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AUGUST NEWSLETTER

ST. OLAF LUTHERAN CHURCH

402 MERIDIAN STREET

PHONE: 254-597-2738

SAINTOLAFLUTHERAN@EMBARQMAIL.COM

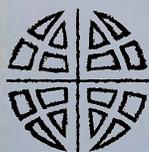
www.saintolaflutheran.org

8:30 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL

COME WORSHIP WITH US!

9:30 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: Tammy Senn

Mondays & Wednesdays

9 am -3 pm

Pastor Joan Iker

Mon., Wed., Thur.

9 am-5:30 pm

Cell: 580-230-8304

Council President

IN ELCA NEWS...



On Sept. 8, the [ELCA](#) will celebrate “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday — an opportunity for the ELCA to do what we do best and make a difference. Only on this day, we’ll do it together as one body, using our hands to do God’s work of restoring and reconciling communities in Jesus Christ’s name throughout the world.

Imagine 4 million people from nearly 10,000 congregations out in their communities serving meals, cleaning up neighborhoods, visiting with the home-bound, collecting supplies for those experiencing homelessness, poverty or conflict — all in their bright yellow “God’s work. Our hands.” T-shirts!

You work every day to love your neighbors and make your community a better place. Now let’s do it together.

A church that rolls up its sleeves

ELCA members and congregations have always been active participants in God’s work in the world. We already serve our communities and neighbors, and we’ve done so for 25 years. So why a special dedicated day of service?

“God’s work. Our hands.’ Sunday is a great opportunity to join together in our 25th-anniversary year to give witness that in Christ we are free to serve our neighbor,” says Mark Hanson, presiding bishop of the ELCA. “This is who we are — a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work.”

Something special happens when we come together. Think of the [ELCA Youth Gatherings](#) where 30,000 young people blanket the cities they visit to fix up homes, read to children, hand out school supplies or advocate for and educate others about the issues that impact our lives. Only now instead of just one city, we will impact cities across the country.

“On September 8, we encourage you to join with other partners — social ministry organizations, campus ministries and ecumenical partners — to serve your neighbor as you already do throughout the year,” Hanson continues. “Doing God’s work through our hands is a marvelous expression of gratitude for God’s grace in Christ.”

Ready to get started?

To make the most of “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday in your congregation, get started with your planning early!

Visit the [website](#) to download flyers and bulletin inserts to let your congregation know about the event and to recruit volunteers to help you get organized.

You’ll also find on that page a downloadable [toolkit](#) that will walk you through planning your dedicated day of service from start to finish. The toolkit includes ideas for service projects, discussion questions to help your leaders think deeply about what this day will mean for your context, checklists to keep your planning on schedule and ways to celebrate your work as a congregation.

Last, but certainly not least, you’ll also find the link to order your

FINANCIAL REPORT

	Receipts	Disbursements	Net
Budget through June 30, 2013	\$50,010	\$49,944	\$66
Actual through June 30, 2013	51,158.99	\$46,469.02	\$4,689.87

Submitted by Gerald Nelson, Treasurer

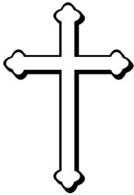
REMINDERS

THE ANNUAL BAKED POTATO, SALAD, DESSERT LUNCHEON TO BENEFIT NORTH BOSQUE HELPING HANDS, WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 13, 2013 FROM 11:00AM TO 1:00PM AT THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH IN MERIDIAN. TICKETS ARE \$7.00 AND CAN BE BOUGHT FROM CHARLENE AT THE DOOR.

PLEASE COME OUT AND SUPPORT THIS BENEFIT OR JUST BUY A TICKET EVEN IF YOU CAN'T COME.

IN JULY, I DELIVERED 137 POUNDS OF FOOD AND \$180 IN CASH.

