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October Newsletter

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

«TITLE» «FIRST_NAME» «LAST_NAME»
«ADDRESS»
«CITY», «ST» «ZIP»

8:30AM ADULT
SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:30AM WORSHIP



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Living in God's amazing grace

Office: 254-597-2738

Interim Pastor

Ryan Pederson

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Council President

Phyllis Rieser

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Family Spotlight



The Evan Paulson Rohne Family

Evan Paulson was born in 1848 in Romdal, Norway. He worked on a farm owned by Mr. Rohne. He inherited the Rohne name, which was the custom in Norway and became known as Evan Paulson Rohne. A few years before 1878 Hedrick Dahl had paid his passage to America in exchange for one year of work. Evan married Marianne Ollianne Ekberg, born 1858 in Loiten, Norway. Her brother, who was living in Mexia, Texas, paid for her voyage to America in 1878. Evan and Marianne were married in Mexia and came to their 360 acre farm in Cranfills Gap for their honeymoon.

Nine children were born and grew up on the farm: Minnie, Oscar, Cora, Pauline, John Magnus, Emma, Bernhart, Helen, and Chris. Minnie Christensen Hansen Mickelson had five children, Ervin, Johannah, Paul, Marianne, and Chris Morris Hanson. Most married and raised families who were all baptized and confirmed in St. Olaf and lifelong members. If you want more history on the family, Gwyn Christensen or Jeanne Bayless would be happy to share their family history.

Oscar, the oldest son, was born in 1884 and died of Hodgins Disease in 1930 at the age of 46. His father, Evan died of pneumonia at the age of 54. Oscar became not only brother to his siblings, but a father figure. He helped his mother manage the farm. He served as deacon and trustee of St. Olaf church. He was a member of the building committee when the brick church was built. He married Malinda Olson in 1904 and they raised six children. Patricia Fosythe or her sister, Cynthia Olson can give more on this branch of the Rohne family history.

Cora married Pete Christensen and they had six children: Emroy, Marie, Clarice, Chris, Ann and J.P.

Pauline married Gus Knudson and had seven children: Oscar, Milton, Modine, Wilma, Ruth and Glenn.

John Mangus married Louise Jensen and had no children. He attended Luther Theological Seminary and was ordained in 1920. He attended Harvard University and was awarded the Doctor of Theology in 1925. His dissertation in 1926 was entitled "Norwegian American Lutheranism" and is regarded as the definitive work on this subject.

Emma married Canute Jenson and had six children: Edward, Sherman, Carrol, Morris, Paul and Lois.

Bernhart and Alma had three children; Maurine, whom I remember as an excellent basketball player at CGH, and we all know Arlene Wayne and his brother Paul Rohne.

Helen married Justin Jenson and they had three children: Eugene, Myron, and Junelle.

And then there is Chris Rhone, a stalwart of church and community. Chris was born in 1899 and was only two years old when his father died. He was baptized as an infant and confirmed in 1914 by Rev Rystad at the Rock Church. He attended school at Cranfills Gap, Clifton College and Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. In 1921 Chris married his childhood sweetheart, Maria, a daughter of G.O. and Laura Bronstad. She was confirmed in the same class as Chris at the Rock Church. Chris served as Sunday School Superintendent for 28 years at St. Olaf, while Marie was active in women's activities. Chris began his career at the First Security Bank in 1920 and continued as Chief Executive Officer until his retirement in 1955. He was active in the Texas Bankers Association and served as Chairman of the Fourth District, TBA. He was also active in ranching and was a Life Insurance Agent. Chris wrote the "History of Cranfills Gap" for the Centennial Celebration. Chris and Marie had three daughters, Laverne, Geraldine and Marynell. Geraldine and Marynell are still involved with St. Olaf and are very supportive of their home church. Marynell is the first person to the WELCA booth at Septemberfest to get bread and baked goodies.

Each of these families of children of Evan and Marianne Rohne could be a story of their own. Many of them have contributed so much to the success of this church. Many members of these families are buried in the Rock Church Cemetery and many of the remaining celebrate with a family reunion every other year at St. Olaf basement. Thanks and praise to God for all the generations of people in this community who give of themselves to make it better for all.

References: Bosque Land and People History Corrections or questions contact: Geneva Finstad



Newly installed Bishop Gronberg, Axel (his son), Phyllis Rieser, and Geneva Finstad at the reception following the ceremony

**Holy Communion
with the
Installation of a Bishop**

**Erik Karl Joseph Gronberg
as Bishop of the
Northern Texas - Northern Louisiana Synod
of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**



“It was a day of about 107 worshipping communities, 1,200 worshippers, 120+ clergy, SAWLs, PLMs, and lay leaders gathered to give praise and receive the sacrament. “

-Bishop Erik Gronberg

All churches names in NtNL were printed on the red banners up front.

