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OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

St. Olaf Lutheran Church
402 Meridian Street
Cranfills Gap, Texas 76637

Phone: 254-597-2738

saintolaflutheran@embarqmail.com

www.saintolaflutheran.org

8:30 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
COME WORSHIP WITH US!
9:45 AM EACH SUNDAY!

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Saint-Olaf-Lutheran/285747624853526>



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Living in God's amazing grace

Office: 254-597-2738
Secretary: Mindy Webb
Mondays & Thursdays
9 am -3 pm

Pastor Joan Iker
Mon., Wed., Thur.
9 am-5:30 pm
Cell: 580-230-8304

Council President
Virgil Tindall
254-597-2478

Council Vice President
Iris Hodges
254-597-2536

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- The St. Olaf council met August 22, opening with devotion and prayer by Pastor Joan. She also reported that we have had two baptisms and there are persons interested in adult confirmation classes. A Mutual Ministry committee has been identified, and we hope to have volunteers for the Macedonia Project, which clusters three churches from varied backgrounds and sizes.
- Collections for the month of July totaled \$12,113.94. This is a significant increase from the previous month! As voted earlier in the year, benevolences will be paid to synod, Central Texas Conference, Lutheran Sunset Ministries, and Texas Lutheran University. We are on target!
- Deacons have purchased school supplies and have funds for needy children if they are identified. They have visited all shut-ins and nursing home members. Garden veggies have been distributed to a needy family and nursing homes. The deacons would like names of families who are in need of Thanksgiving or Christmas baskets.
- The trustees are installing a marquee for the front of the church property where flyers, changes in worship services, etc. can be posted and read from the parking strip in front of the church. Front door locks are being repaired or replaced.
- Sunday School for children will resume September 16th. Two confirmands will attend a retreat at Briarwood September 7-8.
- Third Saturday Community Breakfasts have been very successful with great attendance, lots of fun, and a goodly donation. The July Baked Potato Luncheon brought 80-90 persons together. Funds have been used to pay dental work for a needy child, fund a teachers' luncheon during inservice week, and other worthy services.
- Our website is up and running; your comments are welcomed! You can find it at Saintolaf.lutheran.org.
- The Rock Church Gathering Place is progressing well—go out and have a look!
- The guys completed the construction of a wheelchair ramp for Mary Ann Stokely; thanks guys!
- Next meeting of the council will be October 17th at 7:00 p.m. in the church basement. Anyone is welcome to attend.

PRAYER LIST

Marc Johnson, Darcy Cassidy, Mary (Ray) Hastings, Beverly Evans, Georgia Johnson, Haley Rae Tarver, Heather Leahy, Margret Turpin, Bob Holbrook, Clarence Plagens, Agnes Rogstad, Evonne Simonds, Fred Thompson, Tom Gary, Steve Acree, Gene Lee, Debbie Barree, Lexie Finstad, Larry Oliver, Lorin Meissner, Prudence Jones, Vernon Patrick, Ellen Shields, Rodney Barner, Mary Ann Stokely, Kenneth Weise, **Lutheran Church Sierra Leone, Persecuted Christians**
Service men and women: Matthew Medina, Justin Barnes, Hayley Barner, Barrett Prince, Jarrod Prince, Alex Saborsky, Kevin Moore, Lamar Hickman, Travis Elston, Bradley Rohne

WELCA CORNER

WELCA meets **Wed.**, Oct. 3rd, with study for leaders with Pastor Joan at 1:00 p.m. WELCA meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Ruth circle meets in basement **Oct 10th** at 2:00

Lydia Circle meets at M. A. Stokely Oct 10th at 2:00

Mary Circle meets at Heckman Hall, Oct 10th at 2:00

Pres. Billye Dunnahoe opened our September 5th meeting in the name of the triune God. Our purpose statement was recited. Pastor Joan led us in the devotion.

Anna Fortier gave us a preview of our up coming Bible studies "Gathered by God".

Mary McGowen will be in charge of our Fair Trade products.

Pres. Billye thanked all who helped with the food for the recent funerals.

Iris Hodges said there would be a booth, sponsored by the breakfast club, at the lutefisk supper with specialty cookies etc. Any left over would be sold at the community breakfast.

Anne Parkin is donating an antique baby quilt for the LSM quilt auction. A motion was made, seconded & carried that we order a king size quilt to donate for the auction.

Ten members & Pastor Joan were in attendance. Ruth circle served refreshments.

In closing we prayed the Lord's Prayer & sang the table prayer.

