



St. James Lutheran Church
Newsletter **Vol. 1, No. 7**
March 2014

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.

Green Faith. St. James is participating in a two-year certification program with Green Faith, which will provide the church with a holistic, well-supported and structured program to “green” our worship, education, facilities and outreach. The program will include ecology-focused activities and will showcase the Garden of Our Lord. When completed, St. James will be the first green church in Miami.

Sunday school. St. James offers a full Sunday school program for adults and children at 9:30am every Sunday morning before worship. 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

I was blessed and privileged to go on an all-expenses paid trip to the Holy Land in February, thanks to the Knights Templar, a subgrouping of the Masons. I spent nine days touring around Israel and the West Bank, visiting many of the sites that are believed to be places where Jesus lived, walked, performed miracles, prayed, died on the cross, and was raised from the dead. I say “believed” because in some cases, archeologists are not certain that the evidence supports the claim. In any case, it was inspiring and meaningful to be standing on such hallowed ground. At most of our stops we read a relevant passage from scripture and we also occasionally sang a hymn or two. On one occasion, we went out onto the Sea of Galilee in a boat. The water was rough and choppy, but once the driver cut the engine and we began to sing a hymn, the water grew noticeably calmer. While I hesitate to say this was an act of God, I could not help but think of the story in which Jesus stills a storm on that same body of water (Mark 4:35-41). Such are the kinds of experiences that one can have in the Holy Land, bringing the Bible to life! Days later we were in Jerusalem, known to Christians mostly as the place where Jesus was crucified and then raised from the dead. When we visited the Garden of Gethsemane, we were allowed into a private part of the garden and were given time to reflect and meditate. As I did so, I could not help but notice that the walls of Jerusalem were clearly visible, just across the Kidron Valley. It gave me pause to think that, as Jesus prayed in the garden, asking God to take the cup away from him, that he did so with Jerusalem in sight. The walls today are not the same as in Jesus’ time, but they were built on the foundation of the old walls.

Eco-tip of the Month

Transportation: The U.S. is responsible for 45% of the world's total global warming pollution from vehicles (Environmental Defense). Purchasing a fuel-efficient car is one of the most effective environmental choices you can make. When it comes time to purchase a vehicle, aim for one that is rated at 35 miles per gallon or higher: <http://www.fueleconomy.gov/Eco-tip> provided by GreenFaith: www.greenfaith.org.

LSF Helped 131,000 People Last Year

Last year Lutheran Services Florida brought God's healing, hope and help to more than 131,000 people. Of those, 65,000 were children. 2014 promises to be an even more active year with an expansion planned for the Sellew Excel Charter School in Belle Glade and assuming leadership of the Head Start programs in Pinellas and Palm Beach counties. We can only meet all these needs with the help of our friends and supporters. For more details, please visit www.lsfnet.org.

Please keep this ministry in your prayers as we continue to use our hands to do God's work.

March Events

March 5: Ash Wednesday joint service with Latino Mission, 7:00pm.

March 15: Bishop's Lenten Visit, All Saints Lutheran Church, Tamarac, FL, 10:30-2:30

Lenten Midweek Worship Schedule (Dinner at 6:30pm, Worship at 7:15pm):

March 12: Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1770 Brickell Avenue, Miami, FL 33129

March 19: South Miami Lutheran Church, 7190 Sunset Drive, Miami, 33143

March 26: St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 3930 LeJeune Road, Coral Gables, 33134