As the cool mornings have finally arrived, I found myself digging through the closet to find a sweater so I could sit on the porch with my morning coffee while enjoying our little part of the countryside. The cooler temperatures are so welcome but it also made me reflect upon the needs within our community and state. It's time once again for the members of St. Olaf and our extended family to help with two of our important ministries, The Kids Kloset and Nikki Warms the Cold.

The Kids Kloset provides gently used clothing to the children who attend Cranfills Gap ISD. Once a month, Geneva Finstad packs and carries containers of clothing for distribution to children during the monthly food bank distribution. We have recently had a large donation of clothing as a part of a Boy Scout project but are still in need of jackets, sweatshirts, sweaters, light jackets, and shoes in good condition. We could also use some smaller size jeans. So...check those closets and ask your grandchildren if they have things to pass along to our community. We would love to recycle those items that have been outgrown but remember that they must be clean and in good condition.



I recently opened an antique mall booth in downtown Waco. I hadn't really spent any time in downtown Waco since I was a child. Things are currently on the upswing in the downtown area but it is not without the homeless as in most cities. I have been struck by the number of couples pushing baby strollers through the streets. And yes, there are babies in those strollers. I must admit that I had never really seen families on the streets. This brings me to Nikki Warms the Cold. Owen and Sandi Carlson, who lead this incredible ministry, will be travel-

ing very soon to the larger cities in the state to deliver coats, blankets, socks, hats, gloves, and toiletries to those in need. My husband, Ed, traveled with Owen and Sandi on a distribution run this past year to Killeen. Once again, there were families and many in need. He was so impressed by the work being done by the Nikki Warms the Cold team. A few of these trips are on my bucket list this year. Adult coats are still their primary distribution item so check your closet. The donations and money received through fund raising goes to buy new items like socks, gloves, and hats that they buy during the off season. Please help support this wonderful work.

St. Olaf is so blessed to have these two ministries and the people to support them. In my visits to other churches this past year, I realized how much we do at St. Olaf. I am very proud to be a part of this work, God's work.

Peace,

Phyllis Rieser

St. Olaf Church Council President



Mark Your Calendar!

October 5th

2pm

St. Olaf Church Basement

WELCA Thanks offering Meeting

Delicious Treats

Inspirational Program

Praising God for All His Blessings!!!



Start of Sunday School

The children's Sunday school program at St. Olaf started with a big bang on September 18th. It was a very special day as the children began the year studying creation. You can see their drawings on the sidewalk depicting the 7 days of creation. In addition to a lesson for the day, they also had a scavenger hunt for each day of creation. Edible treats were found at each location representing each day of creation.

Following the worship service on September 18th, a pulled pork lunch with a create your own Sunday sundae was enjoyed by the kids and adults alike. Who doesn't love Blue Bell?

This year, the children will be studying the New Testament. A lesson, fun video, and crafts are a part of each Sunday's class. I'm sure Mary has snack of some kind for the kids to look forward to as well. In the two Sundays since the beginning of the Sunday school program, 16 different children have attended. Mary Hastings provides the leadership for our program so please give her a thank you when you see her next. Mary's commitment to our children is a very special work.

Mary, Martha, & Ruth

Mary Circle:
Will meet October 12

Martha Circle:
Will meet October 20

Ruth Circle:
Will meet October 13



PRAYER LIST: Haley Rae Tarver, Heather Christensen, Margret Turpin, Rodney Barner, Mary Ann Stokely, Brady Warrick, Betty Johnson, Darcy Cassidy, Kathy Johnston, Ronnie Ogle, Cooper Brown, Elaine Moore, Martha & Helena McCormick, Dacey Patrick, Josh Wilhelm, Raymond Bailes, Chris Lujan, Larry Barger, Charles Osborn, Daniel Smith, Al Carlson, Makayla Pierce, Riley Hardcastle, Gwyn Christensen, Geraldine Jensen, Bettye Knudson, Ivan and Junelle Johnson, Glenda Anderson, Rev. C. A. & Gloria Mangham, Donna Mangham, Delbert Patrick, Bryson Barnes, Rick Payne, Kendel Morris, Elaine Bakke Bell, Anna Marie Simmons, Tom Pierce, and **The Lutheran Church Sierra Leone, Persecuted Christians.**

SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN: Matthew Medina, Justin Barnes, Kevin Moore, Michael Crackhome, Alex Saborsky, Kirk Luedeke, Daniel Ramirez.

Mary Bible Study Circle News

Mary Bible Study Group met on Sept. 13, 2016, at Heckmann Hall with Elsie, Charlene, Billye, Elaine, and Barbara in attendance.

Our study was led by Billye on Jonah, when God forgives the guilty. Jonah was determined not to go to Nineveh as God had commanded. This was the start of the terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day. After he finally gets to Nineveh, and after the warning to the people that they would be destroyed, they turned from their wicked ways. As a result, God forgave them, which made Jonah very angry.

We will have our Thank Offering in October.

Delicious refreshments were served, and our offering was \$55.00.