RUTH CIRCLE

Ruth Circle met at noon in the Church basement in September. Betty Tindle led a lively discussion of the lesson while we ate sack lunches. We welcomed guest, Paul Kunetka, a neighbor of Mary McGowen's. After the lesson everyone got busy and made the Church kitchen shine! In October, Naomi Nabors will be hostess; Anna Fortier will give the lesson. Meeting again will be at the Church basement at 2 pm.

LYDIA CIRCLE

Lydia Circle met in the home of Ann Parkin. Those attending were Nancy Bratcher, Billye Dunnahoe, Mary Ann Stokely, Bettye Knudson, Charlene Tergerson, and Ann. Plans were made to serve the WELCA General Meeting, cookies for fellowship and the Gap Chamber of Commerce in October. Hostess in October will be Mary Ann with Bettye leading the Bible Study.

MARY CIRCLE

Mary Circle met Wednesday Sept. 12th at Heckman Hall, with Pastor Joan, Members: Cleo, Geraldine, Elsie & Dottie. We had a few guests. Dottie led the Bible study titled gathered by God.

REMINDERS & NOTICES

Lutheran Campus Ministry

LCM Trivia Challenge

November 11, 2012
Christ Lutheran Church, Dallas

A fundraiser and fun-raiser benefitting the NT-NL Campus Ministry Mission Fund.

By mail:

LCM Trivia Challenge c/o
Christ the Servant Lutheran
2121 E. University Drive
Denton, Texas 76209

By e-mail:

pastor@lcmdenton.org

Entry Fee — \$120 per table

To Register, send your name, contact information, and congregation/team name:



Briarwood Staff, competing for the first time, won the 2011 Trivia Challenge

By phone:
817/269-1229

Scriptures To Pray For Our National Election

It is critical that Christians pray for the coming presidential election. There is amazing power in united prayer. Pray with others whenever possible. The power of prayer can overcome any obstacle or ungodly influence and, indeed, do great things!

II Chronicles 7:14

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, will heal their land.

Acts 17:30 - Pray for repentance for yourself and for our nation.

Psalms 32:6-7 - Pray that Christians will be motivated to pray faithfully for this election and that the Lord would deliver us from the wrong leaders.

Proverbs 16:13 - Pray that our nation will listen to the truth and not be led astray.

Psalms 125 - Pray that those who trust in the Lord will not be shaken.

Psalms 86:14-17 - Pray that the Lord would defeat those who have no regard for Him in this election.

II Kings 13:16 - Pray that the Lord would put His hands on the people of His choice for president, Senator & Reps. (and team) and guide them in this election.

Luke 12:54-57 - Pray that God's people and our nation will be discerning and do what is right.

Psalms 16:7-8 - Pray that the Lord would give wise counsel and guidance to His choice for president in this campaign.

Proverbs 1:5-6 - Pray that God's chosen people will listen with discernment, add to their knowledge, and receive wise counsel in this campaign.

John 16:33 - Pray that the person of God's choice would be given wisdom and ability from the Lord to overcome any obstacle or difficulty during this campaign.

Philippians 4:13 - Pray that the Lord's choice for these offices will have special strength and unusual ability from God.

Psalms 18:32-36 - Pray that the Lord would arm the people of His choice with strength; would guide them in battle (this election); and would sustain them and give them victory.

Hebrews 11:32-34 - Pray that God's people could, through faith, persevere and maintain courage throughout this election.

2 Corinthians 12:9 - Pray that the Lord would empower and enable people in any area of weakness.

Habakkuk 1:5 and 3:2 - Pray that the Lord would do something that would utterly amaze us and give His servants victory.

Community Breakfast

Remember every third Saturday is Community Breakfast from 8-9:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Come enjoy some good food, fellowship and fun. Free will donations are accepted.

NT-NL Stewardship Academy 2012-13

Academy begins **October 26-27** at Briarwood
Tuition \$250 per person
(includes books, materials, meals)
Early registration deadline: **September 15**

We live in challenging times. Pressures around us are constant. The future is uncertain. We become consumed by what we cannot do. This fall another Stewardship Academy class will begin. The academy teaches stewardship education from a perspective of "faith raising". We teach about God's relationship with his people and how that relationship is nurtured in the growing faith of members of our congregation. We ask participants to examine their own faith and lives in stewardship. We spend time looking at practical stewardship programs. Members will leave these classes fulfilled, excited and equipped with ideas for breathing new life into the congregation.