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



CHARLENE

SEPTEMBERFEST

LADIES,

A REMINDER..SEPTEMBERFEST THE 14TH, WE'RE PLANNING TO HAVE OUR BOOTH AS USUAL. MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

THANKS, ELSIE

PRAYER LIST

MARY (RAY) HASTINGS, GEORGIA JOHNSON, HALEY RAE TARVER, HEATHER LEAHY, MARGRET TURPIN, CLARENCE PLAGENS, AGNES ROGSTAD, EVONNE SIMONDS, TOM GARY, GENE LEE, LEXIE FINSTAD, ELLEN SHIELDS, RODNEY BARNER, MARY ANN STOKELY, LOEENE NELSON, BRADY WARRICK, BONNIE ALGREN, BETTY JOHNSON, DARCY CASSIDY, PERNIE SURLEY, KATHY JOHNSTON, RONNIE OGLE, EUNICE MICKLESON, GLORIA MANGHAM, ROBBIE THOMPSON, JOE BIRDWELL & LUTHERAN CHURCH SIERRA LEONE, PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

MILITARY SERVICE: MATTHEW MEDINA, JUSTIN BARNES, HAYLEY BARNER, BARRETT PRINCE, ALEX SABORSKY, KEVIN MOORE, LAMAR HICKMAN, TRAVIS ELSTON, BRADLEY ROHNE, MICHEAL CRACKHOME

THANK YOU

TO MY CHURCH FAMILY,

MY DEAR FRIENDS, THE LORD HAS BEEN GOOD TO ME. HE KNEW THAT I WOULD NEED TO LEAN ON YOUR STRENGTH. HE SET PR. JOAN DOWN IN MY PATH, AND SHE LED ME TO YOU. YOUR KINDNESS AND COMPASSION HAS BEEN A HEALING POWER WITH A MIRACULOUS EFFECT. THE WORDS "THANK YOU" CAN ONLY BEGIN TO CONVEY THE GRATITUDE IN MY HEART. YOU WATCHED OVER ME. YOU BROUGHT CASSEROLES, DESSERTS, AND DELICIOUS POT-FULLS OF HOME-MADE SOUP THAT WARMED A SMILE FROM MY FACE TO THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART. RUSSELL AND TROY WON'T SOON FORGET THAT YOU REMEMBERED THEM DURING THESE CHALLENGING TIMES AS WELL. TROY, EVEN NOW, HAS HIS OWN, PERSONAL CEREAL FAIRY, AND I AM SO GLAD FOR THE IMPRESSION THAT YOUR GENEROSITY HAS MADE ON HIS CHARACTER. I PRAISE AND GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU.

July Breakfast 2013!

What a great Saturday get together. Everyone seemed to enjoy the food fun and fellowship-Lots of new faces- some faces that we hadn't seen for a Saturday or two. But lots of our loyal and devoted faces were there.

We had between 55 & 60 to sign in. We made a total \$70.00. We missed you if you weren't there and hope to see you next month.

Many thanks to the devoted breakfast crew. Many thanks to Faylene and Audrey for all their help too.

God Bless you and see you next month!

Iris

Be Inspired!

You cannot drag through the day thinking discouraging thoughts. God has already blessed you. He has already made you more than a conquerer. Get in agreement with Him.

-Joel Osteen-

Festivals of Renewal

Northern Texas - Northern Louisiana
Mission Area

- CHALLENGING TABLE TALK PRESENTATIONS
- TIME FOR CONVERSATION, VISIONING, WORSHIP
- MINISTRY FAIR
- LUNCH AND ENTERTAINMENT

(FREE WILL OFFERING)

9:30 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.

FESTIVAL LEADERS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO VISIT
CONGREGATIONS THE FOLLOWING DAY (SUNDAY)

REGIONAL FESTIVALS ARE PLANNED FOR LOCATIONS
AROUND THE NT-NL MISSION AREA, ON EIGHT WEEKENDS
DURING

AUGUST THROUGH JANUARY. THE SATURDAY GATHERINGS
WILL GIVE NT-NL MEMBERS AND LEADERS THE CHANCE TO

CONNECT, TO LEARN FROM EACH OTHER, TO CATCH AGAIN
THE VISION OF THE FUTURE OF THE NT-NL MISSION AREA,
AND

TO ENJOY A TABLE TALK PRESENTATION BY A GIFTED AND
INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKER ON A TOPIC ESPECIALLY SE-
LECTED FOR

THAT DAY AND PLACE. THE EVENTS WILL HELP LEADERS
AND CONGREGATIONS GROW TOGETHER IN THEIR UNDER-
STANDING

OF MISSION AND MINISTRY TODAY.

