



**October 2024**



## **HILL AND VALLEY PARISH NEWS**

### **Svea and Eidsvold Lutheran Churches**

Greetings from the Parsonage!

The night before my wife, Kari, and I left for England, instead of packing, I was completely immersed in our upstairs closet. While looking for something—which I don't know if was ever found—I discovered that the floorboards were loose and below them sat nearly a century's worth of accumulation. In an inch of compact dust (I kid you not) were newspaper clippings (some in Swedish, others in English), sealed contact lenses, Disney princess stickers, buttons, pins, pencils, game pieces, collar tabs, and a lot of matches! Something from likely every pastor who has called the parsonage home fell through the cracks of the boards and joined the collection. It is so easy to forget that many walked this earth, worked your land, maybe even called your house home, before you—it is even easier to forget that there were humans who lost things through the cracks of the floor much like we do today—and yes, I did find something of mine embedded in the dust.

The closet was a wonderful object lesson in change, but also stewardship. After all, what is stewardship but stability through change. Every lost item comes from a different person inhabiting the same exact role. There have been seven pastors who called Svea's parsonage "home," I shudder to think of how many sermons have been written in the office, how many parishioners dropped in for coffee or conversation, and how many pets have roamed these halls—my cats are the cutest! As stewards of a congregation, we are all links in a chain that goes back to the first disciples of Christ. Two-thousand years of diligent care for the Gospel and God's called community. Sometimes we equate stewardship with ownership and imagine a permanent bond between us and some larger entity. Yet, stewardship has little to do with permanency. Stewardship is the temporary care of something that will long outlive us (and yes, temporary can even mean a lifetime). When we are done using land and resources or belonging to a congregation, they don't just up and disappear. God calls a new steward to care for them. This is an endless cycle that we are blessed to be a part of. Ownership is caring for something because it is ours; stewardship is caring because the item is God's.

Each believer is called to seek out other Christians and worship together as a community, but congregations that we build are never our own—they belong to God. None of the past-residents of the Svea parsonage ended their ministry here, they all eventually moved to serve elsewhere; the time and energy they gave to the congregation was replaced by another's. And although their role as a steward of the congregation was done, God was not done with the congregation. The parish continues to share the Gospel of Christ Jesus, just as all of our congregations do. Names on our membership roles come and go; there will be different pastors, councilmembers, musicians, but our parish will continue. Realizing our own role as stewards can take some of the pressure off of our lives. It is not all up to individuals or one family or one group to solve the congregation's problems. God is at work in our changing circumstances and is moving us not only to act but to prepare others to act in our absence. Just as faithful stewards of the earth are rewarded at harvest; faithful stewards of the church will be rewarded at the harvest to come.

Each generation leaves its mark on the congregation, or leaves something under the floor, but all should do so with the knowledge that another will someday rise up and leave their own.

Al Aakre

# October Birthdays

## Eidsvold

1 - Leonard Gilbertson  
6 - Isabelle Peterson  
11 - James Pritchard  
11 - Reese Mandelkow  
11 - Karen Fuller  
13 - Chad Peterson  
16 - Fay Albarado  
16 - Faith Edwards  
19 - Laura Peterson  
19 - Heather Mark  
25 - Carson Richardson  
26 - Mary Finkelson  
28 - Judy Lacroix  
30 - Fletcher Owen

## Svea

12 - Dan Maxwell  
19 - Rick Phillips  
22 - Kari Aakre  
22 - Tammy Strain  
28 - Sheryl Fritz  
29 - Paul Curry  
30 - Deb Carlton



If a birthday was missed  
please email Tana at  
langerlt@att.net

## CHURCH SERVICE INFO

**EIDSVOLD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
W6111 COUNTY RD EE  
BAY CITY WI 54723  
- OCTOBER SERVICES AND SUNDAY  
SCHOOL  
10:30AM

**SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
N2610 770TH ST  
HAGER CITY WI 54014  
OCTOBER SERVICES  
9:00 AM

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**PASTOR AL AAKRE 608-799-9703**  
AAAKRE002@LUTHERSEM.EDU  
**CHURCH: BELUTHER@BEVCOMM.NET**  
**OFFICE 715-594-3182**  
**LEAVE A MESSAGE**

## NEWSLETTER INFO

**TANA: LANGERLT@ATT.NET**  
715.222.4058

## Parish Social Media

Facebook

Church Website

<https://www.eidsvoldsvea.com>

# Svea Church Happenings

Svea is looking for a Treasurer. If you are interested or know of someone who would be a great fit for this important role please have them see Mary Schaver, Pastor Al, or another council member. Training would be provided.

