

# *Svea Evangelical Lutheran Church*

## *MARCH REMINDER*

*12651 15<sup>th</sup> Street SE, Svea MN 56216 320-995-6500*

**www.svealutheranchurch.org**

Signs of God's grace are abundant in our lives. Have we taken the time to notice? There is a great bleakness to the winters here. There is a great bleakness to local and national conversations with leaders unable to function in ways we might desire. There is often too much bleakness when we consider the neighbor. But to focus entirely on the bleakness of the powers of this world to provide what we need most, forces us to adopt a position of scarcity. It is to say that we are led to believe if we are lacking in one way, then we are lacking completely, and we forget the abundance of God's presence in our lives.

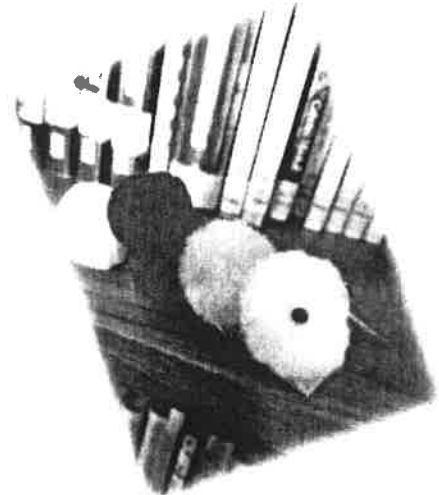
Scarcity is a popular narrative among sinners as it allows the greater sin of idolatry to take the name of a "necessity." We too easily prioritize the work we do, the resources we spend, based on the false assumption that these things are in short supply. Often, scarcity thinking even allows us to justifiably place the "needs" of one person over and against another human being. If we are entirely honest we know that there is nothing we have, that is in such short supply it can't be shared with a neighbor. If we can share with a neighbor, we have an abundance. If we have an abundance in one aspect of life, perhaps the world is not so bleak, and resource not so scarce as we have been led to believe. While the winter here may seem bleak, even the very snow that covers our landscape is a sign of God's abundant grace. When the spring comes this white blanket will provide the means for life to begin again.

As we travel through this season of Lent, we are confronted by scarcity in our surroundings and challenged to live our life as reflection of this abundance shown in the cross. What do we have that we can share? How does your life reflect God's abundance?

The Sunday school students have for the past month been creating little art signs of God's grace to place around the church. Maybe you have noticed them? I would encourage you to continually look for signs of God's grace in your church and your larger life. Where there is grace there is an abundance which we are constantly empowered to share in the love Christ Jesus.

May we continue to grow in this Lenten journey brothers and sisters.

Pr. Erik



## Svea Lutheran Church: Council meeting February 15th, 2018

**Attending:** Tracy Gorans, Doug Johnson, Lois Nelson, Dustin Moran, Kathy Lindblad, Courtney Carlson, Kaylee Vlaminck, Matt Erickson.

1. Doug Johnson called the meeting to order.
2. Devotions were read by Gene Gatewood, followed by prayer.
3. Reviewed minutes from January 15th, 2018- council approved.
4. Reviewed Pastors report.
5. Discussed committee chairpersons and secretary positions per committee. Would like to receive minute from the committees when they meet. Send minutes to either Doug Johnson or Tracy Gorans.
6. Council voted to keep the surplus from 2017 in the general fund. Council approved. The Lent offering will be split 1/3 going to Global mission and 2/3 going to the general fund. Council approved.  
Easter offering will go to the general fund. Council approved.  
Council recommended actively going forward pursuing a Youth coordinator.  
The All committee meeting is scheduled for Sunday February 25th, 2018 following church. Council members will be bringing soup, bread, milk, coffee & dessert.  
Pastor Erik and Doug will have an opening talk looking forward to 2018. Then breaking into committee tables. Have a leader for each committee table. Encouraged to invite people to attend.  
Church closed weather policy was tabled.  
Strategic Planning 2018 ideas are in process.
7. Communion training will be held at 7:00 Thursday March 15th, 2018 before the council meeting.  
Security policy was tabled.
8. Communion Assistants: March 4th - Lois Nelson  
March 11th - Courtney Carlson
9. One thank you card was sent.
10. Next meeting: Thursday March 15th @ 7:30.
11. Closing: Lord's prayer.