Charlene will lead Bible study on October 12.

2nd Annual Community Fallfest

October 29th, from 5-8pm

Sponsored by CG Chamber of Commerce, the Lutheran, Baptist, and Methodist churches, and local businesses

Good fun for all. Bring you children and grandchildren!

Volunteers are needed for games.



SAVE THE DATES

OCTOBER 7-9, 2016

N/T-N/L W-ELCA CONVENTION

SPRINGHILL SUITES OF MARRIOTT

HWY. 84 WACO DR.

Thank You

Thank you to those who helped with the refreshments at 5th Quarter after Homecoming! The event was a great success!

Cindy Wiese, Terry Finstad, Owen Carlson, Patricia Forsythe, Rita Hanson, Jamie Edwards, Caroline Melde, Elsie Phillips, and Ed Rieser

The Briarwood monthly newsletter, The Vine, can be found online: <http://www.briarwoodretreat.org>



Financial Report

Submitted by Gerald Nelson, Treasurer

	Receipts	Disbursements	Net
Budget through Aug 31, 2016	\$74,194.67	\$74,194.67	\$0.00
Actual through Aug 31, 2016	52,003.09	60,096.48	(8,039.39)

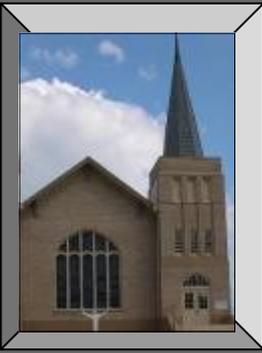


October 2016

Birthdays: Bettye Knudson (1), Kenneth E. Wiese (3), Dian Caughron (12), Julie Reiterson (18), Garry Finstad and Adrian Aguilar (20), Sean Koehler (21), Marcus Taylor (24), Kiley Sawchak and Avery Katzner (26), and Kathy Finstad (28)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Assisting Minister: Betty Tindall & Charlene Tergerson Head Usher: Noble Chastain Ushers: Altar Guild: Signi Knudson & Paula Perschke						
2 <i>Adult & Children's</i> SS, 8:30am Worship, 9:30am	3	4	5 <i>WELCA Thanksgiving Mtg.</i> 2pm, St. Olaf	6	7 <i>NT-NL W-ELCA</i> <i>Convention, Waco,</i> <i>Oct 7-9 ----></i>	8
9 <i>Adult & Children's</i> SS, 8:30am Worship, 9:30am	10	11	12 <i>Mary Circle, Heckmann Hall at LSM,</i> 2pm	13 <i>Ruth Circle, St. Olaf,</i> 2pm	14	15 <i>Community Breakfast, 8-9:30am:</i> <i>"Seeds that Change"</i> <i>Mission Endowment</i> <i>Dinner, 4-7pm</i>
16 <i>Adult & Children's</i> SS, 8:30am Worship, 9:30am	17	18	19 <i>Council Meeting, 6pm</i>	20 <i>Martha Circle, St. Olaf, 7pm</i>	21	22
23 <i>Adult & Children's</i> SS, 8:30am Worship, 9:30am	24	25	26	27	28 <i>5th Quarter</i> <i>Activities at the</i> <i>school cafeteria following</i> <i>football game</i>	29 <i>Community Fall Fest</i> 5-8 pm
30 <i>Adult & Children's</i> SS, 8:30am Worship, 9:30am <i>5th Sunday Singing TBA</i>	31					





St. Olaf Lutheran Church

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



Over the past few months our Gospel lessons have followed Jesus and his disciples on their journey from Galilee, in the north of Israel, toward Jerusalem, in the south. This month we will continue to follow their journey, with readings from chapters seventeen, eighteen, and nineteen. These three chapters contain some very familiar stories, parables, and sayings, like “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed...” (Luke 17.5), the healing of the ten lepers (Luke 15.11-19), the parable of the persistent widow (Luke 18.1-8), “Let the little children come to me...” (Luke 18.16), and the story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19.1-10).

There are a handful of common themes that we will encounter in these stories. One of these themes is the importance of faith. Though faith is important, we will see that you don't really need much of it to have an effect in the world around you if you just go ahead and take action. Another theme, which is related to faith, is the importance of persistence. We will see in the parable of the persistent widow that we must keep praying just like the widow keeps pursuing justice for her cause. Still another theme is that of healing and a return to wellness, which we will see in both the story of the ten lepers and the story of Zacchaeus. A final theme is that of humility, which we will see in the parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector.

These stories, and their themes, show us how we should orient ourselves toward God and toward one another. We are to approach God with faith, with trust, that God is able to care for us and our world and that with only a small amount of faith and persistence we can see healing and wholeness come out of broken situations. We are to approach one another with humility and a slowness to judge, ready to see the “tax collector,” or anyone else we may be inclined to deem as unworthy of our care, restored to their place in our community.

I look forward to exploring these readings from Luke with you all this month.

Peace,

Pastor Ryan

