

Super Herald

ST. JAMES

Published Monthly by St. James Lutheran Church, Crystal, MN



March, April & May
2011

Reflecting the Light

Inside This Issue

A Note from Pastor David...

Inspiration comes in many forms. You are invited this Lenten journey to the visual inspiration of artist Rob Lawlor.

I met Rob this past February at Luther Seminary. He was there to share his modern artistic renderings of the 10 Commandments. They were good but what really stirred me was his depiction of God's grace. "Grace" is the movement of darkness to light, of the piercing of Christ's hand to his hand of resurrection and healing. Lawlor says of his painting, "As Christ absorbed the pain and death of Sin's spike, he asked we be forgiven, and freed us forever!"

A glossy copy of "Grace" will be framed and set on an easel for our mid-week services beginning March 16 at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. (please join our soup fellowship, too). Marty Haugen's inspired Holden Evening Prayer will be our musical setting. Preachers Marilyn Crossfield, Denise Fossen, Pr. Jill Bergman, and I will offer a reading and brief meditation to go along with Rob Lawlor's "Grace."

I can't wait for you to see "Grace," but even more, I value so much God's grace given for our journey to the cross and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. How much more will we appreciate the gift of Easter morning if we set aside this time to journey together and to place our hands in the hands of Christ?

"As Christ absorbed the pain and death of Sin's spike, he asked we be forgiven, and freed us forever!"

Pastor David Lechelt

Lent Begins With Ash Wednesday, Mar 9

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday worship on Wed., Mar. 9 and will continue each week through Wed., April 13.

- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 11:30 a.m. Soup Lunch (*Ash Wednesday soup lunch will be served at noon*)
- 6:15 p.m. Soup Supper
- 7:00 p.m. Worship

Volunteers to prepare soup (either make homemade soup or just heat up soup that was purchased by St. James), set up, clean up, and provide bread and dessert are needed for the lunch and dinner soup meals. Please consider signing up to help! A sign-up sheet is available on the bulletin board outside the church office.

| | |
|--|----|
| March Happenings | 2 |
| April Happenings | 3 |
| May Happenings | 4 |
| Children's Ministry | 5 |
| Youth Ministry | 6 |
| Adult Ministry | 7 |
| What You Need to Know | 8 |
| Here's the Good News | 9 |
| Bonfire Ministry | 10 |
| Library News | 11 |
| Prayer Concerns/Thanks | 12 |
| March Calendar | 13 |
| April Calendar | 14 |
| May Calendar | 15 |



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

March Happenings

St. James' Staff

Pastor David Lechelt
dlechelt@stjamesincrystal.org

Pastor Jill Bergman
jbergman@stjamesincrystal.org

Shayna Anderson
sanderson@stjamesincrystal.org
Director of Family Ministry

Lana Teigen
lteigen@stjamesincrystal.org
Financial Coordinator

Amanda Burns
aburns@stjamesincrystal.org
Director of Communication

Ryan Walesch
intern@stjamesincrystal.org
Youth Ministry Assistant

Deanna Loken
Choir Director

Mary Brown
Ringing Praise Bell Choir
Director & Organist

Deanna Loken
Choir Director

Casey Charging
Nursery Coordinator

Mike Harasyn
Custodian

March Food Drive (Outreach Partner: NEAR)

It's time once again for the March Food Drive. The NEAR Food Shelf's allocation from the Minnesota Food Share Program is based on the total donations received during the month of March. There will also be matching funds from the Feinstein Foundation for the months of March and April. What a great way to stretch your giving!

Last year, St. James donated 314 lbs and \$2,079.15 during the March Food Drive. When planning to donate, think of the nutritious things that your child likes to eat. Bags will be available by the front door for you to take home. Thank you for your past and ongoing support for the NEAR Food Shelf.

NEAR served a monthly average of 332 families with 1,030 individuals in 2010. The yearly total of outgoing food was 473,064 pounds. The need is great. NEAR serves 19 families each day between 1:30 and 4:30 p.m., but has to turn away sometimes twelve or more families a day. The volunteers will be starting earlier each day to try to accommodate the growing need.

St. James NEAR Volunteers: Nancy Dahlquist, Mary Roening, Jim & Emily Hauan, Connie Blom, Joyce Held, Ruth Stanchfield, Chuck Schneider, and Martha Thompson

March Over 55's

During March, the Over 55's will attend "The Global Hotdish Variety Show" at the MN History Center on Sat., Mar. 26 at 2:00 p.m. This is a 90-minute variety show put on by the Maria Isa Band, and is a free exhibit. Watch the Pews News for more information.

