



JOY

Lutheran Church

Bringing Joy to the Heart of Rockwall...

The 'Joyful Noise' Newsletter -July 10, 2026

"Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!" (Psalm 100:1)

302 N. Goliad Street • Rockwall, Texas • (214) 716-7539 • www.joylutheranchurch.org

This past Sunday we welcomed Grant Gluesenkamp into our Church family.



Grant comes to us from St. Louis, Missouri. He was baptized into Christ as a Lutheran, but he went to Catholic school his whole life. This experience gave him a deep appreciation for and love of both expressions of the Body of Christ.

Welcome
New
Member

Grant moved to DFW this past November to work for Sunbelt Rentals as a territory sales representative. He started his career with Sunbelt in St. Louis before being transferred here.

A baseball player since childhood, Grant played for Missouri Baptist University's nationally ranked collegiate baseball program. He has also played in Missouri, Nebraska, Tennessee, and Idaho. This love of the game led him to pursue semi-pro baseball for a time after his collegiate career ended, but he decided to put his degree to use and moved into sales which is also a passion of his. Finally, his education and desire came together as he entered the equipment rental industry.

Grant's parents (Dawn and Mark) still live in St. Louis, but they are originally from the DFW area. His mother's side of the family lives in Dallas and the San Antonio area. His father's side of the family is from Illinois and the St. Louis area. His parents have been married for 34 years. His sister, seven years his junior, is getting her doctorate at Duke University and hopes to get into governmental policy after graduation. Please add Grant's information to your contact list:

1000 W. Yellow Jacket Ln. • Rockwall, TX 75087 • (314) 960-3734 • grant.gluesenkamp@yahoo.com

Prayer: Gracious Heavenly Father, we give You thanks for leading Grant to our congregation to share in the fellowship of Your Church. Root and ground him in Your steadfast love, protect him from the assaults of the enemy, and fill him with the joy of the Gospel. Surround Grant with brothers and sisters in Christ and help us all to bear one another's burdens as we walk together in faith and service. In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Is God calling you into membership at Joy? Membership papers are available on the Guest Table at the back of the sanctuary. Have questions? Please see Pastor Martin.



- Blaine Davis will lead us in worship – Sunday, July 12th at 10:30 am
- Artist's Gathering – Tuesday, July 14th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.
- Church Council Meeting – Wednesday, July 15th at 6:00 pm
- Family Movie Night & Pool Party – Friday, July 17th at Steve & Kay Orr's home!
- Blaine Davis will lead us in worship – Sunday, July 19th at 10:30 am
- Ladies Bunco Night – Wednesday, July 29th at 6:30 pm
- Men's Fellowship – Wednesday, July 29th at 6:30 pm at Pastor Moore's (903 Windham Drive)

Patty, Collin, Lucy, Carol, Tommy & Laurie, Fred, Weston, Mary Kay & Mike,
Brian & Kelli, Mary, Annette & Charles, Michael.



SUMMER SERMON SERIES:

"AND SO WE CAME TO ROME" (ACTS 28:14)

This Sunday and next Sunday Blaine Davis will lead our worship. He is a godly seminarian with awesome gifts in both scholarship and teaching. I look forward to being back with you on the 26th when we will pick back up our Romans study. I will miss the eighth chapter of Romans while I am away, but I hope you will meditate on Paul's words. Here is a summary of the chapter:

The dark shadow of death hangs over the old Age (Gk: *Aeon*). The idea of death has also rested on all that Paul has said in chapters 5-7, as he showed how the Christian is free from the destroying powers that rule in the old Age. Even though, in those chapters, he was speaking primarily about Wrath, Sin, and the Law, the thought about Death has always lain in the background. These various powers of destruction can be spoken of together, where one is, the others are close at hand. So the line of thought in chapter 8 falls into four divisions.

1. Free from death, through the Spirit (vv. 1-11);
2. Free from death, that we might have life (vv. 12-17);
3. The sufferings of the present Aeon and the glory of the Aeon to come (vv. 18-30)
4. Conclusion: God's love in Christ (vv. 31-39)

In Romans 8:12-17 (this Sunday's reading) we see the Parable of the Sower acted out. If we live according to the flesh, in which there is no root, we will fall away, joyless. But those who receive the Spirit of God, are birthed as children of God. No doubt, this will mean suffering (Rom 8:17b) and even death in the flesh. No seed is ever reborn unless it first dies (1 Cor 15:36). In Romans 8:18-27 (next week's reading) the Spirit gives us hope, reminding us in the face of seeming futility and bondage, that through the redemptive work of Christ, God is in control of the outcome. Though we cannot see the results yet, we may be bold because of the hope within us (2 Cor 3:12-13). Our sufferings for the sake of Christ (Phil 3:10-11), paradoxically, make us even more confident of the glory that will be revealed in us (Rom 8:18) when we shine with the righteousness of Christ in glory (Matt 13:43).

Here is a wonderful devotional on the highpoint of the chapter from Dr. Luther:

***"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good,
for those who are called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28)***

On this text depends the entire passage which follows to the end of the chapter. For there is no other reason or cause why numerous adversities and evils do not separate the saints from the love of God except the fact that they have not only been called but “called according to His purpose,” and therefore to them alone and to no others “He works all things for good.” For if it were not the purpose of God, and if our salvation depended upon our will and works, it would depend upon chance.

But now when he says: “Who will bring a charge? Who will condemn? Who will separate?” (vv. 33-35), he is showing that the elect are not saved by chance but by necessity. He shows that we are saved by His immutable love. And thereby He gives approval not to our own will but to His own unchanging and firm will of predestination. For how could a man possibly break through all these things in which he would lose hope a thousand times, unless the eternal and fixed love of God led him through them and the Spirit were present to aid our infirmity and to intercede for us with groanings which cannot be uttered?” -Martin Luther, *Commentary on Romans*

-Pastor Martin

Sign-up Sheets are on the **BLESSINGS BOARD** in the Fellowship Hall. Please review these opportunities and see where God may be leading you to serve our church family.



LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THIS COMING SUNDAY -

First Reading- Isaiah 55:10-13

Second Reading- Romans 8:12-17

Responsive Reading- Psalm 65:9-14

Gospel- Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

POOL PARTY & MOVIE NIGHT!



- Mark your calendar and invite a friend to our Family Movie Night & Pool Party on Friday, July 17th at Steve & Kay Orr's home: (1915 Wind Hill Road).
- Swimming & Pizza (5:00 pm to 7:30 pm).
- Outdoor Movie (starts at dusk, around 7:30 pm until 8:50 pm).
- Please bring a lawn chair!

Pictures from our Fireworks Watch Party & Young at Heart Luncheon!

We had 26 members and guests join us for this exciting annual event.



Eleven very full folks enjoyed the luncheon.