- Rolf Berg, Chair, NT-NL Stewardship Task Force

[Download the brochure and registration form](#)

Baptisms

If you or someone you know has not received God's gift of baptism, Nov. 4th, All Saints Sunday is the perfect day. We welcome new saints into the church as we remember the saints who have passed. Contact Pr. Joan.

REMINDERS & NOTICES

ANNUAL DINNER & FUNDRAISER



Share Stories of Recipients Receiving a Combined Total of \$27,000 in Grants in 2012

HELP
GROW

SEEDS THAT CHANGE

Support the
ANNUAL DINNER & FUNDRAISER
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2012 FROM 4:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

Silent and Live Auction • Entertainment By San Gabriel Mission

Tickets: \$35 with discounted table for 8 @ \$200

Calvary Lutheran Church • 7620 Baker Blvd. • Richland Hills, TX 76118

Contact: hattie.hammer@att.net for more information

Youth Conference Oct. 6th!!
Jr. High and Senior High!!!

First Lutheran in Temple will host the first one on Saturday, **October 6**, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Meet at FLC for gathering activity and lunch. The planned activity is a giant game of Capture the Flag at a local park. We hope that your youth will want to come over for a great day of fun and fellowship!

Adult Confirmation

Our Adult Confirmation Class is going to be meeting on four Monday evenings at 7:00 at the St. Olaf Sunday School Building. Topics: Oct 1 - The Apostles' Creed, Oct 8 - The Lord's Prayer, Oct 22 - The Sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion.

MACEDONIA PROJECT



This fall 30 congregations of the NT-NL Mission Area are embarking on a journey together – exploring each other's context for ministry, outreach efforts, and missional practices. The 30 congregations are clustered together in groups of three and given the opportunity to visit each other's ministry site for a weekend – to watch and learn how each approaches ministry and mission and to share together about the passions and practices in each location that lead to strong outreach and stewardship. It's called the *Macedonia Project*, and it takes as its launching point the words of St. Paul (2 Cor. 8) in which Paul praised the church in Macedonia for the way it was selfless in caring for, and sharing with, the church in Jerusalem during the time when the church in Jerusalem was in desperate need. We will hear more about the *Macedonia Project* and the experience of these 30 NT-NL congregations when we next gather in assembly – April 26-28 in Temple, Texas.

SWO Convention

"Serenity for the Soaring Spirit" is the NTNL SWO Convention of 2012. It is going to be at All Saints Conference Center in Pottsboro, TX on October 12-14. Pastor Joan is willing to drive. Please see her for more information.



New Members

Sunday Oct. 28th we will receive new members into the church. Please contact Pr. Joan if you are interested.

Trinity Lutheran's 110th Anniversary!!!!

Come and celebrate 110 wonderful years in ministry with Trinity Lutheran, Clifton on Oct 21st. Worship is at 10:30 with a meal and fellowship to follow the service.

THANK YOU

The families of Donald Caughron and Archie Wickman would like to thank you. The prayers, cards and visits with our loved ones or family members were greatly appreciated. The family luncheons you helped serve was another wonderful blessing to our families. Your gift of time was priceless. It made things easier for us during our time of loss.

FINANCIAL REPORT

	Receipts	Disbursements	Net
Budget through Aug 31	\$65,613.33	\$65,070.67	\$542.66
Actual through Aug 31	71,577.05	63,454.60	8,122.45

Submitted by Gerald Nelson, Treasurer

CONFIRMATION RETREAT



Studying
Martin
Luther
and
Grace



Team Work!!!



Identifying why
we want to be
part of the
Church



Service, Mission, Thankfulness



It's Breakfast time Again!! October 20th!!
 We held our ninth successful breakfast on Sept 15, 2012. We are averaging 50 people and sometimes more and sometimes less. Donations are averaging \$400 to \$ 450 each breakfast. I want to thank all those that have come to have breakfast with us. Those of you that haven't, come! We look forward to seeing you at our October 20th breakfast that is from 8-9:30! We have purchased 8 round tables for the basement. We have painted the walls in the basement, professionally cleaned the windows and blinds and chairs, made a \$100 donation towards updating the electrical wiring in the kitchen. We have paid for a child's dental work. We have paid for T-shirts for Pastor Joan to take with her on visits to shut ins. We have had a Sunday Baked Potato lunch for community and church members We have prepared and served baked potato lunch to our Gap teachers and staff. We have had a flower sale and the flowers were donated by Maxine and Eddy Tindall. We have had a table full of craft items at two breakfasts with a varied selection of hand made crafts for sale. I want to say many many thanks to all my kitchen crew and for the hard working ladies that come so faithfully to help clean up and wash dishes. I couldn't get this project done without the help of all these ladies and gentlemen. We are thinking about having a community Thanksgiving lunch. I would welcome your input about this. It will take lots of planning and workers to get this project together. Many thanks to all that have helped to make my dream come true. ~God Bless, Iris Hodges

"The word "sunshine" is always the way I thought of Niki. She brightened the day of everyone she was around. She was a true blessing to everyone."

