

Svea Evangelical Lutheran Church

APRIL REMINDER

12651 15th Street SE, Svea MN 56216 320-995-6500

For I handed onto you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures. 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Christ is risen Alleluia! – if you are waiting until the 2nd half of the month to read this. Or, if you are reading this shortly after the printing... Christ died on the cross for you sinners! REPENT!

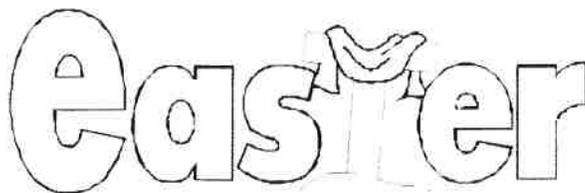
Lent is a wonderful time to contemplate the nature of Christ's incarnation and the sin of humanity leading to his death. It is a formative season for Christians around the world with a more intentional time for devotion to the faith. Yet, we cannot escape the reality that even as we remember the crucifixion we are entirely Easter people. We are those who have been formed and reformed in the good news of Jesus victory over sin, death, and the power of the devil! This is who we are through baptism; people of the crucified and risen Messiah.

The apostle Paul writes to remind the Christian community that our first and primary importance is to living in and through the reality that our Savior, the source of our life died, was buried, and rose from the dead. This we receive through faith in the witness of the followers who were there. Everything else that we do in the world as Christians, as people- is secondary. Whether serving in soup kitchens, or reaching the hand to a neighbor these good works are grounded completely in bare cross and empty tomb of Christ's return from the dead.

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is the final authority on all matters of life and death. The man who died and returned is the ultimate authority in our life, calling on us always to live each day free from the fear of what lies beyond. We have a friend and guide who has been through the worst of humanity even to the point of an agonizing death. Jesus visited Hell, the complete void of God, and returned for you and for me. As a result our life is forever different, our response then is fearless, bold, and centered on a self-sacrificing love for the neighbor who too needs to hear and experience the ultimate reality.

God's Peace and Blessings be with you now and always brothers and sister.

Pr. Erik



Easter

APRIL WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

USHERS: LeRoy Hinthier & Brian Gorans
 VISUAL ARTS: Tracy Gorans & Stacey Vlamincik

DATE	ASST MINISTER	LECTORS	GREETERS & OFFERING
April 2	Marny Behrends	Dan Swenson	Lyn Hallberg & Troy Erickson
April 9	Philip Stadem	Louise Swenson	Janet Thompson & Ed Key
April 13	Jessie Gatewood	Matthew Johnson	
April 15	Camy Erickson		
April 16 (7 am)	Marny Behrends	Tucker Swanson	
April 16 (10 am)	Karen Schueler	Doug Hopp	Wendell & Peggy Dahl
April 23	Holli Hopp	Anne Christianson	Pete & Bonnie Swenson
April 30	Camy Erickson	Lois Nelson	Karen & Sherman Schueler

DATE	PROJECTION	SOUND	ACOLYTES
April 2	Jake Vlamincik	Kim Gorans	Courtney Carlson & Kaylee Vlamincik
April 9		Jon Burks	Zach Flannigan & Matthew Lindblad
April 13		Jake Vlamincik	Emily Behrends & Kaylee Vlamincik
April 15			Zach Flannigan & Mckayla Hopp
April 16 (7 am)	Scott Johnson	Erin Johnson	Ashley Behrends
April 16 (10 am)		Kim Gorans	Courtney Carlson & Kaylee Vlamincik
April 23		Brian Gorans	
April 30	Brian Gorans	Jake Vlamincik	Zach Flannigan & Matthew Lindblad

DATE	COMMUNION ASST	TELLERS
April 2		1
April 9	Courtney Carlson	2
April 13	Kathy Lindblad	
April 15	Lois Nelson	
April 16 (7 am)	Laura Christianson	3
April 16 (10 am)	Tammy Garberich	3
April 23	Matt Erickson	4
April 30	Doug Johnson	5

