one wants to think seriously about the fall, with leaves to rake, storm windows to install, patio furniture to put away and the return of our children to school. However, we need to be thinking about the fall now as Bonfire Ministry prepares to care for the hungry children in our community. We are privileged to be able to serve the hunger needs of the children at Meadow Lake and Forest Elementary Schools and the Robbinsdale Family Lit program. These schools serve some of the poorest families in the Robbinsdale School District. One measure of this poverty is reflected in the number of students who receive Free and Reduced (cost) lunches at the school. The current rate for Free and Reduced (cost) lunches at these two elementary schools is above 75%. In addition between 20% and 25% of the families in our neighborhoods are "food insecure." This means they don't know where their next meal is coming from. These are not just numbers on a page, these are people, adults and children, who are hungry. It is unconscionable that in 2015 anyone should be hungry.

I invite you to take a few minutes and read Matthew 25:30-40. When Jesus returns at the end of the Age, how will He know those who loved Him? He will know them by their actions. Jesus stands with that child who is hungry. Will He be able to say of you "*I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink*"? When we pack a paper bag with a few food items, we are feeding those whom Jesus loves. Last year in the Robbinsdale School District 78,000 KidPacks were given out. Bonfire Ministry packed and distributed approximately 32,000 of those Kidpack bags at a cost of over \$64,000. You were Jesus with skin on for all those children who received food for the weekend. Thank you.

Now it's time to prepare for this ministry of feeding the hungry in the next school year. Last year we invited you to **Adopt-A-Student**. We invite you again

this year to **Adopt-A-Student**. \$54.00 will provide one KidPack bag to one student three times a month for the entire year. Can you, will you **Adopt-A-Student** this year? Perhaps you are able to adopt more than one student. If you can, please do. Last year we had one family adopt an entire classroom, with a \$1,500 gift. Perhaps you are able to do this. Envelopes will soon be available in the pews of each congregation to assist with these gifts. As you write your check, you can make it out to either Bonfire Ministry or your congregation, and please indicate KidPack on the memo line, so it gets to the right place.

It is important to remember that Bonfire Ministry is NOT a ministry separate from our three congregations. Bonfire Ministry is an outreach ministry of our congregations together. Bonfire Ministry is your congregation actively engaged in ministry outside the walls of your building. Bonfire Ministry is you in ministry as the Baptized in Jesus Christ, with all the other Baptized, serving and caring intentionally.

Remember, too, that KidPack is a wonderful ministry to support with a gift in honor or in memory of another. Those gifts can be given directly to Bonfire Ministry, with KidPack written in the Memo line, or they can be given through your congregation, again with KidPack written on the memo line.

Thank you for all the ways you support this ministry of outreach that is really an integral part of the mission work of each congregation. Bonfire Ministry is your congregation reaching out in your name with the good news of the Gospel.

For more information, check out the Bonfire web site at <http://www.bonfireministry.org>.

*Blessing to you and Peace,  
Pr Daniel Babine  
Bonfire Ministry –  
Executive Director*

## Parish Nurse

Bonfire Parish Nurse Debbie is happy to check your blood pressure, and visit about health concerns and planning. Feel free to contact her at any location. You may also contact her at 612-408-2049.

**St. James:** the 4th Sunday of the month, and Tuesdays 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Her office is in the archives room, across from the Montessori coat racks. If the few steps are a problem to get there, go around outside; there aren't any steps to tackle!

**House of Hope:** the 3rd Sunday of the month, and Thursdays 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**First Lutheran:** the 2nd Sunday of the month, and Tuesdays 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

## Blood is Urgently Needed During the Summer

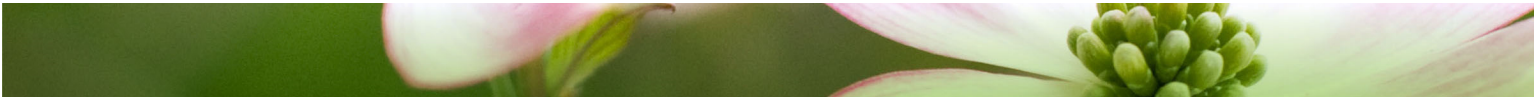
Please join us for the Holy Nativity (a Wildfire congregation) summer Blood Drive on Aug. 20, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. There are many more accidents, elective surgeries and other illnesses that make the need for blood much greater in the summer.

Please contact Karen Adamson at [Kadamson56@gmail.com](mailto:Kadamson56@gmail.com) or [612-590-6366](tel:612-590-6366) if you are interested in donating. Give the Gift of Life.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



# Summer Worship Schedule

*Sunday at 9:30 a.m.*

*Adult Ed at 10:45 a.m.*

*Continues through September 13*

