

Return Service  
Requested

# August 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

956-367-0334

**Council President**

Phyllis Rieser

254-652-0676

**Office Secretary**

Angela Roberson

254-597-2738

saintolaflutheran@gmail.com

[www.saintolaflutheran.org](http://www.saintolaflutheran.org)

## Thoughts for August

As usual, I have procrastinated in writing this article. I like to reflect for a few days before I sit down to write and there haven't been many days for reflection recently. But this morning, I finally found some time as Ed went to work in the vineyard early this morning and I had a quiet house to myself.

The porch rocker was calling my name but my poor thirsty potted plants were my first priority. Spending time outside was also a much-needed break in my schedule and I think that watering and working with plants is great therapy for me. As I looked over our brown and dry house pasture, I began to think about what my parents must have felt like in those dry 1950s day. I am sure they frequently looked to the sky for any sign of rain. I found myself doing the same except I was looking a rain clouds trying to determine if rain would come our way. Instantly a vivid memory came to my mind. As a child, I always loved the smell of a summer rain on the powdery dry dirt of our road. I was ready to shed my flip-flops and heard down the road again but I finished my watering and no rain came.

The rain discussion also came up last evening as Ed and I did "Movies on the Lawn". We talked about hoping for a rainout next Sunday night, as it was pretty hot when we set up for the movie. Cindy Wiese remembered a prayer for rain that her grandmother had hanging on the wall so she googled it. Cindy shared the prayer on Facebook earlier today, but I feel it is worth sharing again.

### *A Prayer for Rain*

*Borrowed from Facebook*

*This prayer was written in the 1950s during an awful drought in Texas. The prayer was written by the Rev. W. Schneider of St. Mary's in Fredericksburg, who also ministered at St. Francis Church in Stonewall. It has gone all over the world.*

*Almighty God, we are in need of rain. We realize now, looking up into the clear, blue sky above, what a marvel even the least drop of rain really is. To think that so much water can fall out of the sky, which now is empty and clear! We place our trust in You. We are sure that You know our needs, but You want us to ask You anyway, to show You that we know we are dependent on You. Look on our dry hills and fields, dear God, and bless them with the living blessing of soft rain. Then the land will rejoice and the rivers will sing Your praises and the hearts of men will be glad. Amen.*

I am thinking about adding this to my prayer list. Despite the rain or lack thereof, let us sing praises next Sunday.

Phyllis Rieser

Church Council President

St Olaf Lutheran Church  
Annual Meeting  
January 28, 2018

President Phyllis Rieser called the St. Olaf Lutheran Church Annual meeting order on January, 2018 at 10:32am. There were 26 church members were present

Pastor Ryan Pederson opened the meeting with prayer.

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes were read by Sandi Carlson. Phyllis asked if there were any corrections or additions. Teresa Christensen moved to accept the minutes as read. Jami Edwards seconded the motion, and the motion was passed.

The Annual Report packet was available to all members on Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup> to insure that everyone had time to review the reports. Rather than reports being read, Phyllis asked for comments and/or questions regarding individual reports.

**Treasure Report:** Gerald Nelson reported the church expenditures were under budget. The utilities are under control so it is a positive for Centennial Celebration expenditures.

**Deacon's Report:** There were no questions or comments on the deacon's report.

**Trustee's Report:** It was a very busy year for the trustees preparing for the Centennial Celebration. Virgil is going off the council as a trustee and he thanked everyone for their hard work.

**Broad of Education:** Members of the Board of Education asked for clarification on their duties. Phyllis read the broad description from the constitution. Traditionally, members help with VBS and Day Camp, and hold fundraisers for the youth. Easter Breakfast, bake sales, and serving the Chamber are a few activities they have been involved in. In December, they also coordinated a trip to Six Flags for the youth.

**Cemetery Board:** Kenneth Wiese reported all was well at the cemetery. The main expense for 2017 was mowing and weed eating.

**Centennial Committee:** Geneva Finstad reported on the activities of the Centennial Celebration. Phyllis Rieser thanked everyone for all the hard work and the exceptional effort that made this event successful.

**Endowment Fund:** Geneva Finstad reported \$22, 151. 89 was transferred from the Endowment fund to the operating fund for painting, cabinet refurbishing, paying a deposit on carpet, carpet replacement, and painting.

**History Book Committee:** A history book account has been set up at First Security State Bank. Rita Hanson reported there were still history books available.

**Centennial Committee:** Geneva Finstad reported the centennial account will be closed and the re-

maining funds will be transferred to the history book account.

Charlene Tergerson asked if funds were needed for the handicap parking and indicated that funds could come from the parking lot fund. Virgil Tindall moved to use funds from parking lot fund if needed for cost of handicap parking, Gerald Nelson seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Maranna Horn moved to approve all reports, Betty Tindall seconded, and the motion passed.