Amanda Burns Will Be On Maternity Leave

It's almost time for Baby Burns to arrive! That means that Director of Communications, Amanda Burns, will be out of the office on maternity leave. While she is away, there are a few things you may want to know:

- **Prayer Requests** can be directed to Lana Teigen (lteigen@stjamesincrystal.org or 763-537-3653).
- **Pews News articles** will be collected by Lana Teigen (lteigen@stjamesincrystal.org or drop off in the church office) and will be put together by Connie Blom. The deadline is every Monday at noon for the following Sunday's Pews News.
- **Bulletins** will already be run ahead of time. So there may be announced changes during worship. *Thank you for being flexible!*
- **Gospel E** will be sent out by Pastor David Lechelt. *Please be patient with him!*
- **Website** will be updated upon Amanda's return.
- **Office coverage** will mostly be done by the amazing Lana Teigen. Other volunteers will fill in as needed. *Thank you all!*
- **Herald newsletter** will consist of this Super Edition that covers the months of March, April and May. Separate editions will not be produced. The next newsletter will be the June Herald. Articles for this are due by May 15.
- **Other issues or concerns** can be directed to any of the St. James staff members.

Spring Ahead!

Remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed on Sat., Mar. 12 for Daylight Savings time.



April Happenings

Holy Week Worship

Palm Sunday, April 17
8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 21
11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 22
7:00 p.m. at *First Lutheran Church*

Easter Sunday, April 24
8:45 & 11:00 a.m.
(*Easter Breakfast served 9:45-10:45 a.m.*)



Easter Decorating

If you have a few hours to spare on Sat., April 23 beginning at 9:00 a.m., volunteers are needed to help decorate the worship center for Easter. Many hands make light work, so come for as long as you are able.

Murder Mystery

The youth are once again sponsoring a Murder Mystery Party on Sat., April 16, 7:00-10:00 p.m. at St. James. The cost is \$25 per person (*minimum age is 15 for this event*). Food and beverages will be served.

The theme has yet to be chosen, but those who attended last year had a great time! Watch for more information and a sign-up sheet.

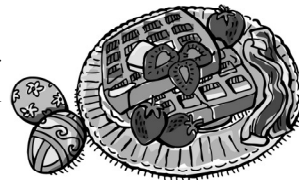
April Over 55's

During April, the Over 55's will again have a gourmet lunch at Hennepin Technical College on Mon., April 25 at 11:30 a.m. This is the Monday after Easter; in case they are closed a request has been made for Mon, April 18. Watch the Pews News for further information about this fun event!

Easter Breakfast

All are invited to a delicious breakfast on Easter morning, April 24 between 9:45 and 10:45 a.m. in Wold Hall. Enjoy a breakfast consisting of eggs, ham, English muffins, fruit, coffee and milk.

Easter breakfast this year will be a fundraiser for youth camp scholarships. The suggested donation is \$5 per person; \$20 family max.



Women's Spring Luncheon

The annual spring luncheon will be held Sat., April 16.

Watch for more information in the Pews News about tickets and this year's theme.

Fine Arts Youth Recital

On Sun., April 10, 3:30 p.m., St. James will hold a Fine Arts Youth Recital, sponsored by the Fine Arts Committee, in the worship center with a reception following in the narthex.

Invitations will be sent out to St. James youth and youth of our broader community to share their musical gifts.

Questions and interest can be directed to Choir Director Deanna Loken.

Office Closed

The church office will be closed on Easter Monday, April 25.

May Happenings

Office Closed

The church office will be closed for Memorial Day on Mon., May 30.

Spring Work Day

It's time to do some spring cleaning at St. James! Many volunteers are needed to help make St. James shine on Sat., May 21, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Lunch will be provided. Come for as long as you are able.

Activities include: cleaning light fixtures, replacing furnace filters, checking/replacing exit and emergency lights, washing windows, cleaning the stove, cleaning the parking lot, wiping down chairs and tables in Wold Hall, painting the soffit around the Montessori area, and defrosting the freezers.

May's Outreach Partner– Global Health Ministries

On Sun., May 15 at 10:00 a.m., St. James will have an intergenerational event to make newborn kits and rolled bandages for Global Health Ministries. Each kit includes:

- 1 square muslin or sheeting (unhemmed from any color sheet)
- 1 bath towel (new or gently used)
- 1 wash cloth (new or gently used)
- 1 regular size bar of wrapped Ivory soap (10 packs at Family \$)
- 1 single edged wrapped razor blade
- 2 cord ties (we have these!)
- 1 newborn stocking cap (patterns are available)
- 1 small shirt (patterns are available) or can be gently used
- 1 receiving blanket (new or gently used)
- 1 pair of exam gloves

Thanks to all who donated items this last year. Hopefully we can make even more kits this year. Items can be left at church and will be stored by Nancy Dahlquist until the 15th. The rolled bandages are made by tearing white sheets in strips and rolling them on rollers furnished by Global Health. Please come help; all ages are welcome!