As of March 26th I have completed the instructional course for working in the Fire Service in the State of Minnesota. This has been a rewarding if somewhat lengthy and time-consuming process. I thank all of you for your understanding and patience in the past few months. I am honored to serve our communities as a volunteer with the Blomkest/ Svea Fire Department. Please understand my priority in vocation and action will as always be pastoring this congregation to the best of my abilities. I continue to look forward with great hope and appreciation to living, growing, and leading God's people in the place. With deepest thanksgiving, Pr. Erik



**BIBLE
STUDY**

There is a new Online Bible Study in 6 sessions being offered before, during, and after Holy Week to consider and appreciate the crucifixion story according to Matthew. Those interested in participating need to have a Facebook account and let Pr. Erik know. This study is being used and moderated by congregations and pastors in Oklahoma, Colorado, and Minnesota. For questions or more information please talk to Pr. Erik.

Svea Lutheran Church: Council Agenda- March 16, 2017

Present: Pastor Erik, John Burks, Matt Erickson, Tammy Garberich, Tracy Gorans, Kathy Lindblad,
Doug Johnson, Lois Nelson.

Absent- Courtney Carlson, Laura Christenson, Jessie Gatewood

1. Opening 7:00 pm

2. Devotions – Pr. Erik

3. Council meeting minutes – February –approved by email

4. Pastor's Report- to be printed in the reminder, report in summary- thanked council for the strategic meetings and the soup brought for the meetings, Pastor will do the Strategic Planning meeting notes. Stevens's Ministry (shared ministry with Lake Lillian United Lutheran) training will be complete on April 4, and will be offering the course to people at Svea who would like to be involved. Attended the Conference meeting (will be in published Pastors report). First Communion classes are in session for Maddi Bowen, Nick Flannigan and Tucker Swanson. Continuing working on Bible Study on line, short study 10-15 min to do on your own. To be ready before Palm Sunday. "Matthew Passion Story". Ministerial acts- Baptized Henry Moenedick, and two 1st communions Ashley Behrends and Makala Hopp. Owen Larson baptized Feb 12th. Pastor to be gone from April 6-7, and April 18-28 for vacation and conference/education.

5. Committee Reports

a. *Stewardship, Finance, and Estate-* Full report will be published in the reminder. Highlights were, Lenten Offering 1/3 to missions and 2/3 to General Fund- Motion made, 2nd and passed by the council unanimously. Concern was discussed on bill paying and approval of bills for being paid. Bylaws were checked to see what the procedures are- and there was no mention of who approves of bills to be paid and what accounts they are to be distributed to. Decisions was made Council agrees with the statement "For the purposes of treasure, committee chairs need to endorse the Expenditures prior to payment" Any expenditures on property; approval should go through Jordan Gatewood and/or Mike Lindblad.

b. *Parish Education-* to meet in March and April. Svea to host VBS with Blomkest this summer 2017
i. *Adult Ed-* to meet in March

c. *Property-* Verbal report from Matt, they meet 3-12-17. The sink in the Quilting room will be replaced, \$350.00 for Counter top. faucet to be donated by Erickson Plumbing. Mike and Matt to do the installation.

d. *LMM-* Continuing to meet on Tuesdays. Wild Game Feed on 4-29-17.

e. *Worship and Music-* No meeting in March, will meet in April. Sunrise Service Easter Sunday, Easter Sunday Service, Easter Breakfast to be by the Soft Ball Team. Possible multi parish Easter Vigil.

i. *Visual Arts-* no report

ii. *A/V committee-* New speakers were installed and working. Web site has been fixed. Working on scheduling for training in the future

f. *Global Missions, Evangelism, Social Ministry, and Scholarship-* No report

g. *Library-* No report

h. *Memorial-* No report.

i. *Youth board-* Going to Give the Kids the World in Florida, dates are June 24th through July 1st have been confirmed. Trip to Give the Kids the World. Chaperones are Laurie, Shannon, Patty, Carter, and Emily. Youth going are Taylor, Hannah, Phil, Erin, Zach, Courtney, Laura and Kaylee. Accommodations are booked and plane tickets are in the works of being bought. Play was a success, Linda passed on the "reigns" to Jordan. Nights attendance were Friday 65, Saturday 90 and Sunday 80 for an approximate total of 235.