## Anniversary

There are now several proposed colors for painting the Svea sanctuary, but those with differing hues are encouraged to bring in samples and/or painted boards. This is part of an ongoing "sprucing up" before Svea's 150th in June 2025.

**Voting on the painting of the sanctuary will take place on Sunday, Nov 3 following service.**

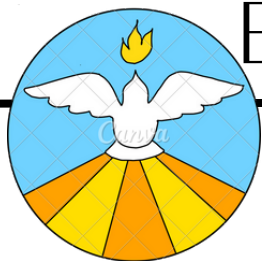
Svea family, if you enjoy reading the "Word in Season" devotionals from church, please consider donating to help with the expense and keep them available at the back of the church.

The **NO BAKE - BAKE SALE** is back for the month of October! Instead of spending money on ingredients and your time baking, please donate to the Women's Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (WELCA). These funds go to help our local food pantry, Turning Point, and stamps for our card ministry.

**Workday at Svea for men and women will be Thursday, October 3rd at 9:00 am. Spend an hour or two to help Joleen out with church cleaning. See you there!**



**Annual Weiner Roast  
Sunday, October 13 at Svea**



Confirmation

5:30 supper, 6:00 class

**6th Grade Confirmation**

Wed Oct 2

Wed Oct 9

**7th Grade Confirmation starts on  
Wednesday, Oct 16**

Wed Oct 23

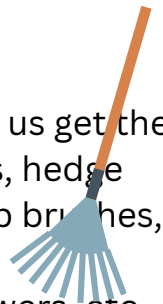
Wed Oct 30

## EIDSVOLD HAPPENINGS

**God's Work, Our Hands  
Eidsvold Cemetery Clean Up**

Sunday, October 6 following the  
10:30 service.

Dress casual and bring items that will help us get the jobs done such as: gloves grass clippers, hedge trimmers, rakes, tarps, rags, brooms, scrub brushes, pails for water, weed whips, gas power washers, leaf blowers, etc.



# Thank you for your Time and Talents

## October

### Readers

#### Eidsvold

Oct. 6 Justin  
Oct. 13 Judy  
Oct. 20 Phyllis  
Oct. 27 Fay

### Ushers

#### Eidsvold

Oct. 6 DeLoris and Bev  
Oct. 13 Karen B and Rita  
Oct. 20 \_\_\_\_\_  
Oct. 27 Fay and \_\_\_\_\_

### Altar Committee

Mary Williams

### Bake Communion Bread

Phyllis Beastrom

Oct. 6, Oct. 20, and Oct. 27

### Washing Communion

#### Glasses:

Mary Williams

Oct. 6,  
Oct. 20  
Oct. 27



### Church Cleaning

#### Eidsvold

Oct. 6 Faith Edwards  
Oct. 13 \_\_\_\_\_  
Oct. 20 \_\_\_\_\_  
Oct. 27 \_\_\_\_\_



## Eidsvold Sunday School News!!

Oct. 6 (*time change to 10:30*) Zacchaeus

Oct. 13 - Why we pray

Oct. 20 - Program Practice and craft for Reformation Sunday

Oct. 27 - **Reformation Sunday** - Sunday School students sing in church  
Sunday School will be hosting a brunch

If you have questions regarding Sunday School, please contact Megan Franklin.

Preschoolers learning about love



[meganmfranklin@yahoo.com](mailto:meganmfranklin@yahoo.com)



# Community Events

## Ruby's Pantry

First Saturday of the Month

October 5

10-11:30 at

Pierce Pepin Co-op



## Women's Bible Study

Monday, October\_\_ 2024 at 1:30 pm

This fall our study will focus on the book of

**Ephesians.**

Join us at Eidsvold.



## Svea Quilters

2nd & 4th Tuesdays

October 8th and 22nd

9 am-noon

No experience is needed. All are welcome.



## Euchre

The first Friday of the month.

October 4

7:00 pm at Eidsvold

Bring a snack to share, coffee will be provided.

Don't know how to play? Come and learn!

## Choir Schedule



Wed. Oct 2 7:00 at Svea

Wed. Oct 9 7:00 at Eidsvold

Wed. Oct 16 7:00 at Svea

Wed. Oct 23 7:00 at Eidsvold

Wed. Oct 30 7:00 at Svea

Sing at services Nov. 3!

We are excited to announce **electronic** giving through **Vanco!**

Your generosity will help us impact our community with the good news of the gospel.

You can select between a one-time or recurring donation (set to the frequency of your choice), through credit card or your bank account.