May Over 55's

During May, the Over 55's will attend "On Golden Pond" at the Old Log Theater on a Wednesday or Thursday in May at 1:30 p.m. The meal will begin at 11:30 a.m. More details will be available in the April Pews News.

The cost is \$32.25 if 10 or more sign up; the price includes a meal and the play. Menu options are beef stroganoff, roast beef, roast chicken, smoked Windsor pork chop, or walleye pike.

Car Care Saturday

The next Car Care Saturday has been scheduled for Sat., May 14, 8:00 a.m. – noon.

Volunteers are needed to help with changing oil, cleaning cars, registration, hospitality, and child care. Please sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office.

Car Care is a ministry of St. James that provides oil changes to people in need in our community.

Family & Children's Ministry

First Communion Registrations Open

Come to supper with Jesus! All people interested in participating in Holy Communion for the first time are invited to register for the First Communion classes. There are no age limits or other restrictions on who can participate in this class. The only requirement is that children under age 18 bring along a parent.



Everyone is expected to attend both classes on Mon., April 18, 5:00-6:30 p.m. and Wed., April 20, 6:00-8:00 p.m. We will celebrate First Communion at the Maundy Thursday worship service on April 21 at 7:00 p.m.

The cost is \$5 per registrant to cover materials. Please register by Sun., April 3.

Questions can be directed to Pastor Jill Bergman (763-537-3653 or jbergman@stjamesincrystal.org) or Shayna Anderson (763-537-3653 or sander-son@stjamesincrystal.org).

Teacher Appreciation

The last day of 9:57 will be Sun., May 8. So the following week, May 15, a special day has been set aside to thank all the dedicated teachers and leaders of the 9:57 program this year.

9:57 Dates to Remember

- March 27: No class, spring break
- April 17: Palm Sunday, children sing in worship
- April 24: No class, celebrate Easter!
- May 8: Last class
- May 15: Teacher Appreciation Day

Luther Park Camp

It's never too early to think about summer, especially with the winter we're having. Mark your calendars for July 5-8, the week St. James has chosen to send kids to camp. Other weeks are always available, of course!

Camp information is on the bulletin board outside the church office. If you have any camp questions, talk to Pastor Jill Bergman.

Day Camp

Save the date for St. James' Day Camp on June 27-30.

More information will follow in the Pews News. You may also contact Director of Family Ministry Shayna Anderson at 763-537-3653 or sander-son@stjamesincrystal.org.

Youth Ministry

Youth Night at St. James

The upcoming youth nights are Wednesdays, Mar. 2, 16, 30, April 13, 27, May 11 and 25 at 6:00 p.m.

Come play games, hang out, do homework and have

Confirmation Meeting Time

Confirmation on Mar. 2 will be at St. James beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Sr. High Youth Events

The St. James senior high youth will jump sky high at Sky Zone in Plymouth on Sun., Mar. 20 at noon. The cost is \$18 per person. One high school age friend can attend per St. James youth. You must have a signed waiver and money in no later than Wed., Mar. 16 to attend! Waivers are available on the youth bulletin board.

During April, the youth will host the murder mystery night at church on Sat., April 16, 7:00-10:00 p.m. Each youth can either work the event as a fundraiser or pay the \$25 and attend as a guest. More information to follow.

During May, the youth will go to Comedy Sportz in Minneapolis on Fri., May 20. Meet at church at 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$15 per person. You must RSVP and turn in money no later than Sun., May 15.

Chaperones are always needed for events. Please call Ryan Walesch with any questions at 952-237-4668.

Confirmation Youth to Package Meals at Feed My Starving Children

The confirmation youth will package meals at Feed My Starving Children in Coon Rapids on Wed., May 4 as part of a joint Wildfire confirmation event. The carpool will leave St. James at 5:15 p.m.

Confirmation Retreat

The confirmation youth will be on retreat all day with other Wildfire churches at Gustavus Adolphus College on Sat., Mar. 5. The carpool will leave from St. James at 8:00 a.m.

Summer Jobs at Luther Park

Luther Park Camp in Danbury, WI is looking for assistant program directors, kitchen staff, counselors and outpost staff. For more information, call Luther Park at 715-656-7244 or email camp@lutherpark.com. You can also check out their website at www.lutherpark.com.

Adult Ministry

Adult Ed Schedule

Adult Ed is held each Sunday morning in the Peter & Paul room at 9:57 a.m. Please grab a cup of coffee and enjoy riveting engagement of Scripture and each other. All are welcome all the time. Truly, you don't want to miss it!

March 6, 13, 27: *Studying the Texts Together.* We engage Scripture and God's Word engages us...Sundays in Lent begin and we study and reflect together upon seminal texts of our journey to the cross, including Jesus' temptation in the wilderness, Nicodemus' night-time visit with Jesus, and Jesus' healing of a man born blind. Pr. David is our fearless leader.

