

Svea Evangelical Lutheran Church

August REMINDER

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

www.svealutheranchurch.org

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

-Romans 1:7

I have now been a minister for the good news of Jesus Christ for a little more than 30 years. Some of you have been a minister for much longer others for less. In those years that we have served there have been many changes in method and location but the message remains the same: In Christ Jesus the Son of God, we are perfectly loved.

We have been working through St. Paul's letter to the church in Rome and will continue to do so in the weeks ahead. The book of Romans is one of the most influential books in the development of Christian theology and understanding of our place in God's kingdom. I encourage you to read through this letter in the month ahead, primarily because it is a complete view of the Christian life from beginning to end.

By the time Paul had written Romans he had come to the realization that Christ's return was likely not going to be in his lifetime. Paul was left to define a Christian life without the notion of an impending apocalypse. This is a change in Paul's approach, after several years of preparing people for the return of Christ, he shifts to speaking of Christianity as an ongoing living reality in the world.

This letter becomes even more relevant for those who have lived their entire lives as Christians who wonder what is the point? And how do we continue in this life that is apparently much longer than we envisioned? Perhaps we are not as enthusiastic about the faith as when we first cried out as the water was poured over our heads. Perhaps when we were confirmed we were satisfied with the Christian calling and ministry in the world? It could even be that we have given up the practice of gathering together seeing the faith as something for other people.

Christianity, is hard. To live in a reality speaking of forgiveness and love is a challenge. To speak to people about such things repeatedly, and to see the dis-belief they practice can be heart-breaking. To ask the divine for some form of intervention in a crisis and not receive the help as requested shakes us to our foundation. The difficulties in the life of ministry for all of God's priests abound daily. We are all of us priests and ministers just like Peter and Paul. Mary and Martha speaking love to the world often filled with doubt and frustration.

It is imperative then brothers and sisters that in moments of frustration, disbelief, and or random confusions that we return always to the scriptures. I invite all of us to consider the letter of Romans written for those who need good news with every aspect of life. I continue encourage you all, and pray for your ministry to continue to grow.

May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ continue to dwell in you richly in all years of being a minister of the Good News.

Pastor Erik.

AUGUST WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

USHERS: Robert Roelofs & Dan Swenson
VISUAL ARTS: Trudy Gorans & Christy Swanson

DATE	ASST MINISTER	LECTORS	GREETERS & OFFERING
August 6	Holli Hopp	Lois Nelson	Jon & Laurie Burks
August 13	Camy Erickson	Sherman Schueler	Matt & RaiAnne Erickson
August 20	Phil Stadem	John Christianson	Jason & Nicole Kowalczyk
August 27	Gene Gatewood	Jessie Gatewood	Lynn Hallberg & Troy Erickson

DATE	PROJECTION	SOUND	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	TELLERS
August 6		Scott Johnson		6
August 13	Jake Vlaminck	Jon Burks	Tammy Garberich	1
August 20		Brian Gorans		2
August 27	Scott Johnson	Erin Johnson	Jessie Gatewood	3



PICNIC IN THE PARK

There will be a potluck dinner after worship services on August 27th in the Church Park with a softball game following for anyone that would like to play. Hotdogs will be furnished, also.



On the lighter side



--To Svea Lutheran Church--

Last weekend my dad, Hubert Lindblad, and I were to your church and planted flowers on family graves. We found the Church to be open so it was pleasant to go inside and sit awhile and remember loved ones from our past. I helped myself to one of the cookbooks on display and am enclosing payment. I want you to know Svea and its Lutheran Church will always hold a special place in my heart.

*God Bless,
Connie Lindblad Jensen*



I want to thank my Svea Church family for the beautiful rose and little white flowers given to me in honor of my 80th birthday. In years past I use to think 80 was old and now I'm there also but happy for everyone I get even though my mobility is slowing down. The flowers kept well for many days for me to enjoy. Again, many, many, thanks and Gods Blessings to all of you.

Shirley Peterson

Stewardship, finance, and Estate meeting 7-13-2017

Present: Jake V., Pete S., Doug H., Doug J., Gene G.

Absent: Jon B., Karen S.