**Old Business:** Jeanne Bayless has agreed take charge of the church directory and will talk with Angela (our church secretary) regarding available information. She will start by collecting address, emails, and phone numbers. She would like to include friends of St. Olaf.

**New Business:** Phyllis Rieser reported that the four Lutheran churches in Bosque County will meet with the bishop's associate to discuss the needs of the churches and common interests. On February 24<sup>th</sup>, each congregation's executive committee will meet with Pastor Totske at Our Saviors in Norse. The topic of discussion will be on shared ministries such as Lenten services and WELCA meetings. Betty Tindall asked about hiring an "activity person" to bring together the youth and maybe other activities. Those attending will keep the congregation informed.

**Elections:** Virgil Tindal has just completed his term as a trustee. Darrin Hanson made a motion to elect Kenny Wiese who has agreed to take the position of trustee. Jeanne Bayless seconded, and the motion passed.

Betty and Virgil Tindall agreed to continue as our Sunset Home representatives.

Jami Edwards, Charlene Tergerson, and Teresa Christensen agreed to serve as the Audit Committee for the coming year.

Teresa Christensen and Jami Carlson agreed to serve as our voting representatives to the synod meeting in April. The Synod meeting will be April 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> in Temple.

There was discussion that members of Thrivent could request \$250 for special needs. Signe Knudson has requested funds for food. These funds can be used food for those in need and help with camp food needs.

Garry Finstad moved to adjourn, Jeanne Bayless seconded. The meeting was closed meeting with the Lord's Prayer at 11:12am.

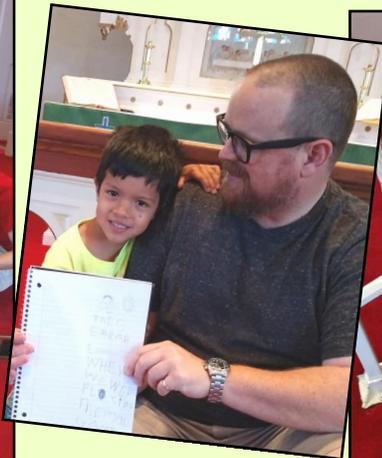
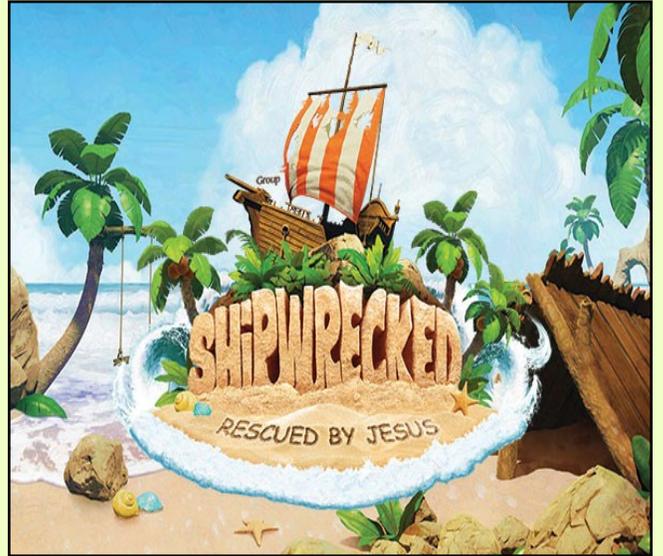
Respectfully submitted,

Sandi Carlson, Council Secretary

**Thank you to the following people for helping with Day Camp this year.**

Pr. Ryan Pederson  
Karen Hanson  
Jamie Edwards  
Kathy Finstad  
Teresa Christensen  
Pat Forsythe  
Rita Hanson  
Heather Christensen  
Harold Wiese & Preshie Wiese  
Sandi & Owen Carlson  
Betty & Virgil Tindall  
Sidney & Buck Thomason  
Barbara Lee  
Cindy Wiese  
Maranna Horn  
Lani Edwards  
Gage Edwards  
Bailee Barrett  
Brice Barrett  
Blake Barrett  
Caleb Ince  
Josh Wilhelm  
Sabrina Wright  
Marcus Wright  
Carson Koehler





# Mary, Martha, & Ruth

The Circles will take a break for the summer and will begin meeting again in the fall.

## WELCA News

There will be a WELCA business meeting on Wednesday, August 1, at 2:00pm to discuss fall events.

## Chamber Dinner

On August 8th at 6:30pm, the Lutheran Ladies will serve the Chamber of Commerce dinner to raise money for Fall Fest prizes. If you can help with the dinner, contact Pat or Phyllis.