6. Continuing business

a. Carpet for the basement was discussed for the Sunday School Rooms, Fellowship hall and the new addition. All but the Sanctuary. A quote was received from Jerry's carpet for approx. \$20,000 to \$35,000 minimum. More quotes are to come.

(Church Council Minutes Cont.)

7. New Business

- a. Deb will be taking a leave of absence from her secretarial duties from May 1 to May 17 and all of September. Rachel was asked to fill in. Motioned made, 2nd and passed unanimously
- b. March 26 will be a pulpit swap with United Lutheran in Lake Lillian. Pastor LaDonna Ekern be will here. Council unanimously approved.
- c. Discussion on keeping the congregation more informed on what committees are doing, and was decided to have the Committee Chair or Council Member of the committee or if no Committee chair to do a 5 minute temple talk on what that Committee has done. The Property Committee will have a temple talk on April 23, and for May the Parish Ed Committee will give their temple talk. Continuing on the communication from the council to the committee chair and treasurer, the council minutes will be emailed/mailed to the Committee Chairs. If no chair it will then be emailed to the Council Member.

8. Communion Assistants

April 9-Courtney Carlson; April 13-Kathy Lindblad; April 15-Lois Nelson; April 16, 7:00 am-Laura Christenson; April 16, 10:00 am-Tammy Garberich; April 23-Matt Erickson; April 30-Doug Johnson.

9. Thank You cards – Six were sent

10. Next meeting date: April 20, 2017 at 7:00 pm

11. Closing prayer The Lord's Prayer

SFE Committee meeting 3-9-2017

Present: Jon B., Gene G., Doug H., Karen S., Doug J., Jake V.

Absent: Peter S.

Business:

- 1. Reviewed the financial statement of the General Fund dated February 28,2017
YTD balance **-\$3,711.83 negative**
Total offerings for February were \$8,257.93
Total checks written were \$15,668.00
We now have 3-4 giving units using VANCO electronic giving
- 2. Discussed distribution of Lenten Offerings
1/3 go to Missions; 2/3 go to the General Fund
Council Action Requested
- 3. Discussed committee expenditures
Treasurer requests that all expenditures be "signed off" by committee chair if not ran through the church council
For purpose of Treasurer knowing that bills are legitimate prior to paying
SFE committee supports this idea
- 4. Discussed Narrative Budget composition
SFE committee suggests that at least one member of our committee learn from Pastor Erik exactly how he has composed the Narrative Budgets in the past
For purpose of "passing along" the "trade"
Jake V. perhaps interested in learning

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted. Doug Johnson, Secretary

SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH FINANCIAL STATEMENT

February 28, 2017	Budgeted	Year to Date
Disbursements – Staff	\$ 75,849.00	\$ 12,572.82
Mission Support	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 2,550.00
Operation – Expenses	\$ 61,974.00	\$ 6,843.19
Total	\$ 155,823.00	\$ 21,966.01
Year to Date Receipts		\$ 18,254.18
Year to Date Receipts Less Expenses		\$ (3,711.83)
Net Designated/Transfer		\$ 70.00
Total General Fund/Designated/Transfer		\$ (3,641.83)

Wild Game Feed

Celebrating God's Good Creation

Svea Church, Svea, Minnesota

Saturday, April 29, 2017, 5:30 p.m.

