

Christ. Please add this ministry to your prayer list. To receive regular updates so that you know specifically what to pray for, please "LIKE" us on Facebook or send your email address to [scecchetti@lsfnet.org](mailto:scecchetti@lsfnet.org) to receive our monthly email newsletter.

## July-August Events

**August 13-15:** The church and adjoining school will be tented for termites. Offices will be closed during this time.

**August 17:** Blessing of the backpacks.

**August 24:** We will be holding a congregational meeting after worship to determine which of the three covenant letters we are going to sign and submit to the Synod office. We will have a light lunch.



**St. James Lutheran Church**  
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**St. James worships every Sunday at 10:30am, with a bilingual service mostly in English but with some Spanish.** The entire liturgy is presented in both languages on the screen above the altar, so that one may follow along in the language one prefers. Pastor Boudon preaches the sermon in English, followed by a brief summary in Spanish.

**Sunday school.** St. James offers a full Sunday school program for adults and children immediately after worship every Sunday morning. There is Bible study for adults and Christian education for children.

**Monthly Healing.** St. James offers a healing liturgy as a part of our normal worship service on the third Sunday of the month, replacing the Prayers of Intercession.

## From the Pastor

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.” (Matthew 28:19-20).

We recently heard this passage in our gospel reading and we all know this as the Great Commission. As followers of Christ, we are to go out and make disciples. This is what Christians have been doing for thousands of years, making Christianity one of the world’s principal religions. On our recent trip to Peru, I was able to see this in a slightly new light. While in Cuzco, we toured that city’s main cathedral, which was built and decorated over a 200-year span beginning in the 1600s. The Spanish built it over the top of what had been an Inca palace. In the eyes of the Spanish, the Inca (or Quechua) were pagans and needed to be converted to Christianity. One of the means they used to attract the indigenous peoples into the churches was to hang glass mirrors, which were previously unknown to the Quechua. The Spaniards also contracted Quechua artists and artisans to decorate the churches, including the main cathedral. They did so but left their distinctive touch on the artwork. One large painting of the Last Supper depicts a main dish of Cuy (Guinea Pig) in front of Jesus. Cuy was a staple for the Quechua and they could not conceive of a last meal without it. So there it is, right in front of Jesus and his apostles. In addition, all of the crucifixes in the main cathedral have Jesus wearing a kind of colorful Inca dress. Again, the Quechua saw Jesus through the lens of their own culture. And this is an important part of the Great Commission, to help cultures other than our own

understand Jesus and God through their own lens, through their own life experience. God is the God of all and Jesus came not only to the Jews, but to everyone. So as we go out to make disciples, we need to do so being sensitive to the culture of others, not imposing our own.

## ELCA News

### Conversation on Communion Begins in Fall

In a note to all Synods, Bishop Eaton has asked that all congregations include in their fall planning, a time to begin the conversation about Holy Communion and *The Use of the Means of Grace*.

The 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly approved an action designed to call ELCA members into a conversation about *The Use of the Means of Grace*, particularly on the matter of Holy Communion. The action came as a memorial from the ELCA Northern Illinois Synod. A place to offer feedback will be available at [www.ELCA.org/worship](http://www.ELCA.org/worship) in mid-August.

### LSF Needs Your Support and Prayers for Our Ministry

Lutheran Services Florida served more than 130,000 men, women and children last year through dozens of programs spread all across the state. LSF needs the support of all Lutherans in order to bring God’s healing, hope and help to people in need in the name of Jesus