March 20: *Building Up Caring Communities.* Rev. Hollie Holt-Woehl, pastor, author, teacher, and mom will share from her study, ministry, and life experience what contributes to making us the best caring communities in Christ. Bring your questions and zeal for our neighbor in need. How can we do what we do even better? How can we invite more of our community into Jesus' vision for us? We are pleased to welcome Pr. Holt-Woehl.

April 3, 10, 17: *More Studying the Texts Together.* You've asked for it and we've got it: more of the Lenten journey with an invitation to immerse ourselves in the stories of the raising of Lazarus, Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, and the first Easter morning. Connie Blom joins Pr. David in facilitating our conversation and study.

April 24: *Happy Easter!* No Class today; please enjoy Easter Breakfast in Wold Hall.

May 1: *An Introduction to Non-Violent Communication.* Our very own Thomas Becker has a long sustained passion for non-violent communication and the promotion of peaceful engagement of individuals and nations. Find out more about the promise of this global movement. How does it connect for us? How does it connect to the mission of Jesus Christ?

Young Adults

The young adults will attend Comedy Sportz in Minneapolis on Fri., Mar. 18. The cost is \$15 per person. Meet there at 7:15 p.m.

In April, the young adults are invited for the Murder Mystery night on Sat., April 16. Cost is \$25 per person.

During May, they will have dinner and play games at Dave & Busters in Maple Grove. Meet there at 6:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Ryan Walesch by May 16 for reservations. The cost is on your own.

Bonfire Parish Nurse Availability

Bonfire Parish Nurse Debbie is happy to check your blood pressure, visit about health concerns and planning. Feel free to stop by during her office hours at any of the Bonfire churches. 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.

Men's Breakfast

The next Men's Breakfasts are Mar. 19, April 16, and May 21 at 8:00 a.m.

If you'd like to cook, contact Pastor David at 763-537-3653.

New Members

The following new members were received in worship on Sun., Jan. 30. Please give them a giant St. James welcome!

Catherine Dunham

9201 Garland Lane N

Apt 236

Maple Grove, MN 55311

763-213-5546

Roger & Robin Johnson

12564 Drake St NW

Coon Rapids, MN 55448

763-767-4749

John Renze

6329 45th Place N

Crystal, MN 55428-5100

763-535-7619

Jessica & Eric Sewalson

5324 Perry Ave N

Crystal, MN 55429-3250

515-201-9025

Michael Wittmann

4316 Estate Dr.

Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

763-561-5511

Tom & Jelene Walesch

9201 W 34th St.

St. Louis Park, MN 55426

952-938-8670

What You Need to Know

Pentecost

Pentecost this year is Sun., Jun 12.

Geranium order forms will be in the May Pews News.

If you would like to order geraniums but can't make it to church, please contact the church office at 763-537-3653 in May for more information.

Meet and Eat

You are invited to bring back our Wednesday night meal and fellowship time. Volunteers are needed. If you would like to see this happen, please contact Pr. David or the office. Thank you!

Lenten Offering Cans

Please take a Lenten Offering can from the basket in the narthex. Money collected will go to the ELCA Malaria Campaign. Begin returning the offering

Ringling Praise Notes

The annual multi-bell choir concert, Spring Ring, is scheduled for Sun., April 10 at Elim Lutheran Church in Robbinsdale. Members of Ringling Praise involved in planning this joint event, and will be joining the House of Hope bell choir to perform solo choir numbers.

Ringling Praise will also join House of Hope's bell choir for the Good Friday service at First Lutheran on Fri., April 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Rehearsals for the Spring Ring and Good Friday service will be at House of Hope on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. during March and early April.

At St. James, Ringling Praise will be performing at the 8:45 a.m. service on Mar. 27, April 24 and May 22. Rehearsals are Tuesdays, Mar. 15, 22, May 3, 10 & 17 at 6:30 p.m. (*April's rehearsal schedule is TBD*).

Summer Worship Time

St. James will move to one worship service on Sunday mornings beginning Sun., May 29 through Sun., Sept. 4. The schedule will be as follows:

- 9:00 a.m. Summer Sunday Singers
- 9:30 a.m. Worship (*musical setting will alternate between ELW and Now the Feast and Celebration*)
- 10:30 a.m. Adult Education

Save the Date: E-Bay Committee Garage Sale

The E-bay committee plans to hold at least one, perhaps two, garage sale events in 2011. The first one will be the Victory Memorial Neighborhood Sale held June 3-4. They will display items they have for sale at the home of Tim & Becki Smith. This was a very successful event in 2010, earning over \$500. This annual event attracts a lot of shoppers! This year, they want to invite the entire congregation to contribute items for sale (*there isn't storage space, so donations for the garage sale will not be accepted until the week of May 29-June 3*). So please mark your calendars for this event—more information will be available in the Pews News.