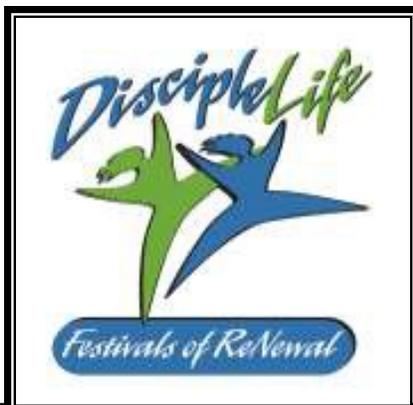
TABLE TALK SPEAKERS

(ONE OF THE FOLLOWING
WILL SPEAK AT EACH FES-
TIVAL)

**PR. MICHAEL
BAUGHMAN:** FOUN-
DER OF UNION
COFFEEHOUSE,

PROVIDING A “MEDIA
BOOT CAMP” ON HOW
TO USE MEDIA.

DR. DAISY MACHADO:



GET INVOLVED!!

AUG. 11 AT 2:00PM, WE'RE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND A SPECIAL SERVICE TO HONOR OUR LOCAL ELCA MUSICIANS. PLEASE COME TO THIS EVENT AT TRINITY

LUTHERAN IN CLIFTON. THERE WILL BE A RECEPTION TO FOLLOW. COME JOIN IN!

LUTHERAN HYMN FESTIVAL



You are invited to come to our 9th Lutheran Hymn Festival at Morton H. Meyerson Symphony center in Dallas, TX. This internationally acclaimed symphony hall is the absolutely perfect setting to sing praises to our “CHRIST, MIGHTY SAVIOR, light of all creation” & it’s under this theme that we will lift voices to give God glory.

When: Sunday night, Sept. 29, 2013 at 7:00pm.

Location: Morton H Meyerson Symphony Center,
Dallas

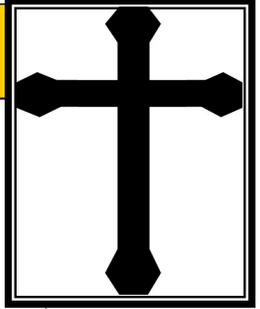
Ticket Prices: Orchestra, Orchestra Terrace, Dress Circle & Grand Tier Boxes \$15 each. Dress Circle \$10 ea., Grand Tier \$5 ea., Group Discount for 12 tickets or more is \$2.00 ea (Except Grand Tier)

Checks Payable: “Lutheran Hymn Festival”

Checks payable to: Mr. Tom Wood-PO Box 200893,
Arlington

GATHERING PLACE

DEAR ST. OLAF...



THANK YOU FOR HELPING US RAISE MONEY FOR CAMP. I HAD SO MUCH FUN.

LOVE, LANI EDWARDS

THANK YOU FOR MAKING IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO COME TO CAMP!

LOVE, TERYN SENN

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR US GETTING TO GO TO CAMP. THE FOOD WAS GREAT AND THE FUN AND GAMES.

AVARY FINSTAD

THANK YOU FOR HELPING ME GO TO BRIARWOOD! I HAD AN AMAZING TIME & GREW EVEN CLOSER TO GOD.

AVERY KATZER

THANK YOU FOR HELPING SEND ALL OF US TO CHURCH CAMP. I AM VERY GRATEFUL FOR BEING ABLE TO LEARN ABOUT CHRIST IN MORE DEPTH. I HAD A LOT OF FUN THERE AND LOVED LEARNING ABOUT CREATION.

MADISON ROWE

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HELPING ME GO TO CAMP. I HAD AN AMAZING TIME!

LEXI BARNER

BW 2013

The new Rock Church Gathering Place has been the site of much activity since the dedication on April 20th. There have been three weddings, five burials, and one family reunion held there. How proud members of St. Olaf are to have this new facility.

There have been three weddings held in the Rock Church and one had their reception in the Gathering Place. About thirty people enjoyed a dinner after the wedding. More weddings are scheduled for the fall.