Tracy Gorans,

Secretary

## MARCH WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

USHERS: Wendall Dahl & Troy Erickson

DATE	ASST MINISTER	LECTORS	GREETERS & OFFERING	TELLERS
March 4	Jordan Gatewood	Holli Hopp	Jan Thompson & Ed Key	6
March 11	Holli Hopp	Karen Schueler	Peggy & Wendall Dahl	1
March 18	Camy Erickson	Sherman Schueler	Bonnie & Pete Swenson	2
March 25	Philip Stadem	Doug Johnson	Karen & Sherman Schueler	3
March 29	Jessie Gatewood	Tucker Swanson		
March 30	Camy Erickson	Holli Hopp		
April 1 (7:00)	Camy Erickson	Anne Christianson		4
April 1 (10:00)	Jessie Gatewood	Karen Schuler	Kathy & Mike Lindblad	

DATE	PROJECTION	SOUND	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	ACOLYTES
March 4	Brian Gorans	Tracy Gorans	Lois Nelson	Jacob & Steven
March 11		Scott Johnson	Courtney Carlson	Matthew & Austin
March 18	Scott Johnson	Erin Johnson		Ashley & Steven
March 25		Kim Gorans		Austin & Jacob
March 29			Tammy Garberich	Steven
March 31			Courtney Carlson	Matthew
April 1 (7:00)	Jake Vlaminck	Brian Gorans	Dustin Moran	Jacob & Steven
April 1 (10:00)			Doug Johnson	Ashley & Austin



*A big thank you to our Svea Congregation. The Super Bowl subs raised \$395.00 for the youth fund. Thanks to all who donated items and helped prepare subs. Thank you to Jon & Laurie for your work on this fundraiser. Svea Youth*



If you would like to place a flower in the church for Easter, please have it delivered on Saturday morning, March 31. You are responsible for arranging your own delivery. If you would like to acknowledge your flower in the Easter bulletin, please fill out the form below or let the office know (995-6500) by March 28th. You may pick up the plant after Easter Services. Thank you!

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Lily or other flower (please indicate which) \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

## Pastor's Report for February 2018



This report given as narrative as I will be absent at the time of the meeting.

The past three weeks have been full of great highs and lows in the life of the congregation. I give thanks for everyone who has volunteered to help with Sunday services and funeral services in the past few weeks.

Confirmation classes will be suspended through the season of Lent. The students are encouraged to be worshipping together on Wednesday evenings hearing different Pastors from around the conference in the compline style or 'night prayer' as provided for in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship resource. Thank you to Camy Erickson and Kari Stadem for their leadership to this end.

Thank you to those who participated in the Equipping Congregations Day at Bethel Lutheran on February 10<sup>th</sup>. I found the event to be very informative and energizing. Thank you to council members for your time and vision for the congregation as we met for some strategic planning on Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>. Thank you as well for hosting the congregational meeting on February 25<sup>th</sup>.

On Friday February 9<sup>th</sup> we held a funeral for Carrie Gorans.

On a personal note I will have completed EMR training on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

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### Easter Services

Maundy Thursday March 29, 7:00 pm

Sunrise April 7:00 am

Good Friday March 30, 7:00 pm

Traditional April 1, 10:00 am

Easter Vigil March 31, 7:00 pm

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*Thank you so much for the beautiful quilts for our silent auction. We served 200 people at the Tommy Swenson Memorial fishing tournament. Thanks again for all your hard work! Mary Peterson*

## JANUARY REMINDER 2018

### SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	January 31, 2018	Budgeted	Year To Date
Disbursements - Staff	\$ 76,727.00	\$	6,759.78
Mission Support	\$ 18,000.00	\$	1,275.00
Operation - Expenses	\$ 61,447.00	\$	6,433.49
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 156,174.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>14,468.27</b>
Year to Date Receipts		\$	8,193.50
Year to Date Receipts Less Expenses		\$	(6,274.77)
Net Designated/Transfer		\$	606.00
<b>Total General Fund/Designated/Transfer</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>(5,668.77)</b>