Volunteers are also needed to help move, sort, price and sell the items received and take unsold items after the sale to a charitable organization.

A second sale will possibly be held at St. James in late August. No definitive plans have been made at this time.

Golf Leagues

Think spring! It's time to commit to playing in a St. James golf league for the 2011 season.

The men's golf season nine-hole-play is scheduled for Tuesday evenings at Theodore Wirth Golf Course, May 3-July 26. If you are interested in some great fellowship and would like to join a team, contact Stan Tikkanen at 763-546-8155 by April 26.

The women's golf season will begin on Wed., May 4 at French Lake Golf Course at 9:30 a.m. and will continue all summer on Wednesday mornings. If you are interested or have any questions, please call Carol Koosmann at 763-533-1356.

Here's the Good News

Easter Flowers



If you would like to help provide plants for the worship center on Easter, please complete this form and return it to the office no later than Sun., April 10.

Plants may be taken following the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Easter Sunday.

| Type | # ordered | total |
|-----------|--------------|------------|
| Lily | _____ x \$9 | = \$ _____ |
| Mum | _____ x \$9 | = \$ _____ |
| Hyacinth | _____ x \$9 | = \$ _____ |
| Azalea | _____ x \$13 | = \$ _____ |
| Hydrangea | _____ x \$13 | = \$ _____ |

TOTAL PAID: \$ _____

Plants are given in *(please circle one)* honor or memory of: _____

Given By: _____

Usher Schedule

March 6, April 3, May 1:

8:45 a.m. Clarence Peterson, Vern Christensen, Russ Sondrol, Junior Kautz
 11:00 a.m. Lois Selle, Maria Weiland, Ken Lutz

March 13, April 10, May 8:

8:45 a.m. O. J. Hellen, Terry Teigen, George McClure, Mike Logas
 11:00 a.m. Ken & Phyllis Nelson, Pat Ferguson, Judy Berney

March 20, April 17, May 15:

8:45 a.m. Mike Stanchfield, Jim Olsen, Stan Tikkanen, John Lindstrom
 11:00 a.m. Wayne Rierison, Don & Deb Edmondson

May 27, April 24, May 22:

8:45 a.m. Erv Tuttila, Marv Berke, Jim Hauan, Jim Gronlund
 11:00 a.m. Tim Buck, Margaret Thomsen, Jim Valentine

May 29: Team II

Thrivent Choice Dollars

If you are a Thrivent member with Choice Dollars, please consider designating yours to St. James. Thanks!

Second Sunday Singers

Anyone who enjoys singing is invited to participate in the Second Sunday Singers. This group requires very little commitment; simply come at 8:15 a.m. on the second Sunday of each month. We will rehearse a piece, then perform it later in the service. No prior experience is needed. Contact Deanna Loken with questions: 763-533-4631 or deanna-logical@aol.com

Donations for Flower Garden

Donations are needed to purchase all the beautiful flowers for the flower garden and planters located around the St. James property this spring. Any amount is greatly appreciated!



Bonfire



Choral Festival

The Wildfire churches (St. James, Elim, Holy Nativity, First Lutheran, House of Hope and Faith Lilac Way) are collaborating to present a Choral Festival on Sun., Mar. 6 at 5:00 p.m. at Holy Nativity.

The choirs from each of these churches have been working hard to prepare several pieces that they will perform all together. Included in the concert are hymns that the congregation will be invited to sing along with the choirs. This concert is open to everyone - we hope to see a strong contingent of St. James members!

Joint Good Friday Worship

The Bonfire churches will worship together at First Lutheran Church (7708 62nd Ave N- Brooklyn Park) on Good Friday, April 22 at 7:00 p.m.



From a Bonfire Pastor

In the last year at St. James, something radical happened. We turned 4 of our worship services over to the leadership of our youth. Two were led by our high school students and two were led by our Confirmation students. They were responsible for filling all the volunteer positions that go along with worship including communion distribution and canting. What's the radical part? They LIKED it!

Nothing major changed in the worship services. We kept the same format and lectionary. The only difference was the people filling the roles. And, man, did that difference show. Sure we had some mispronunciations and a few awkward pauses but the kids more than made up for that with their enthusiasm and fresh perspectives.

This was way more than I had expected. I wanted to give the kids a chance to experience worship leadership and hopefully learn something. I thought maybe one or two would really enjoy their experience. I hoped the congregation would be supportive. But now I have them (and the congregation) asking for more. What's going on here?

I've been studying how our culture abandons kids. It's not that we aren't around them or even that we don't care about them. Today's kids have plenty of adults to tell them what to do but very few who take a genuine interest in them as individuals. They don't need more friends or lecturers but they do need people with wisdom and spiritual strength who will embrace them as the complicated, changing people they are.