NIKI COVERS THE COLD

www.nikicoversthecold.com
Sandi & Owen Carlson
 254-597-2574
 sandicarlson@nikicoversthecold.com



It's very hard for me to believe Niki Covers the Cold is getting ready for our third year of distribution. We would like to thank Chris with ALCO in Clifton for keeping us posted when they mark down items needed by NCC! Owen purchased PICKUP LOAD (1500 pairs) of socks which enables us to reach one of our goals of giving more than one pair of socks to an individual at our distributions!! We have started organizing the items from the trailer and took a some clothes, children's & women's jackets, and some sheets and blankets to the "Arms of Hope" in Waco.



Niki Covers the Cold will be teaming up with the Horny Toad October 27th, 2012 for the annual Halloween Party and collecting perishable food items for Bosque Helping Hands Food Bank. Music will be provided by DJ/karaoke beginning at. Admission will be one non-perishable food item and \$1 if in costume, \$2 if not in costume! Money goes to best costumes first through third place!! If you can't join us for the evening but would like to donate food items please bring them by the Horny Toad during working hours the month of October!



November the 10th the Horny Toad will be hosting the first Annual Bacon Bash brought to you Pederson's Natural Foods in Hamilton, Texas and sponsored by Wenzel Lonestar Meat Company. Entry is limited to 20 teams/chefs. Entry fees are \$75 per team, and all entry fees will be put directly in the purse and awarded to the teams/chefs in the top five spots chosen as the winners by the judges. Awards: 1st Place - \$800 and their photo, mini bio, & winning recipe featured on 25,000 Pederson's Natural Farms famous Uncured Apple Smoked Bacon packages distributed nationwide, 2nd place -\$300, 3rd place \$200, 4th place

\$150, and 5th place \$50. Tickets can be purchased at the Horny Toad or online. The cost of a ticket is \$55 which includes admission, a swag bag that will include a reusable commemorative cup, five vouchers to fill that cup, and access to sample 10 of the bacon creations prepared by the teams/chefs, and entry into the Bacon Eating Contest should you so desire to participate. Doors open at 12pm, sampling starts at approximately 2pm.

Bring a coat or blanket to donate and be entered in a drawing for a special box from Wenzel Lonestar Meat Company. Proceeds will go to Niki Covers the Cold. The Big winners are the ones who receive the gift of warmth because of your generosity and support. More information and updates can be found on www.baconbashtexas.com

Saving Dimes & Dollars for Diabetes November is National diabetes month :

Sweeney. **It's not just a camp** "When a child is diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes, his or her life is changed forever. Insulin injections, pump site changes, blood-sugar tests, and a diet plan become a part of the daily routine for a child with diabetes. Unfortunately, while many children know what is necessary to stay in good control of their condition, they find it hard to live the kind of regimented lifestyle which will allow them to live long and healthy lives. At Camp Sweeney, we believe that simply teaching children about diabetes is just not enough. Our goal is that every child who attends our camp will not only learn about his or her condition, but will find the inner strength each day to do what it takes to live a healthy lifestyle. It's a lifestyle." (Info above from the

Camp Sweeney website, read more on at <http://www.campsweeney.or/>) Paying it forward!! November is National Diabetes Month, Lexie Finstad and Niki Covers the Cold is working together collecting "Dimes & Dollars for Diabetes". Lexie has chosen to "Pay It Forward" by sending the proceeds to Camp Sweeney. So start saving your dimes and a dollar or two for the next two months. Donations can be brought by or mailed to the Horny Toad (P. O. Box 41 Cranfills Gap, TX 76637). Please make checks payable to St. Olaf Lutheran Church and in memo write NCC/Diabetes. Updates will be in the November Newsletter.