Business:

1. Reviewed the financial statement of the General Fund dated June 30, 2017
YTD balance – **(8,989.96) Negative**
 - \$1,921.50 paid for elevator repair (Property designation)
 - \$2,290.00 paid to EPH for new A/C unit at parsonage
 - Paid out of Building fund savings account
 - \$1,142.94 paid to Sound Image for electronic controller
 - Paid out of Building Fund (SUV designated funds)
 - \$5,675.00 borrowed on line of credit as of 6/30/2017
 - \$8,675.00 borrowed as of 7/3/2017
 - “Ketchup” Sunday- total intake of \$5,854.00
 - \$1,000.00 donated by Cemetery Board
 - \$1,793.00 given by members through offering
 - \$3,061.00 worship service offerings
 - Plenty of left-over groceries- will plan to do another hotdog Feed at our outside worship in the park service in August
 - NO offering collected for hotdog feed
 - Spent a total of \$18,398.87 in June 2017 (inc. building fund monies)
 - Total intake of \$13,836.00 in June 2017

2. Brotherhood Mutual Insurance
 - Current annual premium of \$6,381.00
 - As of August 2017, annual premium will be \$6,682.00
 - Paid monthly- will increase in August 2017

3. Received notification that KPC will phase out their cycled A/C program
 - Doug Hopp will investigate if this affects us at all

4. Next meeting: Sunday August 13th, 2017 immediately following worship service
 - Closed with the Lord’s Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Johnson, Secretary

Pastor's Report for July

Thank you to Jake and Stacy Vlaminck for your work with Ketchup Sunday-

- We had good participation from everyone with leftovers for a meal at the end of August.

Stephen Ministry continues in partnership with Lake Lillian.

- Currently I am working to recruit potential ministers from Svea

The dinner theater has been growing attention and interest of the larger communities

- Thank you to everyone who has been involved with this project.
- Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota is grateful for our support as well.

I have continued working with Lutheran Campus Ministry for the coming year.

- We are currently planning worship and other activities to partner with in the upcoming academic year.

There were no ministerial acts this month.

JUNE REMINDER 2017

SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	June 30, 2017	Budgeted	Year To Date
Disbursements - Staff	\$ 75,849.00	\$	\$ 37,025.03
Mission Support	\$ 18,000.00	\$	\$ 9,000.00
Operation - Expenses	\$ 61,974.00	\$	\$ 28,113.43
Total	\$ 155,823.00	\$	\$ 74,138.46
Year to Date Receipts		\$	\$ 65,148.50
Year to Date Receipts Less Expenses		\$	\$ (8,989.96)
Net Designated/Transfer		\$	\$ (3,392.94)
Total General Fund/Designated/Transfer		\$	\$ (12,382.90)

BORROWED MONEY

Loan from Building Fund as of July 3, 2017 \$ 8,675.00

Family Promise News



Our next Family Promise Host Week is only a month away – September 3 - 10. Please check your calendars to see when you will be available to volunteer. Remember we have a variety of ways to help out from driving our guests to and from the day center in Willmar, to preparing and serving the supper meal, to hosting during the evening from 5:00 to 8:00, to overnight hosting, to laundry, and finally to set up and take down of the bedrooms.

The volunteer sign up will begin Sunday, August 13th. There are three ways to sign up:

- go to our church website at www.svealutheranchurch.org and click on the Family Promise tab
- sign up at church on Sunday mornings
- call or email Karen Schueler--phone 995-6568, email shkaschu@frontiernet.net

By volunteering for Family Promise you are helping families from our area who don't have a home at present to have a safe and welcoming place to stay while they work to get their lives back on track.

As of now, we are hosting 3 families consisting of 5 adults and 5 children.

Matching Fund Offer Goal Reached

I am very happy to report that Family Promise exceeded its matching fund goal of raising \$20,000.00 by June 30th. Thank you so very much to everyone who helped Family Promise reach this goal! A special thank you also goes out to the anonymous family who offered this matching fund grant.

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Sunday Morning Coffee

Thank you to those of you who have made coffee and served treats during coffee time so far this summer.

There is a new sign-up sheet now available in the fellowship hall to sign up to serve coffee during August, September and October.

If you are willing to serve on a Sunday morning, please sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall or call Karen at 995-6568. All proceeds from coffee hour go to support mission projects throughout the year. THANK YOU!!

Your mission money at work! The mission committee just sent a \$250.00 check to the Kandiyohi County Food Shelf (formerly the Willmar Area Food Shelf) to help in their dollar for dollar matching fund raising effort going on during the month of July.