Now I realize that it wasn't a job or a worship style or a magic trick that got our kids excited about worship – it was the people loving them that made all the difference. It was the *incarnation* of Jesus Christ, made a reality as adults shared something important and meaningful with the students as they were preparing to lead. It was people choosing to know each other well enough to lift up their gifts and feel their pain and be their shepherds. It was the students being themselves and being loved for it. In their book entitled When Kids Hurt: Help for Adults Navigating the Adolescent Maze (Baker Books: 2009) Chap Clark and Steve Rabey have this to say about adolescent ministry, "But in the midst of their blur, they want someone – you or me – to take a break from our adult form of busyness long enough to show them through our words and actions the one thing they want to hear from us: 'You matter to me.'"

Isn't that what we all hunger for? We all want somebody to know us as more than a demographic or category, more than a first service or second service worshiper, more than a member of a congregation. We want somebody to recognize our gifts and feel our pain and care to stick with us anyway. When we find that, we find Jesus.

Jesus came to satisfy our deepest hunger. "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty" (John 6:35). As the Body of Christ we are Jesus to one another. We worship him when we embrace his complicated people. Today let us make the space between ourselves and another person (or the space between our congregations) the holy space where Jesus is incarnated. It will make all the difference.

*In Christ
Pastor Jill Bergman, St. James*

Library News

Book Club News “The Page Turners”

March’s Pick: [The Year of Living Biblically: One Man’s Humble Quest to Follow the Bible as Literally as Possible](#) by A. J. Jacobs. Raised in a secular family but increasingly interested in the relevance of faith in our modern world, A.J. Jacobs decides to dive in headfirst and attempt to obey the Bible as literally as possible for one full year. He vows to follow the Ten Commandments. To be fruitful and multiply. To love his neighbor. But also, to obey the hundreds of less-publicized rules: to avoid wearing clothes made of mixed fibers; to play a ten-string harp; to stone adulterers. The resulting spiritual journey is at once funny and profound, reverent and irreverent, personal and universal and will make you see history’s most influential book with new eyes. [from the Publisher]

April’s Pick: [Sweetgrass](#) by Mary Alice Monroe. Sweetgrass is a historic tract of land in South Carolina that has been home to the Blakely family for eight generations. But Sweetgrass – named for the indigenous grass that grows in the area – is in trouble. Taxes are skyrocketing. Bulldozers are leveling the surrounding properties. And the Blakelys could be forced to sell the one thing that continues to hold their disintegrating family together. In this poignant novel of hope, acceptance and the powerful gift of forgiveness, Mary Alice Monroe paints an intimate portrait of a family that must learn to unravel old patterns and weave together a new future. [from the Publisher]

May’s Pick: [1776](#) by David McCullough. In this masterful book, David McCullough tells the intensely human story of those who marched with General George Washington in the year of the Declaration of Independence – when the whole American cause was riding on their success. Based on extensive research in both American and British archives, [1776](#) is a powerful drama written with extraordinary narrative vitality. It is the story of Americans in the ranks, men of every shape, size and color. And it is the story of the King’s men, the British commander, William Howe, and his highly disciplined redcoats who looked on their rebel foes with contempt and fought with a valor too little known. [1776](#) is another landmark in the literature of American history. [from the Publisher]

June’s Pick: [Alex and Me: how a scientist and a parrot discovered a hidden world of animal intelligence – and formed a deep bond in the process](#) by Irene M. Pepperberg

The group meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Peter and Paul room. All are welcome! For more information on the book club, contact Linda Judge (at 763-533-4081 or judgelinda@msn.com).

New Books in the Library

[The Company of Others](#), by Jan Karon. In this latest book of the Midford series Father Tim and Cynthia go to Ireland. The author says “Of all the novels I’ve written this is my personal favorite.” Quite an endorsement!

[A Man of His Word](#), by Kathleen Fuller - Amish Romance Series. A perfect life unravels as a newly wed and newly pregnant Moriah is abandoned by her husband.

[Total Devotion](#), by Kevin Johnson. 365 ideas for your own or group devotions.

[Where Do I Go?](#) by Neta Jackson. Married for 16 years Gabrielle moves to Chicago and looks for purpose in her life. The first of a Christian lit series by the author of the Yada Yada series.

Book Sale

The library is planning a book sale this spring, beginning Sun. May 8 and continuing through May 15. As you are doing your spring house cleaning, check your bookshelves. We will also accept magazines, tapes, etc. You may bring materials to the library at any time. Money will go toward purchasing new books.

Book Review

Oscar lives at Steele House, a geriatric care facility. When staff noticed that Oscar, an unsocial cat, would consistently be in bed with a resident when that person was near death, the story spread quickly. How did the survivors feel about Oscar? What are Dr. Dosa’s conclusions?