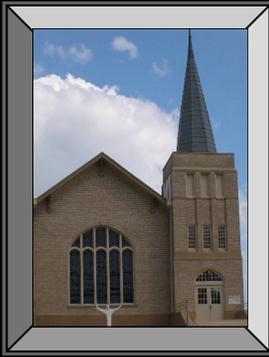
Niki Covers the Cold Website is up for renewal ... I am looking into another "web" design and hope to have everything up and going soon! Hootie Hoo!! J

OCTOBER ~ ST. OLAF LUTHERAN

The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.
 He makes me lie down in green pastures,
 he leads me beside quiet waters,
 he refreshes my soul. Psalm 23:1-3

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
7 Adult SS 8:30 Worship 9:45 Youth Confirmation 2:00	8 Adult confirmation 7:00	9 Briarwood Retreat	10 Study Leaders 1:00 WELCA 2:00 Everlyn Foy Kenneth Wiese Kenny & Cindy Wiese	11	12 Roger Bushsee	13 Youth Conference Temple
14 ← SWO contind Adult SS 8:30 Worship 9:45	15 Mutual Ministry 6:00 at Faith	16	17 Ruth Circle 2:00 Lydia Circle 2:00 Mary Circle 2:00 Council 6:00pm	18	19 ← SWO →	Community Breakfast 8-9:30 Biker Service 3:30 Garry Finstad Adrian Aguilar
21 SS 8:30 Worship 9:45 Trinity's 110 Anniversary	22 Adult confirmation 7:00	23	24 Marcus Taylor	25 NT-NL Stewardship Academy 2012-13 - Briarwood	26 Kiley Finstad	27
28 SS 8:30 Worship 9:45 Accepting New Members	29 Worship & Music 2:30	30 Larry Mickelson Vernon & Faylene Patrick	31	Assisting Ministers: Jim Bayless 7, Barbara Lee 14, 21, 28 H. Usher: Noble Chastain Ushers: Charlene Tergerson & Elsie Phillips Altar Guild: Kathy Finstad Fellowship Cookies: Lydia Circle		

Pastor Joan's Office Hours: **Monday, Wednesday 9am-5:30pm** Pastor's Cell 580-230-8304
 Mindy Webb's Secretary Hours: **Monday & Thursday 9am-3pm** Office 254-597-2738



ST. OLAF LUTHERAN CHURCH

Worship, teach, nurture and share Christ's love.



Fall, Again!

I remember telling you last year that fall is my favorite season, and it is finally here once again. As we are planning for this fall's worship and church education, I remember a couple of great reasons why it is my favorite.

First, we get back into more of a routine—Sunday School gets going again, and we begin confirmation classes. This fall we are not only having confirmation for the youth—we are also having an **adult confirmation class**. We just had our first meeting, and delightfully there were eight people there! Some were well-established members who wanted a review (or maybe they were there to support the newcomers ;-). Others were new ones investigating the Lutheran faith. We will continue to **meet each Monday in October (except Oct. 15) at 7:00 in the St. Olaf Sunday School Building**. You are welcome to join us at any opportunity for a class. Then on **Reformation Sunday, October 28, we joyfully will receive new members** into our congregation, as we are the church reformed yet constantly “re-forming” and growing new disciples!

Second, the very next Sunday is **All Saints Sunday, November 4**. We will remember the saints who have carried on the faith before us. **If you would like to submit the name of your loved one for this service, please contact the office**. As we are remembering those saints of old that day, we will bring in brand new saints through God's gift of Holy Baptism. **If you or someone you know has not been baptized, you are welcome to contact Pastor Joan** about receiving this sacrament. This is the perfect time in the life of the church to remember our baptism as our birth into the family of God.

Thinking of All Saints Sunday, reminds me that we buried some of our beloved this summer. It is a bittersweet joy to commend them to God in the service of burial. We know that death is inevitable, but we tend to ignore it when it concerns us. Martin Luther recommended that we come to grips with our own death before the time comes. I would like to suggest that you consider what you would like to have at your funeral—hymns, scripture, etc. It is such a blessing to families when those things have already been selected. I encourage you to come by my office if you want. We could discuss your funeral wishes, so that I could have them on file. Or I can give you a form to use in contemplating those final things. (Not wanting any of you to pass away anytime soon, but just encouraging time to reflect.)

Let us pray. Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Blessings in your lives of faith,
Pastor Joan

NEW VISIONS

As we move forward in our efforts to Form Leaders for DiscipleLife, the New Visions event provides an opportunity for congregational leaders, including your pastor, to learn some cutting edge new ideas and to think in missional terms about your ministry. How will you be known in your community ten years from now? How can you transform your ministry from maintenance to mission? Pete Steinke, Jon Lee and Paul Blom can lead you into innovative discernment.- Bishop Kevin S. Kanouse, NT-NL Mission Area



NEW VISIONS A Two-Day Workshop
October 1-2, 2012 ~ 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. each day Briarwood Retreat Center
Info Contact: Pr. Jon Lee