Free will Potluck

Bring your favorite game dish to share or a side (drink, chips, potatoes, beans, salad, dessert, etc)

Special Guest, local businessman, family man, and Big

Game Hunter, Mike Browner

Mike is going to tell about his recent Hunt to Africa and some life stories



Svea Lutheran Church
A rural congregation in SW Minnesota

Annual Pancake Breakfast



Easter Sunday • April 16th

8:00 am - 9:30 am

Come and support our church's softball team with a free will offering served between the Easter Morning services (8:00 - 9:30 A.M.)

The menu includes: pancakes, sausages, muffins, juice, milk, & coffee.



Protect Your Family From Home Fires!

FREE SMOKE ALARM & INSTALLATION

For Residents of Atwater, Blomkest, Prinsburg & Willmar

Saturday, April 22nd, 2017

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Thursday, April 27th (Willmar Residents Only) 5:00 - 8:00 PM



**HOW TO REQUEST A FREE
SMOKE ALARM & INSTALLATION
OR TO VOLUNTEER**

Call: 320-214-6780

- or -

Email: em@kcmn.us

The American Red Cross partnering with the Atwater, Blomkest, Prinsburg, Willmar Fire Department and the Willmar Ambulance Service to provide free smoke alarms and installation to your home.
Call today to schedule a time.

Deadline to Call is April 20th!

**Each household can request up to
3 smoke alarms.**



Maundy Thursday

The Beginning of the Three Day Feast, is the celebration and remembrance of the meal that we receive in Holy Communion. This is the night in which Christ said “take my body and my blood. Eat and Drink!” It is the night where Jesus authored a new commandment to “love one another, as I have loved you.” This is the night through an act of humility Christ declared we are called to serve one another, as he washed the feet of the disciples. This is the night in which Christ was betrayed by one of his own for thirty pieces of silver.

We remember all these occurrences tonight, we remember and celebrate the Lord’s supper. Some for the first time... We practice foot-washing. We remember our call to serve the world in the name of Jesus Christ



Good Friday

The second of the three day feast, this is the day in which we remember the trial, suffering, and death of the one who was called “King of the Jews.” This day is celebrated with many readings and time for reflection. This is the contemplative time of the three day service. We are called by God to contemplate the fullness of God’s suffering in Christ Jesus whose death was for all people. Here we also remember those who were crucified alongside Christ— those to whom Christ said “Today you will be with me in paradise.”



Easter Vigil or Holy Saturday

The highlight of the three day feast, this night is the practice of the whole story of salvation history.

The Vigil is kept so as to tell the complete story of God’s saving work in Jesus Christ. This story begins with the beginning, through the old promises to Abraham, Moses, the Disciples, the women who found the empty tomb, and for us who still are waiting. This service is our participation in creation, remembering the saints of old, and preparing for the return of the Messiah. We celebrate with fire, with movement, with song, and with joyful hearts, as we recall all that has been done for us in Jesus Christ.



‘A church without walls’

Gilberto Quesada Mora, president of the Iglesia Luterana Costarricense (ILCO, Costa Rican Lutheran Church), has an understanding of evangelism that starts with walking with others and advocating for their needs.

“The principle form of invitation that we extend is when we place ourselves along certain populations and walk with them. This can be in a public march, in a demonstration or also in a religious activity,” Quesada Mora said. “By acting naturally and being authentic, we make ourselves known in a different way.”

The church centers its mission on the most vulnerable: indigenous people, urban poor, peasant farmers, Nicaraguan immigrants, and people living with HIV and AIDS.

Founded in 1988, the ILCO has seven congregations and nine mission points with approximately 500 members. Quesada Mora estimates that it accompanies an additional 500 people through various ministries.

“The Costa Rican Lutheran Church has taken upon itself the historical challenge of accompanying and furthering the struggle to defend the human rights of [impoverished and marginalized],” Quesada Mora said. “What moves the Lutheran church is not the immediate affiliation of new members, but rather the accompaniment of processes that free people from historic bonds, be they religious, political, social and even cultural.”