RALLY DAY IS September 10th !!!

re:form



Confirmation and Sunday School Program for 2017-18

We be using a program which involves discussion, work projects, sharing, and service projects.



Parents and Confirmation Students will be meeting at 6:30 p.m on Wednesday August 16 to discuss the year ahead.

Confirmation classes start Wednesday September 6th at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday School

Sunday School will be using a program designed to follow the church year, so that worship and education will be hand-in-hand this year. Don't be surprised to see all of our children leading us in worship throughout the year.





July 8, 2017

Executive Advisory Board

Jim Abrahamson
CEO
Interstate Hotels & Resorts

Jim Dean
President
SeaWorld Parks & Resorts Orlando

Ken Blanchard

Stephen F. Burns
Chairman of the Board
Western World Wide Moving - Bekins Van Lines

Ken Duane
Vice Chairman
Dr. Jaxx - Jar Heuser

Robert K. Gault, Jr.

Brian Goldner
President & CEO
Hasbro, Inc.

Gerald G. Jampolsky, M.D.

George A. Kalogridis
President
Walt Disney World Resort

George Michel
President & CEO
Easter Market

Dick Nunis

William N. Plamondon

Donald N. Smith

Al Weiss

Tom Williams
Chairman & CEO
Universal Parks & Resorts

Spence Wilson
Chairman of the Board
Kenneth Wilson Companies

Chairman Emeritus

Henri Landwirth
Founder Give Kids The World

Board of Directors

Jeff Vahte
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Jonathan Dodd

Shannon Gravitte

Mike Hightower

Dina Howell

Pamela Landwirth

Randy Miller

Richard E. Mitchell

James F. Moyie

Cathleen Nash

John Nichols

Crystal O'Hea

Robert Owens

Charles Seravalli

Michael J. Short

Steven R. Sparks

Stacey Sutherland

Annetta Wilson

Ms. Laurie Burks
Svea Lutheran Youth
12801 15th St SE
Blomkest, MN 56216

Dear Laurie,

On behalf of Give Kids The World Village, please accept my heartfelt gratitude for donating dolls, games, and toys. As part of our daily gift-giving program, these toys will bring huge smiles to the guests that receive them. Thank you for your generosity!

The number of children with life-threatening illnesses who wish to experience the magic of the Village continues to grow each year; we have now served over 150,000 families. Here, families with a child battling a life-threatening illness are immersed in joy, love, and hope for a few unforgettably happy days.

That wouldn't be possible without the help of volunteer Angels like you.

Each family has a very special story about their experience, but this response from a recent wish family is typical:

"The Village volunteers and staff were the best part of GKTW. I had no idea how well we would be treated, how many smiles we would see, and how the staff and volunteers would go out of their way to bring joy to our family. Thank you so very much!"

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for sharing our commitment to creating a Village where happiness inspires hope.

With love,

Pamela Landwirth
President & CEO

*Internal Revenue Service Receipt Information:
No goods or services were provided in exchange for this contribution.*





Hope and opportunity in Honduras "OUR 2 CENTS"

Miguel*, 18, is the eldest of six brothers. He lives in Honduras with his mother and stepfather in a city riddled with gang violence. Because of this violence, and because of the lack of opportunity that existed within his community, Miguel decided to leave Honduras. He left home with a friend, both of whom were in search of a better future in the United States. Traveling much of the time on foot and relying on the occasional kindness of strangers, Miguel and his friend made it to Mexico.

It was here that their attempt to migrate would come to a terrifying end.

One day Miguel and his friend were abducted by a group of armed men. They were locked in a room, where the men demanded - under the threat of violence - that they provide their families' phone numbers. These men planned to extort money in exchange for the two boys' safe release. Miguel and his friend were held for several days until the men received the money from their families in Honduras.

Just days after being released by their captors, Miguel and his friend were taken into custody by immigration officials in Mexico and deported back to Honduras.

Miguel's story is just one of many that define the humanitarian crisis that is sweeping through Central America and the U.S. - a wave of unaccompanied and migrant youth that began in 2014 and continues today. According to U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the number of children and youth who attempted to migrate had reached nearly 170,000 by the end of 2016.