The resulting non-fiction book is [Making Rounds with Oscar](#) by David M. Dosa, M.D. Check it out from the St. James library.

What The Pastors Are Reading

Pastor David is currently reading [Canon and Creed](#) by Robert W. Jenson. In this book Jenson exhorts the church to always remember that canon needs creed and creed needs canon. He also raises the question of how we understand and protect the relation between scripture and our faith statements. He is also reading [Touchdown Jesus](#) by R. Laurence Moore. It is subtitled “The Mixing of Sacred and Secular in American History.”

Pastor Jill is reading [Relationships Unfiltered](#) by Andy Root.

Prayer Concerns/Thanks

Hospitalizations

Jim Townsend
Fern Schneider
Tom Ritter
Eleanor Florey
Brayden Hall

Memorials

Endowment Fund in memory of Arie VanBockel from George & Orla McClure, Frode & Lillian Jespersen.

Loaves & Fishes in memory of Arie VanBockel from Russ & Norma Sondrol, Erv & Peg Tutila. In memory of Jim & Laura Parker from Over 55's.

Quilting in memory of Arie VanBockel from Evelyn Jacobs, Jim & Judy Olsen.

Gifts

Endowment Fund in honor of Earle Lindquist's 90th birthday from George & Orla McClure, Frode & Lillian Jespersen.

NEAR in honor of Norma Sondrol from Over 55's.

Youth Fund in honor of Ryan Walesch from Over 55's.

Thank You's

To all our beautiful and wonderful friends in Christ here at St. James,

Debbi & I would certainly like to extend our loving gratitude to everyone for all of your prayers and concerns during this time of our health crisis. We have been overwhelmed with feeling the warmth of all of your arms that have wrapped around both of us. We know that our Gracious Lord is at the helm, leading the way, because we definitely feel His presence as well. Thank you Pastor Jill and Pastor David for being there at our side.

*Love and prayers,
Debbi & Tom Ritter*

Dear St. James family,

I would like to thank Pastor David for his prayers and visits. I would also like to thank all the friends for their prayers, cards, and those who came to visit and the gifts given while I was recovering from my fall. Thanks to all.

Fern Schneider

We want to thank all the people of St. James for their help and support after the death of my brother Jay. We especially want to thank Pastor David for his wonderful memorial service, Amanda for the beautiful worship bulletin and handling the music, and the men and women who prepared and served the excellent lunch. You all made a sad time much easier to bear.

Stan & Linda Judge and the Judge family

April 2011

April 2011

| | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

May 2011

| | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|--|---|---|--|
| | | | | | 4:00pm Violin lessons | |
| 3 8:45am Evangelical Lutheran Worship 9:57am Adult Ed/9:57" 11:00am Now the Feast Worship | 4 6:30pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Property Committee | 5 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Ringing Praise 7:00pm Book Club 7:00pm Kung Fu | 6 11:00am Worship 11:30am Soup Lunch 6:00pm Soup Supper 6:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm Gambles Anonymous 7:00pm Worship 7:45pm Choir | 7 10:00am Prayer Shawl 1:00pm Archives 7:00pm Kung Fu | 8 4:00pm Violin lessons | 9 10:00am Girl Scouts |
| 10 8:15am Second Sunday Singers 8:45am Evangelical Lutheran Worship 9:57am Adult Ed/9:57" 11:00am Now the Feast Worship 4:00pm Fine Arts Youth Recital | 11 6:30pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Finance Committee | 12 9:30am Quilting 10:30am Dinner At Your Door 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm Brownies 6:30pm Ringing Praise 7:00pm Altar Guild 7:00pm Kung Fu | 13 11:00am Worship 11:30am Soup Lunch 6:00pm Soup Supper / Youth 6:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm Gambles Anonymous 7:00pm Worship 7:45pm Choir | 14 7:00pm Kung Fu | 15 4:00pm Violin lessons | 16 8:00am Men's Breakfast 11:00am Spring Lunch 7:00pm Murdery Mystery Party |
| 17 Palm Sunday 8:45am Evangelical Lutheran Worship 9:57am Adult Ed/9:57" 11:00am Now the Feast Worship | 18 10:30am Dinner At Your Door 5:00pm First Communion Class 6:30pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Church Council | 19 1:00pm Library Work Day 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Ringing Praise 7:00pm Kung Fu | 20 9:30am Rebecca Circle 11:00am Decorating 12:30pm Mary Circle 6:00pm First Communion Class 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Gambles Anonymous | 21 Maundy Thursday 11:00am Worship 2:00pm Prep Loaves & Fishes 5:15pm Serve Loaves & Fishes 7:00pm Prayer Shawl 7:00pm Worship 7:00pm Kung Fu | 22 Good Friday 4:00pm Violin lessons 7:00pm Worship (at First Lutheran) | 23 9:00am Easter Decorating |
| 24 Easter Sunday 8:45am Evangelical Lutheran Worship 9:45am Easter Breakfast 11:00am Now the Feast Worship | 25 Office Closed 12:00pm Over 55's 6:30pm Cub Scouts | 26 9:30am Quilting 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Ringing Praise 7:00pm Kung Fu | 27 6:00pm Youth 6:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Gambles Anonymous | 28 9:00am Archives Work Day 7:00pm Kung Fu | 29 4:00pm Violin lessons | 30 |