There are also different funds that you can select to allocate your donation to.

Various links can be set up throughout the year as needed!

Try the QR codes printed below.

### Eidsvold



### Svea



## Eidsvold Council Meeting-August 28, 2024

In Attendance: Pastor Al, Anne G., Jason H., Mandy J., Kendra H.

Pastor Al led with a prayer.

Kendra read the minutes of the last meeting. Mandy motioned to accept, all in favor. Approved.

### OLD BUSINESS:

·Vanco up and running. Seems to be working fine.

### NEW BUSINESS:

·New parish secretary candidate recommended. Announcement to be made at a later date.

·Anne Girdeen has announced that she wants to be done as Treasurer ASAP. So we are looking for candidates to take over that position. Kendra to reach out to Raynee F. to see if she would be interested. If anyone is interested or knows of someone to ask please contact one of the council members or Pastor Al for more details and information.

·Service music was discussed. Pianist has been mentored a couple times from a former player in hopes that she can help him work some playing issues out with helpful hints and practice. To be discussed further at our next meeting to see if he has improved.

·There will be a pie and ice Cream social at Eidsvold on Wednesday, Sept. 26th.

### FINANCIALS

|                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| General Fund   | \$83,032.23 |
| Memorial Fund  | \$24,485.26 |
| Youth Fund     | \$ 2,590.95 |
| Building Fund  | \$23,860.63 |
| Parsonage Fund | \$30,802.79 |

As of 8/28/24 the balance of the above breakdown is \$164,771.86.

Rally Sunday for first day of Sunday School and blessing of the backpacks will take place on September 8th.

There will also be a Vanco tutorial given to the congregation that Sunday as well.

### JOINT COUNCIL MEETING

September 26th at 7 p.m. there will be a joint council meeting at Eidsvold.

·Agenda is focusing on benefits for next year. Enrollment starts October 1st - 15th.

·We are to talk about the musician for the churches for next year.

·Review Pastoral 2025 salary

·Svea 150th Anniversary-June 2025. Plan is to celebrate 2 Sundays, maybe the 22th & 29th. TBD

After all issues are discussed there will be a closed council meeting to discuss whatever else needs to be addressed if it wasn't addressed during the open meeting.

Sunday, October 6th – ‘God’s Work-Our Hands-Day of Service’ workday at the Eidsvold Cemetery after 10:30AM church service.

This event is open to ALL willing volunteers from both congregations that would like to participate. Also we really would like this to be the church’s Youth Groups Fall clean up activity.

The main focus of this day’s activity at the cemetery will be cleaning up any brush or weed growth that has grown around the perimeter of the fence line of the cemetery. This would be a great job for some strong young men and women to work on. We will also be working on cutting down and trimming around the headstones (IE: cut down old hostas and peonies and throw them in the ditch). Also stones need to be cleaned around as far as grass being swept away or trimmed away from the edges. Old stones will be pretreated with a solution so on that day we can go through with a scrub brush and bucket of water and/or power washer and clean and rinse them off.

Tools you can bring with that would be very helpful would be:

·Gloves, grass clippers, hedge trimmers, rakes, tarps, rags, brooms, scrub brushes, pails for water.

·Weed whips, gas power washers, leaf blowers

There will be a fire pit and we will have hot dogs and snacks for eating.

WE HOPE TO MAKE THIS A SUCCESSFUL CHURCH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT WITH A GOOD TURN OUT. PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING OUT IN ANY WAY YOU CAN. THANK YOU!!

Meeting minutes submitted by Kendra Hanson, Council Secretary



## Thank you for a successful Pie and Ice Cream Social

Thank you to all the workers for your service. Whether in the kitchen, preparing and setting up the dining area, for the donation of barbecues, eggs, purchasing food, cleaning up, greeting our guests, and especially to everyone that made a pie!

### Thank you, Tracie, for the work you've done being the secretary for our parish!

You've gone above and beyond the office duties to help in so many areas.

Your time and talents are much appreciated. You do so many things behind the scenes that we don't always know about.

- Teaching First Communion classes
- Confirmation suppers - preparing, serving, and cleaning up
- Being involved with youth group activities
- Sunday School
- Leading multiple meetings during the transition of becoming a joint Parish with Svea and during the call of a new Pastor.

I know there is so much more. Again, thank you!

I have taken on the roll of parish secretary. Please feel free to contact me with any items that you would like in the bulletin or newsletter. This is a work in progress and I am open to new ideas and suggestions.

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home email: [langerlt@att.net](mailto:langerlt@att.net)

cell: 715.222.4058

*Tara Langer*