**PRAYER LIST:** Heather Christensen, Margret Turpin, Brady Warrick, Kathy Johnston, Ronnie Ogle, Cooper Brown, Martha & Helena McCormick, Dacey Patrick, Josh Wilhelm, Raymond Bailes, Larry Barger, Charles Osborn, Daniel Smith, Makayla Pierce, Rev. C. A. Mangham, Tom Pierce, Nikki Stone, Tracy Finstad, Henrietta Medina, Jamie Dittrich, Donna Boelter, Bob Bowers, Don Hoffman, Linda Thiele, Virginia Allen, Pr. Herb Lammert, Jerry Shiver, and **The Lutheran Church Sierra Leone, Persecuted Christians**

**OUR MISSIONARY IN THE UKRAINE:** Chris Lujan

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



## **Financial Report**

*Submitted by Gerald Nelson,  
Treasurer*

### **Receipts**

### **Disbursements**

### **Net**

Budget through June 30, 2018

\$ 40,505.00

\$ 40,500.00

\$ 5.00

Actual through June 30, 2018

36,185.36

33,992.14

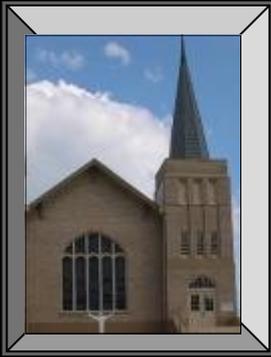
2,193.22

# August 2018

**Birthdays:** Jim Bayless (3), Chance Finstad (4), Ryan "Doo" Hastings (5), Faylene Patrick (7), Madison Rowe (9), Larry Kinney (10), Renee Barner (11), Kenneth Reierson and Scott Reierson (16), Paula Perschke (21), and Kamron Wiese (29). **Anniversaries:** Rita & Glen Hanson (7) and Guy & Geneva Finstad (9)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Assisting Minister:</b> Charlene Tergerson <b>Head Usher:</b> Virgil Tindall <b>Altar Guild:</b> Anna Fortier and Carolyn Melde			1 <i>WELCA Meeting, 2pm</i>	2	3	4
5 <i>Adult SS, 8:30am Worship, 9:30am</i>	6	7	8 <i>Lutheran Ladies will serve the Chamber of Commerce Dinner, 6:30pm</i>	9	10	11
12 <i>Adult SS, 8:30am Worship, 9:30am</i>	13	14	15 <i>Council Meeting, 6pm</i>	16	17	18 <i>Community Breakfast, 8:00-9:30am</i>
19 <i>Adult SS, 8:30am Worship, 9:30am</i>	20	21	22 <i>Teacher Luncheon for Cranfills Gap ISD</i>	23	24	25
26 <i>Adult SS, 8:30am Worship, 9:30am</i>	27	28	29	30	31	





# St. Olaf Lutheran Church

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



We are coming to the end of the summer break from school. I stopped by the store a couple of days ago in Waco and saw that the school uniforms are already prominently displayed. My kids are starting to get a little bit restless, I think because they sense that school is just around the corner. For them, and maybe for most school-aged kids out there, this last part of the summer feels like an extended Sunday evening, that part of the weekend that doesn't feel like the weekend, when you begin to dread the week ahead of you. People, children and adults, feel this way because they feel unprepared for the tasks that they have in front of them. I bet most of you know the feeling that I'm talking about. As the relatively relaxing summer is winding down, I'm also beginning to feel the twinge of dread of the coming school year. My wife and I have a lot to do to get our boys ready for the new school year and I have to prepare for the classes that I will teach. I'll have a new set of names to match with faces and try to remember. It all feels like a lot to me, and I'm sure it does for other parents and kids.

Our Gospel lessons for August all come from the sixth chapter of John. This chapter begins with the feeding of the five thousand and continues with the theme of Jesus giving of himself to sustain us. Jesus tells the crowd that follows him around the Sea of Galilee that he is the bread from heaven, bread that "endures for eternal life" (6.27). This bread is sufficient to meet the needs of those who consume it.

Whatever it is that we have in front of us--whether it is returning to school or facing the challenges of work or dealing with health issues--may we gather together around Jesus, the sustaining bread from heaven, and be refreshed.

~Pastor Ryan

## Norwegian Cemetery in Brownsboro

Wayne Rohne has asked that we announce the need for funds for the Norwegian cemetery in Brownsboro. A number of St. Olaf families have relatives buried in this cemetery as they settled first in Henderson County before moving to Bosque County. Donations may be sent to:

**Brownsboro Norwegian Cemetery  
% First State Bank of Brownsboro  
Att: Sherry  
14225 TX 31, Brownsboro, TX 75756**

**Happy Anniversary!**



**August 7 - Rita and Glen Hanson**

**August 9 - Guy and Geneva Finstad**