There has been one funeral in the Rock Church and five burials in our cemetery the past few weeks. All the families were very appreciative of having a place to visit with loved ones, modern restrooms, a cool drink or punch and cookies.

Lunch was served to two families. Many compliments were given about how nice the facility is and to have a place to come in, sit and visit after the service comfortably out of the heat or rain.

A family reunion was held in June and about 45 people enjoyed a potluck dinner. They have scheduled this place the third Saturday in June next year for their reunion. They enjoyed visiting the church and cemetery throughout the day. The building is available for families who wish to use for a reunion or other gathering; just call, or write to get your name on the schedule.



For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.

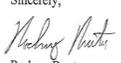
-Ephesians 2:8

DO YOUR GOOD DEED EVERY DAY -FOR THE KIDS-
SAVE BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION AND CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS. ALSO-
BOSQUE COUNTY 4-H CLUBS ARE SAVING ALUMINUM POP TOP TABS FOR
TEXAS RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE. THERE ARE CONTAINERS IN THE CHURCH
BASEMENT.

SAVE THE DATE

WHAT? NT/NL SWO FALL RETREAT
WHEN? OCTOBER 18,19,2013
WHERE? TEXAS 4-H CONFERENCE CENTER
BROWNWOOD LAKE ABOUT 11 MILES WEST OF THE TOWN OF BROWNWOOD
RETREAT BEGINS AT 2:00PM ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18
ENDING TIME: 5:00PM ON OCTOBER 19
MEALS: EVENING MEAL ON FRIDAY; BREAKFAST AND LUNCH ON SATURDAY; UNLIMITED COFFEE AND TEA
DORMS WITHOUT LINENS, \$22; WITH LINENS, \$28
SCHOLARSHIPS WILL BE AVAILABLE-COST LESS THAN \$100

It is the gift of God.
Ephesians 2:8


July 9, 2013
St. Olaf Lutheran Church
402 Meridian St.
Cranfills Gap, TX 76637
Dear Friends,
Thank you for your gift of \$900.00 for the ongoing ministry of Lutheran Sunset Ministries.
Sunset is about serving resident's needs. Your gift goes directly to supporting the services provided. We at Sunset; Board, staff and residents, need the commitment of congregations like you to support this ministry. Without this kind of support we could not maintain the commitment to our mission of "serving our residents with respect and dignity in a Christian environment". Sunset's strength is in the commitment of its constituents and its ministry as good as their generosity.
Again, thank you for your gift and generosity.
Sincerely,

Rodney Rueter
President/CEO
No goods or services were provided by LSM in exchange for your donation. This letter is your receipt. Please keep for tax purposes.
P.O. Box 71 • Clifton, Texas 76634 • (254) 675-8637 • www.lutheransunset.org
Sunset Home • Rainbow Retirement Community • College Hill Assisted Living • Hospice Sunset
LSM is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider




TEXAS LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY
Learn Boldly. Live to Inspire.
July 8, 2013
St. Olaf Lutheran Church
402 Meridian
Cranfills Gap, TX 76637-4016
Dear Friends:
On behalf of Texas Lutheran University, I want to thank you for the gift of \$100.00 to the Congregational Aid Program.
Your gift adds momentum to the positive energy that is building as the university moves forward with its institutional priorities. These include creating an innovative core curriculum, establishing a distinctive brand, implementing the campus master plan and making TLU an even better place to work and study.
Again, thank you for supporting Texas Lutheran University.
Sincerely,

Stephen P. Anderson
Assistant to the President for Administration and Public Affairs

TEXAS LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY
St. Olaf Lutheran Church
402 Meridian
Cranfills Gap, TX 76637-4016
Gift Receipt
Date Processed: 07/08/2013
Gift: \$100.00
Congregational Aid Program
No benefits have been bestowed upon this donor in exchange for this contribution. For your convenience, tax statements will be mailed annually prior to January 31.
1000 W. Court Street, Seguin, Texas 78155 • 830-372-8000 • www.tlu.edu

