



JOY

Lutheran Church

Bringing Joy to the Heart of Rockwall...

The 'Joyful Noise' Newsletter –August 28, 2026 *Early Edition*

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

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

This past Sunday we were blessed to welcome
three families into membership.



Bio

Doug and Carol Agee... Doug was born in Sherman, Texas. After serving in the Army, Doug moved to Fort Worth to continue his education and began a lifetime career in insurance. Carol was born in Fort Worth, Texas. All of her education and work career took place in Fort Worth.

Marital Journey: Doug and Carol met in 1966 while working for the same company. They married in 1969, becoming parents in 1972 and 1974 with two sons, Lance and Brent. They report that their lives were totally centered on family, church, and volunteering (school, church, and community). A job opportunity for Doug in 1986 moved the family to Rockwall. During the last 40 years God has blessed them with 4 grandchildren, ages 16 -23.

Retirement: Doug retired in 2004 and Carol in 2017. Doug took the opportunity after retirement to renew his interest in art, opening several art galleries in Rockwall with fellow artists. Doug is a two-time cancer survivor and now enjoys painting with other artists, time with family, and becoming a part of our new church family. Carol is endeavoring to enjoy past interests in poetry, writing, and flowers for personal enjoyment, continuing bible study through BSF, and a lifetime love of baking and special occasion events. Family and church have always been an integral part of life.

Contact Info:

Doug: 972-921-9109 • doug.agee@yahoo.com

Carol: 214-502-0977 • CLagee4@gmail.com

216 Tanya Dr. Rockwall, TX 75087

LEON AND DIANE KERN... Although Leon was born and raised in Texas and Diane in upstate New York, they moved here in April from South Carolina. They lived first in the Hilton Head area, attending Island Lutheran Church, and most recently in the Lakes Region of South Carolina, attending Lutheran Church by the Lake. They moved here to be closer to Diane's daughter in Rowlett and Leon's children and grandchildren in Oklahoma.

Leon has been an avid golfer while Diane's hobbies include walking, swimming and music. They both love to play cards and dominoes – especially Mexican Train dominoes, Canasta, and Sequence. Diane also plays Mahjong.

Leon served in both the Navy and Air Force. He served on a destroyer during the Korean War. He has owned his own mobile home business and had worked as a handyman since his retirement. Diane retired from the New York State Department of Correctional Services as a program services administrator. Since then she has worked as a paralegal and as a Law Guardian for children in Family Court.

Contact Info:

Leon: 480-797-0063 • lbkmrk@gmail.com

Diane: 843-812-6549 • diamargor@gmail.com

1337 Ventura Dr. Rockwall, TX 75087

STEPHEN AND ADRIANA SORENSEN... were married last October after meeting nearly eight years ago in college and have been together ever since. Although neither was born in Texas, they were both raised here – Stephen in Houston and Adriana just outside Canton. The Sorensens are relatively new to the Rockwall area, having moved here a little over a year ago from Utah.

Professionally, Adriana works in finance and investment banking, while Stephen works in the construction industry.

They are proud parents to a three-year-old German Shepherd and share a passion for travel, having visited nearly 30 countries between them. In their free time, they enjoy skiing, camping, fishing, and other outdoor adventures, while staying closely connected to their large and ever-growing family.

Contact Info:

Stephen: 832-314-3440 • stephen.sorensen@gmail.com

Adriana: 930-340-7686 • adrigutierrez52@gmail.com

3690 Sycamore Ln. Rockwall, TX 75032



This Wednesday, August 26th at 6:30 pm.

Bring a dish to share and \$5.00 to play. Wendy McCrillis is hosting and will provide a dessert.

No experience necessary! Invite a friend!

Note: some of the men are going to Bella Napoli while our ladies are at Bunco – all are welcome.



- Artists Gathering – Tuesday, August 25th at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall.
- Ladies Bunco Night – Wednesday, August 26th at 6:30 pm.
- Men's Fellowship – Wednesday, August 26th at 6:30 pm at Bella Napoli Italian Restaurant.
- Helping Hands Food Donation – Sunday, September 6th at 10:30 at the front of the sanctuary.
- 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 – sign-up sheet is posted.
- Oktoberfest – Sunday, October 18th after our worship.
- Reformation Sunday – October 25th at 10:30 am.

SUMMER SERMON SERIES:

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

Romans has taught us that to live by the Spirit is to live under grace. This reality alters the very fabric of our world: **"Anyone who belongs to Christ is a new person. The past is forgotten, and everything is new."** (2 Cor. 5:17) Paul will use the last five chapters of Romans (Rom. 12-16) to DESCRIBE what this freedom looks like for those who have been DIAGNOSED (Rom. 1-3) and DELIVERED (Rom. 4-11). Recalling that we are gathered and empowered by the Spirit helps avoid a moralistic reading of this Sunday's text (Romans 12:9-21). Paul is not setting up a spiritual twelve-step program! He's revealing the diverse ways in which God is at work in His people. He intends this text to serve as a collision of worldviews. A worldview is, **"A set of presuppositions or assumptions held consciously or unconsciously, consistently or inconsistently, about the basic make up of reality."**

(James Sire, *The Universe Next Door*) A worldview can be reduced to a song (John Lennon's, *Imagine* or Jimmy Buffet's *Margaritaville*) or a motto (*Keep Austin Weird*). See you Sunday!

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THIS COMING SUNDAY –

First Reading- Jeremiah 15:15-21

Second Reading- Romans 12:9-21

Responsive Reading- Psalm 26:1-12

Gospel- Matthew 16:21-28

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.

The
Blessing
Board

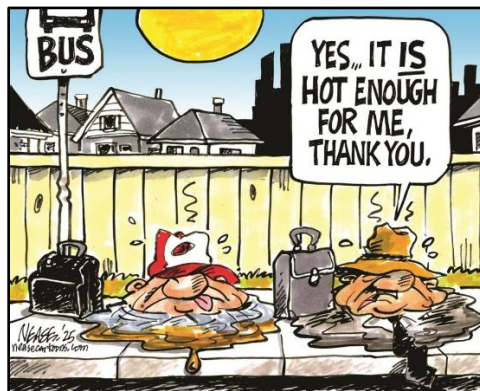


Our next **Young at Heart Luncheon** is on Wednesday, September 9th at 11:45 at *Oar House Seafood* in Rockwall. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall and invite a friend to come and share this great opportunity for fun and fellowship!

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



And now for something completely different...



"A joyful heart is good medicine, but depression drains one's strength."

(Proverbs 17:22, *God's Word Translation*)