## SFE Meeting 2/8/2018

**Present:** Doug Hopp, Doug Johnson, Gene Gatewood, Jake Vlaminck

**1. Committee Officers:**

- a. Chair – Pete Swenson agreed to continue as Chairperson via cell phone
- b. Treasure -Doug Hopp
- c. Secretary – Jake Vlaminck

**2. Discussed committee membership** - Would like to recruit some diversity on the committee.

**3. Reviewed Financial Statement for Period ending January 31 2018**

- a. **YTD Balance (\$6,274.77) offerings of \$8,193.50 - \$14,468.27 in expenses.**
- b. Natural Gas cost for Heating are elevated due to market circumstances.
  - i. Questions for Property committee:
    - 1. Are Programable Thermostats set properly?
    - 2. Room Zoning and Thermostat locations optimal?
  - c. Noted Piano and Organ maintenance are charged to property line item.

**4. 2017 Surplus of \$3,208.94 fully exhausted in 2018 deficit.**

- a. **Committee recommends the 2017 Surplus of \$3208.94 be maintained in General Fund.**
- b. Currently borrowing from Building fund to balance check book.
  - i. Discussed if we should start borrowing from Line of Credit to protect building fund for projects needing funding from Building fund.
  - ii. Should interest be paid from General fund to the Building fund Or pay bank interest on Loin of Credit?
  - iii. Tabled for further discussion.

**5. Discussed upcoming offerings designations.**

- a. **Wednesday lent and Maundy Thursday offerings – Committee recommends 1/3 of these offerings are sent to Global missions and the remaining 2/3 are retained in General Fund.**
- b. **Easter offering – Committee recommends 100% is retained in General Fund.**

**6. Discussion on Youth Ministry Budget Line item**

- a. General Fund continue to support the Youth Ministries when they are maintaining a large checking account balance independent of the general fund?
- b. Should contributions from General fund to Youth Ministry be limited to 3 times the Budget amount? Similar to the Pastor discretionary fund.
  - i. Example 1: General Fund Budget = \$1000. Youth Ministry account has a balance of greater than \$3,000. The G.F doesn't contribute to the Youth Account.
  - ii. Example 2: General Fund Budget = \$1000. Youth Ministry account has a balance of \$500. G.F contributes the full budgeted amount of \$1000.
  - iii. Example 3: Example 2: General Fund Budget = \$1000. Youth Ministry account has a balance of \$2500. G.F contributes the full budgeted amount of \$500 to bring Youth account up to \$3,000.

**7. Committee will continue to meet the third Thursday of the month unless otherwise noted. Next meeting March 8<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00 PM in Church Library.**

Closed with the Lord's Prayer. Jake V., Secretary

## "Strategic Planning"- Sunday February 11,2018 @ 12:30.

Council met at Pastors house for a planning meeting for 2018.

Those attending were Doug Johnson, Matt Erickson, Gene Gatewood, Courtney Carlson, Tracy Gorans & Pastor Erik.

Prayer was said before lunch.

Lunch served by Pastor Erik.

Discussed an All Committee meeting for Sunday February 25, 2017. Council will bring soup, bread, milk. We will have tables with the committee names on them and a representative to host each table.

We would like to have a chair person on each committee and would like to get notes from each meeting.

The theme of the year is "Accompaniment" walking beside each other.

We would like to have a "Logo" design contest for Svea church.

Briefly discussed a volunteer position for working with the youth.

### **2018 EVENTS-**

February 2018 — All committee dinner

March 2018- Food packing

April 2018- Game feed

May 2018- Barn dance and Softball kickoff

June 2018- Park clean up and potluck dinner.

July 2018- VBS. Kandi Lake park service

August 2018 — National night out

September 2018 — God's work our hands. Back pack blessing

October 2018 — Pet blessing. All Hallo's eve service October 27.

November 2018 — Thanksgiving. Good grief bible study

December 2018- Senior dinner. Service in the barn. Caroling.

January 2019- Tubing event

Next meeting: Thursday Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 p.m.