These children and youth have fled already dangerous homelands to begin the equally dangerous journey from Central America in search of safety in the U.S. While many of these children remain in the U.S. to seek asylum, many others - like Miguel - are deported back to their home countries, back to the unsafe and unstable communities that compelled them to migrate in the first place.

Upon returning home, Miguel encountered the Mennonite Social Action Commission (CASM), an ecumenical partner of the ELCA whose mission is based on "a Christian ethic with a focus on human development of the poorest families and communities in Honduras." In 2015-16, CASM's ministry was supported, in part, by gifts to ELCA World Hunger.

During this period, more than 1,200 returned migrant youth received assistance from CASM during their repatriation process in Honduras. 339 of these young people participated in CASM's Reinsertion Into Community program, which provides young people with the vocational training and psychosocial support they need to successfully restart their lives.

"This is the work that keeps youth from feeling the need to migrate, the kind of work we can support no matter what our opinion might be on immigration," said Mary Campbell, director of the ELCA's AMMPARO program. "The best solution to this issue is for these young people to find a sense of safety and purpose in Honduras."



Of the 339 children in the program, 75 percent said they would not migrate again because of the new perspectives they had found through this ministry. A total of 175 migrant youth who went through the reinsertion program are working - 55 of whom have started independent businesses in the areas of food, cosmetology, hair cutting, refrigeration and cell phone repairs.

For Miguel and his friend, their vocational training took the form of refrigeration repair. They expect to start their own repair business in their community upon completing CASM's program.

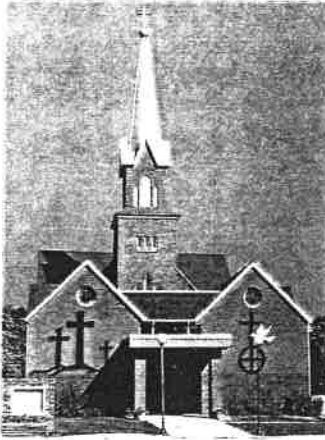
CASM's ministry provides hope and purpose in the lives of young people in the wake of extreme trauma. For Miguel and young people like him, it creates a path toward a future of self-reliance and stability - in the very place they call home.

**Name changed to protect privacy*

AUGUST 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:00 am LMM Bible Study/ Breakfast 6:00-8:00 pm National Night Out in Park 7:30 pm Worship/ Music	2	3	4	5
6 9:30 am W/OV/Communion Service; 10:30 am Coffee Fellowship 11:00 am Worship at Park # 1	7	8 6:00 am LMM/ Prayer 2:00 pm Peace Circle at Louise Swenson /potluck	9	10 7:00 pm Mission Committee meeting	11	12
13 9:30 am Praise Service 10:30 am Coffee Fellowship; Memorial & SFE Committees meet during coffee hour	14	15 6:00 am LMM/ Prayer	16 6:30 pm Confirmation meeting	17 7:00 pm Church Council	18	19 9:30-10:30 am "Coffee with Rachel" at Parsonage
20 9:30 am L.R.W Worship Service; 10:30 am Coffee Fellowship	21	22 6:00 am LMM Bible Study/Breakfast	23 Worship at Lutheran Campus Ministry	24	25  Reminder articles due	26
27 9:30 am Praise Service; 10:45 am Potluck dinner in Park & Softball game	28	28 6:00 am LMM/ Prayer Reminder published	30	31		Family Promise Week September 3-10

**AUGUST 2017
REMINDER
SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH
12651 15TH ST SE
SVEA MN 56216**



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Sean Freed | 15. Peter Stadem |
| 2. Jacob Flannigan | 18. Velma Pregler |
| 3. Mary Gort | 19. Nicholas Flannigan |
| 4. Tyler Kowalczyk | 22. Ronald Erickson |
| 5. Doug Hopp Sr. | Shannon Christopher |
| Elizabeth Ruter | Lonny Schoeppler |
| Daniel Petersen | 23. Jerry Landin |
| Jeremy Schoeppler | 24. Brook Rustad |
| 8. Robert Roelofs | 25. Lois Nelson |
| Daniel Brink | 28. Joel Freed |
| 9. Marikay Newberg | 30. Douglas Gorans |
| Steven Carlson | |
| 11. Owen Larson | |
| 12. Zachary Flannigan | |
| Wyatt Swenson | |