

East St. Olaf Lutheran Church

6200 County Road 3 SW – Byron, MN

August 16, 2026: 12th Sun. after Pentecost

Holy Communion

Pastor: Rev. Paul Thompson Organist: Pat Nelson

WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE VISITING:



If you're visiting, please sign our guestbook (in the narthex). *Worship times rotate monthly between East & West St. Olaf.*

SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST



EAST EARLY at 8:30 am for Aug. (*coffee follows*)

WEST LATE at 10:00 am for Aug. (*coffee at 9:00 am*)

TASTE OF NORWAY 2:00-4:00pm Aug. 23 at EAST

BOTH THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING US

Note: Anyone interested may join Altar Guild

Altar Guild: Aug. – Gena Cahill

Deacon: Aug. – Jane Williams

Acolytes: Ushers cover, if no acolyte listed

Coffee Servers: 3rd Sun. — Circle 4

READINGS: August 16, 2026 – 12th Sunday after Pentecost

INTRODUCTION: *In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.*

FIRST READING: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8: *The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save.*

Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community – not race, nationality, or any other category.

PSALM: Psalm 67

SECOND READING: *Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32: God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.*

GOSPEL: *Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28: Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.*

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

TASTE OF NORWAY ANNUAL CELEBRATION!!!



If you have ever wondered who exactly St. Olaf was, a skit called "*Saint Olaf Himself*" may interest you - it will be performed at the **annual Taste of Norway celebration next Sun., Aug 23 from 2:00-**

4:00 pm at EAST St. Olaf. *This event is sponsored by the St. Olaf Heritage Association.* The skit begins at 2:15 in the sanctuary. A traditional hymn-sing led by the Hayfield vocal quartet, Hosannah, follows the skit. Homemade Norwegian pastries including lefse, fattigmann and rosettes will be served downstairs. Tours of the historic Tverberg Log House, with golf cart transportation, will also be provided.

QUILT SHOW AT TRINITY LUTHERAN HAYFIELD

Trinity Lutheran of Hayfield invites everyone to their special quilt show on **Sat., September 19 from 1:00-2:15pm** – followed by a dessert reception. Nationally-recognized award-winning quilter, Tamara Carter, along with her husband and co-presenter, Joe Gaines (of the Choctaw Nation) will share quilts inspired by Indigenous American history, culture, and lifeways in an educational and inspirational program. *Free of charge and open to the public.*

EAST MEMBERS: WILLING TO READ SCRIPTURES?

If you are willing to do scripture readings, please sign up at the lectern by the communion book. Thank you.

SUNDAY SCHOOL / JAM FAMILIES

Join us Sun., September 20 for Rally Day fun at West church.



RALLY DAY TIMELINE:

9:00 am - West worship/Comm. (backpack blessing)

10:00 am - JAM begins a new year with a BounceHouse at WEST! *Also West coffee hour.*

11:00 am - Lunch served for Rally Day

HAPPENING TODAY & THIS WEEK

TODAY	8:30 am	East worship & <u>Communion</u>
	9:00 am	<i>West coffee</i>
	10:00 am	West worship & <u>Communion</u>
Monday	9-Noon	Pastor at office
	4:00 pm	<u>DEADLINE to submit reports & info for Sept newsletter</u>
Tuesday	10:00am	East quilting/sack lunch
<u>>>> Pastor vacation August 20 - August 22 <<<</u>		
Sun. (08/23)	8:30 am	East worship
	9:00 am	<i>West coffee</i>
	10:00 am	West worship

UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug. 24 (Mon.)	9-Noon	Pastor at office
Aug. 25 (Tue.)	10:00am	East quilting/sack lunch
Aug. 27 (Thur.)	9-Noon	Pastor at office
>>>>		NEWSLETTER DAY at office <i>(9:10-print, 9:30-fold, 9:40-collate)</i>
Aug. 28 (Fri.):	_____	Pastor's day off-work
Aug. 30 (Sun.)	8:30 am	East worship
	9:00 am	<i>West coffee</i> (<u>WELCA officers PLAN WEST BAZAAR</u>)
	10:00 am	West worship

SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

WEST EARLY at 9:00 am for Sept.

BOTH: JAM at 10:00 am WEST (RALLY DAY 09/20 & West NEW Member Day & LUNCH) (also West coffee)

EAST LATE at 11:00 am for Sept. (coffee follows)

Sept. 1 (Tue.): 10:00 am East quilting
 Noon Circle 4 meeting/sack lunch
 >>>> **JOINT COUNCIL at EAST**
 6:00 pm – Individual meetings
 7:00 pm – Joint council meeting

TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER

EAST Prayers: Jim Olson, Linda K., (friend of Pat Nelson), Keith Roeder (friend of Audrey Carlson), Salem (cousin of Keaton DeCook), Todd Pyfferoen, Kathy B., Kaysie Peterson, Dawn Hugeback, Debra Moekel (daughter of Audrey Carlson), Dalton Mansfield (in military), John (cousin of Pat Nelson), Sylvia Torstenson, and John Heydt (brother of Pat Nelson); and in Army Basic Training: Dawson Meier.

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

PASTOR Paul Thompson: (*Call before driving to office*)

Cell Phone: 507-273-8504 **Email:** pthomp821@gmail.com

Office hours: Monday and Thursday 9am-Noon OR by appointment (*Day off-work is Friday*)

SECRETARY Gina Moser: (*Call before driving to office*)

Office: 507-365-8222 **Cell:** 507-951-4964

Email: eastwest@kmtel.com Work Days: Tues. & Thurs.

OUR WEBSITES: eaststolaf.org OR weststolaf.org

JANITORIAL SVC EAST: Becky Wilbourne 507-923-5845

COUNCIL CONTACT INFO: **ALL area codes are (507)**

EAST: President: Randy Robinson: 923-0479

Gary Kearns: 206-3158 or 254-5285

Bryan DeCook: 208-1590