Tracy Gorans, Secretary

## *Times Gone By — Written by Harold Nelson*

*Broadcasted on WCCO Radio, February 26, 1927*

*Printed in Willmar Tribune, March 9, 1927*

***Harold Nelson, president of the Svea Male chorus which on Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> rendered a concert over WCCO radio broadcasting station, gave a very concise sketch of the history of the Svea community. Mr. Nelson gave this talk during the intermission of the musical program. It was so splendidly prepared by Mr. Nelson and given by him that we are reproducing it here:***

“Three score years ago the prairies of Minnesota were being settled by immigrants from many countries of Europe. Among these settlements was one located on the prairies of the west central part of the State in Kandiyohi County, about one hundred miles west of St. Paul and Minneapolis. These pioneers came from the country of Sweden.

They built crude log cabins and sod huts to live in and frames of logs covered with dry grass served to house the little stock that they possessed.

They began the toil of converting the virgin sod into fields of waving grain. These pioneers were a religious and God-fearing people; they soon banded themselves together and built a little log church where they could gather and worship. The first church was organized about fifty-six years ago. This congregation was and remains of the Swedish Lutheran faith.

They christened the congregation Svea, which is a synonym for the name of the fatherland from which they came.

The little village which sprang up around the church as well as the surrounding community also came to be known by this name.

Much could be said about the hardships and suffering that these early settlers endured, but suffice it to say that by dint of hard work and perseverance they prospered until today:

Modern dwellings have taken the place of the humble log cabins and the sod huts.

Large and up to date barns house their stock.

The roar of the tractor in the fields replaces the slow-moving ox-teams.

Distance has changed; in place of the slow-moving ox-teams plodding over winding prairie trails, we have the modern automobile speeding over wide and hard surfaced roads, spending minutes where hours and even days were spent in going to and from the market towns.

The telephone brings the neighbors within speaking distance though they be miles apart.

The rural delivery brings mail to their doors each morning, where before they often wait weeks before they could get it. The radio, the marvel of inventions, brings the large cities to their very fireside.

In place of the little log church there stands a large and modern brick structure.

On either side of this church may be seen the tombstones marking the last resting place of these early pioneers who have all gone to their reward.

The tall spire pointing heaven-ward reminds their children and children’s children not to forget the God in whom they placed their trust.

On each Sunday morning the ringing of the church bell calls a congregation of over five hundred souls to worship and to hear the expounding of the gospel by the pastor, Rev. F. J. Ellman.

This in brief is the history of the place from whence comes this chorus to sing to you. Many of its members are grandsons of these early pioneers, every one of them born and raised on the farm and many of them are still engaged in this occupation”.

**There were 19 members in the Svea Male Chorus.**



## Lenten Personal Care Kit Collection Drive

**Donate items for Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits to help people in need.**

**In response to the many natural disasters that have occurred throughout the world this past year, the Lakeland Conference Women of the ELCA are promoting the collection of LWR personal care kits. Our Global Mission Committee has taken up the challenge and are sponsoring the gathering of items to make these kits during the Lenten season.** Our goal is to collect enough supplies to make 100 Personal Care Kits that will help impoverished people around the world stay healthy in life's most challenging situations.

Each kit contains:

- 1 light weight bath towel (dark colors are best-Minimum size 20"x40" & Maximum size 52"x27")
- 2 bars of soap (any brand 4 to 5 oz. in original wrapping)
- 1 sturdy comb
- 1 metal nail clipper (either with or without a nail file)
- 1 adult size toothbrush (in original packaging).

Each week during Lent, we'll focus on collecting one of the kit items. Please bring your donation to worship and place it in the designated box.

February 18 - soap

February 25- lightweight bath towels (Minimum 20" x 40" and Maximum 27"x 52")

March 4 -lightweight bath towels (Minimum 20" x 40" and Maximum 27"x 52")

March 11 - combs

March 18 - nail clippers

March 25 - (Palm Sunday) - soap

The kits will be assembled in May. The exact date is not yet determined.

If you prefer, a donation of money towards the project is also very helpful. It costs approximately \$9.50 to purchase the items for each kit, plus \$2.65 to ship the kit and add the toothpaste at the final destination.

If you have any questions, please contact [Karen Schueler at 995-5668 or [shkaschu@frontiernet.net](mailto:shkaschu@frontiernet.net)].