AUGUST ~ ST. OLAF LUTHERAN

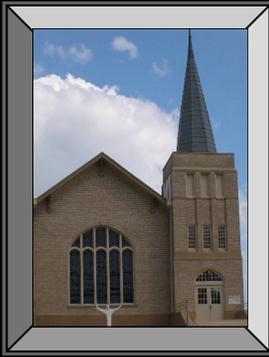
Reminders:

No WELCA in August

No mutual ministry in August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Assisting Ministers: Betty Tindall 4,11,18 Charlene Tergerson 25 H. Usher: Gwyn Christensen Ushers: Altar Guild: Anna Fortier & Ann Parkin Fellowship Cookies: Mary/Lydia						
4 Adult SS 8:30 Worship 9:30 Chance Finstad	5 Care & Concern team at St. Olaf 6:00pm TJ Foy Ryan "Doo" Hastings	6	7 Glen & Rita Hanson Faylene Patrick	8 Gwyn & Teresa Christensen	9 Guy & Geneva Finstad Lexi Montes	10 Larry Kinney
11 Adult SS 8:30 Worship 9:30 Confirmation 2:00 Service for conference musicians 2:00pm Trinity at Clifton Renee Barner	12 Mutual Ministry 6pm @	13	14 Phyllis & Ed Rieser	15 Joan Iker	16 Kenneth Reierson Scott Reierson	17 Community Break- Fast 8-9:30 Community Service @ Rock Church 3:30
18 Adult SS 8:30 Worship 9:30	19 Worship & Music 2:30	20 Teryn Senn	21 Teachers luncheon at 12:00 Council at 7:00pm	22	23	24
25 Adult SS 8:30 Worship 9:30 Blessing of school teachers & children	26	27	28 Gerald & Loeene Nelson	29 Kameron Wiese	30	31 Larissa Montes

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



St. Olaf Lutheran Church

WORSHIP, TEACH, NURTURE AND SHARE CHRIST'S LOVE.



Care and Concern

Dear Friends in Christ,

The other day I visited a homebound member of one of our churches. She wanted to show me something from the storage compartment of her walker. She had received a card from a member saying that we are thinking of you, missing you, and praying for you. In other words, you are not forgotten. The homebound lady sat there beaming with this card in hand—someone remembered me was her thought—someone who wasn't the pastor! (It's her job anyway!)

There are many people like this lady in our parish--unable to be involved due to health or other conditions. There are others who never have been involved and some who were once involved but have drifted away. How can we let them know that we share the love of God through Christ Jesus, and we care no matter what? How can we do God's work using our hands? And how can we do that better together?

This summer our gospel readings have been about radical hospitality—the (good) Samaritan, the woman anointing Jesus' feet, Martha and Mary, and more! So it is a perfect time for us as the church to discern how we can share the love of Christ in a hospitable way. We have a lot of good ministry going on, but where do we go from where we are? And how can we do that in a more organized way so we don't miss anyone?

The Mutual Ministry Team from St. Olaf and Faith and I met the other day for a regular meeting. We talked about discerning where we are going and how we are reaching out to these who might slip through the cracks. I propose that each church consider forming a **Care and Concern Team** of persons interested in this outreach. We will meet at **St. Olaf on August 5 at 6:00pm**, and we will meet at **Faith on August 6 at 6:00pm** to talk about possibilities. Please come if you have ideas and/or are excited about showing care for others by being God's hands in the world.

Being on a Care and Concern Team would not mean that you have to knock on doors and make visits. It could mean a regular phone call, card, text or email just to touch base with someone and to let them know you personally care—and we as the church care. Each team can determine how it chooses to be God's hands caring for the world. Once a team is formed it never has to "meet" again unless it just wants to. So no monthly meetings!

Please contact Pastor Joan and let her know if you are even the slightest bit interested in a Care and Concern Team at your church. You never know how God might use you to reach out to someone through something so simple.

Grace and peace always,

PASTOR JOAN

B.A. Johnson, September 22, 1925– July 5, 2013, a member of St. Olaf, celebrated his passing to the Lord with a service held at St. Olaf Lutheran Church in Cranfills Gap and burial at the Rock Church Cemetery. Our sincerest condolences go out to the family of B.A. Johnson.