May 2011

May 2011

| | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

June 2011

| | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|--|---|---|---|
| <p>May 1</p> <p>8:45am Evangelical Lutheran Worship</p> <p>9:57am Adult Ed/9:57"</p> <p>11:00am Now the Feast Worship</p> | <p>6:30pm Cub Scouts</p> <p>7:00pm Property Committee</p> | <p>5:00pm Girl Scouts / Men's Golf</p> <p>6:00pm Cub Scouts</p> <p>6:30pm Ringing Praise</p> <p>7:00pm Book Club</p> <p>7:00pm Kung Fu</p> | <p>5:15pm Confirmation</p> <p>7:00pm Choir</p> <p>7:00pm Gamblers Anonymous</p> | <p>10:00am Prayer Shawl</p> <p>1:00pm Archives</p> <p>7:00pm Kung Fu</p> | <p>Synod Assembly</p> <p>4:00pm Violin lessons</p> <p>4:30pm Girl Scouts</p> <p>6:00pm Meether/Pear Rehearsal</p> | <p>Meether/Pearce Wedding</p> |
| <p>8</p> <p>8:15am Second Sunday Singers</p> <p>8:45am Evangelical Lutheran Worship</p> <p>9:57am Adult Ed/9:57"</p> <p>11:00am Now the Feast Worship</p> | <p>9:00am Endowment</p> <p>6:30pm Cub Scouts</p> <p>7:00pm Finance Committee</p> | <p>9:30am Quilting</p> <p>10:30am Dinner At Your Door</p> <p>5:00pm Girl Scouts / Men's Golf</p> <p>6:00pm Brownies</p> <p>6:30pm Ringing Praise</p> <p>7:00pm Altar Guild</p> <p>7:00pm Kung Fu</p> | <p>6:00pm Youth</p> <p>6:30pm Confirmation</p> <p>7:00pm Choir</p> <p>7:00pm Gamblers Anonymous</p> | <p>7:00pm Kung Fu</p> | <p>4:00pm Violin lessons</p> | <p>8:00am Car Care Saturday</p> |
| <p>15</p> <p>8:45am Evangelical Lutheran Worship</p> <p>9:57am Adult Ed/Teacher Appreciation / Outreach Event</p> <p>11:00am Now the Feast Worship</p> | <p>10:30am Dinner At Your Door</p> <p>6:30pm Cub Scouts</p> <p>7:00pm Church Council</p> | <p>1:00pm Library Work Day</p> <p>5:00pm Girl Scouts / Men's Golf</p> <p>6:00pm Cub Scouts</p> <p>6:30pm Ringing Praise</p> <p>7:00pm Kung Fu</p> | <p>9:30am Rebecca Circle</p> <p>12:30pm Mary Circle</p> <p>6:30pm Young Adults Event / Confirmation</p> <p>7:00pm Choir</p> <p>7:00pm Gamblers Anonymous</p> | <p>2:00pm Prep Loaves & Fishes</p> <p>5:15pm Serve Loaves & Fishes</p> <p>7:00pm Prayer Shawl</p> <p>7:00pm Kung Fu</p> | <p>4:00pm Violin lessons</p> <p>6:30pm Sr. High Youth Event</p> | <p>8:00am Men's Breakfast</p> <p>8:30am Spring Work Day</p> |
| <p>22</p> <p>8:45am Evangelical Lutheran Worship</p> <p>9:57am Adult Ed</p> <p>11:00am Now the Feast Worship</p> | <p>12:00pm Over 55's</p> <p>6:30pm Cub Scouts</p> | <p>9:30am Quilting</p> <p>5:00pm Girl Scouts / Men's Golf</p> <p>6:30pm Ringing Praise</p> <p>7:00pm Kung Fu</p> | <p>6:00pm Youth</p> <p>6:30pm Confirmation</p> <p>7:00pm Choir</p> <p>7:00pm Gamblers Anonymous</p> | <p>8:30am Herald Assembly</p> <p>9:00am Archives Work Day</p> <p>7:00pm Kung Fu</p> | <p>4:00pm Violin lessons</p> | |
| <p>29</p> <p>Watch for new summer</p> | <p>30</p> <p>Office Closed</p> | <p>31</p> <p>5:00pm Men's Golf</p> <p>7:00pm Kung Fu</p> | | | | |