The church’s commitment to personal witness and accompaniment has drawn people in. “For years our motto was ‘a church without walls,’” said Geraldina Álvarez Rocha, pastor, feminist theologian and human rights activist in the ILCO. “When people heard that, they immediately became interested out of curiosity.”

An ELCA grant helps fund work to build up more leaders like Álvarez Rocha. The project “is a proposal for the empowerment of the church, above all the empowerment of congregational leaders, working in five major areas of church life—organization, leadership formation, liturgy, sustainable stewardship and infrastructure,” she said.

One of the biggest challenges facing the ILCO, she said, is how it can distinguish itself from nongovernmental organizations. In her work, Álvarez Rocha wants the church to move from providing services to lifting up initiatives developed by community members.

“Without a doubt, I believe that the most exciting part is the fact that we have proven we can be a church that tries to reform itself in time and space,” she said. “We are a church that is moving forward with strength, slowly but surely.”

Learn more at Elca.org/globalchurch

April 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 30 9:30 am SCS, 10:00 am Coffee/Fellowship 10:45 am Praise Service/ Communion						1 Lakeland Conference Spring Gathering 9:30-10:30 am "I Love Coffee" with Rachel at the Parsonage
2 9:30 am SCS 10:00 am Coffee/ Fellowship 10:45 am Praise Service	3	4 6:00 am LMM/Bible Study Breakfast ; 1:30 pm Patience Circle at Marlene Erickson's 7:30 pm Worship & Music Mtg Family Promise	5 6:00 pm First Communion Instruction 7:00 pm Lenten Service/Coffee Following Family Promise	6 1:00 pm Quilting 7:00 pm Parish Ed Meeting Family Promise	7	8
Family Promise 9 Palm Sunday 9:30 am SCS, 9:45 Luther League Mtg, 10:00 Memorial Mtg & Coffee Fellowship, 10:45 VOW/Communion	10	11 6:00 am LMM/Prayer	12	13 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service 8:00 pm SFE Meeting Family Promise	14	15
16 Easter Sunday 7:00 am Sunrise Praise Service, 8:00-9:30 am Pancake Breakfast, 10:00 am Traditional Easter Service	17 Easter Monday	18 Tax Day 6:00 am LMM/Prayer	19 7:00 pm 2020 Meeting	20 7:00 pm Council	21	22 Earth Day  7:00 pm Easter Vigil Service
23 9:30 am SCS, 10:00 am Coffee/fellowship LBW Worship/ Communion	24	25 6:00 am LMM/ Breakfast/Bible Study Reminder articles due	26	27 Reminder Published	28	29 5:30 pm Wild Game Feed at church 

April 2017

**SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH
REMINDER
SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH
12651 15TH ST SE
SVEA MN 56216**



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Kim Gorans | 16. June Berg |
| 2. Tanner Chambers | Kylie Moran |
| Bryson Moran | Sarah Stadem |
| Tracy Swenson | 19. Abby Moran |
| 4. Camilla Erickson | 20. Madison Bowen |
| 5. Zayna Eischens | Valor Gorans |
| 6. Marcy Murano | Dustin Moran |
| 8. Lyn Hallberg | 21. Scott Swenson |
| 10. Holli Hopp | 22. Scott Feifarek |
| 11. Marlene Erickson | Dale Tonsfeldt |
| Eleanor Swenson | 23. Blake Lindblad |
| Chelsey Thompson | 24. Tracy Gorans |
| 12. Kimberly Gravley | Kyiah Oslund |
| Mary Hinthier | 25. Michael Pederson |
| Austin Kowalczyk | 26. Robert C. Johnson |
| Jason Lindblad | 28. Hubert Fixsen |
| 13. Michael Lindblad | Abraham Jacobson |
| 14. David Garberich | Brantley D. Thorson |
| 15. Joshua Larson | |
| Rachel Rundquist | |
| Kristi Schwickerath | |