



JOY

Lutheran Church

Bringing Joy to the Heart of Rockwall...

The 'Joyful Noise' Newsletter – August 14, 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



Is God calling you into membership at Joy?

We will be welcoming new members on **Sunday, August 23rd**.

If you are interested in joining, membership papers are available on the Guest Table.

Have questions? Please see Pastor Martin.

SUMMER SERMON SERIES:

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

This Sunday our lectionary gifts us with four beautifully intertwined texts. Read together, they highlight God's desire to bless His good creation and bring His wayward children (both Jew and Gentile) back into His loving arms. As Sola Publishing has it in its summary entitled *The Common Thread*:

"It was promised of old that salvation would come, that God's righteousness would be revealed so that his way might be known throughout the earth. So it is that in Christ, many have been gathered and still more will be gathered. Even those who are considered lost will be found and receive the Lord's irrevocable gifts of mercy, grace, and salvation. God will have mercy even on Gentiles and the lost sheep of Israel—even on you and me."

So, in Romans 11 Paul continues to lay out the tragic paradox of Israel's condition: uniquely privileged yet entrenched in unbelief. (see Rom. 9:1ff; 10:1-4; 11:1-2; cf. Luke 13:34) Then he unveils how God stays faithful to His covenant promises even if it means laying a *"stone of offense and a rock of stumbling"* before Israel. (see Isa. 8:14; Rom. 9:33; 1 Cor. 1:23; and 1 Pt. 2:8)



LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THIS COMING SUNDAY –

First Reading- Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

Second Reading- Romans 11:1-2a, 13-15, 28-32

Responsive Reading- Psalm 67:1-7

Gospel- Matthew 15:21-28

Save These DATES

- Artists Gathering – Tuesday, August 18th at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall.
- New Member Sunday – August 23rd at 10:30 am.
- Young at Heart Luncheon – Wednesday, September 9th at 11:45 at *Oar House Seafood* in Rockwall.
- Church Council Meeting – Wednesday, September 9th at 6:00 pm.
- Rally Day – Sunday, September 13th.
- Sunday School Resumes – Sunday, September 20th at 9:15 am.
- Congregational Potluck – Sunday, September 20th after our worship.
- Oktoberfest – Sunday, October 18th after our worship.
- Reformation Sunday – October 25th at 10:30 am.



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.



Our next **Young at Heart Luncheon** is on Wednesday, September 9th at 11:45 at *Oar House Seafood* in Rockwall. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall and invite a friend to come and share this great opportunity for fun and fellowship!

STEWARDSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE TEAM REPORT

August:

37 pounds of food and \$30 given to Helping Hands Food Bank

Year-to-Date:

475 pounds of food and \$503.07 given to Helping Hands Food Bank

We are also exploring ways we might partner with Cross Trails Ministry (Camp Chrysalis in Kerrville) starting this fall.



Jodi, Gail, Patty, Danielle, Lucy, Carol, Tommy & Laurie, Fred, Mary Kay & Mike, Brian & Kelli, Mary, Annette & Charles, Michael, Donnie, Sandy, Kassie, Justin, Westin, and Will.

UPDATE ON THE NORTH AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

565 Congregations • 23 Global Workers in 18 Countries:

70 Seminary Students • 150 youth attended the National Youth Event

NALC Convocation: **August 9-13, 2027**, in Orlando, Florida

Rev. Bobby Vitek has been called to serve as the Bishop's Assistant for the Southern District.