**GREEN LAKE**   
**ministries**

Summer 2018

**Get Lost!**

"Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it." Matthew 10:39

Visit our website at [www.gllm.org](http://www.gllm.org) for information about schedules, pricing and other opportunities at camp!

To Register for Summer Camp:

- Visit [www.gllm.org](http://www.gllm.org) and click the black "I Register for Summer Camp" button.
- Log in to our registration site, and select "GLLM Summer 2018"

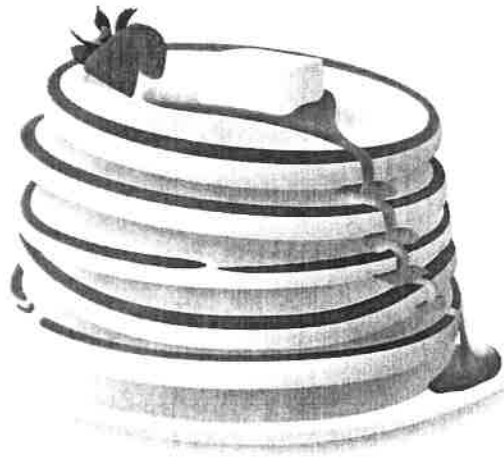
Note: We have a new and improved registration page! If you are a returner, you will need to recreate your username and password.

If needed, the Svea Church has **Scholarship** money available for campers that would like to attend. Please see Pr. Erik for questions

We would love to see you at camp!

*Svea Lutheran Church*

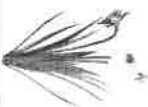




# **ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST**



Easter Sunday – April 1<sup>st</sup>  
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 am)  
The Menu includes: pancakes, sausages, muffins, juice, milk & coffee

# MARCH 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <b>4</b> 9:30 am Sunday School; 9:45 am Coffee Fellowship 10:45 am Praise Service/Communion <b>12:00 pm Confirmation</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 6:00 am LMM/Prayer <b>1:30 pm</b> Patience Circle at Delphies/potluck <b>2:00 pm</b> Peace Circle at Church	<b>7</b> No Confirmation 7:00 pm Lenten Service	<b>8</b> 1:00 pm Quilting <b>8:00 pm SFE Mtg</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  9:30-10:30 am <b>"Coffee with Rachel"</b> at Parsonage
<b>11</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am Coffee Fellowship; 10:45 am WOV/Communion Service <b>12:00 pm Confirmation</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 6:00 am LMM/Prayer	<b>14</b> No Confirmation 7:00 pm Lenten Service	<b>15</b> 1:00 pm Quilting <b>7:30 pm Council Meeting</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  Happy St. Patrick's Day
<b>18</b> 9:30 am Sunday School; 9:45 am Coffee Fellowship 10:45 am Praise Service <b>12:00 pm Confirmation</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6:00 am LMM/Bible Study <b>Breakfast</b> 	<b>21</b> No Confirmation 7:00 pm Lenten Service	<b>22</b> 1:00 pm Quilting	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 9:30 am SCS 9:45 am Coffee Fellowship; 10:45 am LBW Service; <b>12:00 Confirmation Palm Sunday</b> 	<b>26</b> Reminder articles due	<b>27</b> 6:00 am LMM/Prayer	<b>28</b> No Confirmation Reminder published	<b>29</b> 1:00 pm Quilting <b>7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service</b>	<b>30</b> <b>7:00 pm Good Friday Service</b>	<b>31</b> <b>7:00 pm Easter Vigil Service</b>

**March 2018**  
**SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**REMINDER**  
**SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**12651 15<sup>TH</sup> ST SE**  
**SVEA MN 56216**

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**March Birthdays**

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 3. Emma Skoglund        | 18. Ben Vlaminck     |
| 4. Debra Tonsfeldt      | Madelyn Swierenga    |
| 5. Marlene Christianson | 19. Linda Roelofs    |
| 8. Jennifer Jacobson    | 23. Zachary Mohr     |
| 9. Andrea Jacobson      | 25. Tricia Jansen    |
| Angela Lindblad         | Lynn Asheman         |
| 10. Jennifer Lothert    | 26. David Stadem     |
| 11. Kaitlyn Lindblad    | Tara Sickels         |
| 14. Roy Christianson    | 27. Benjamin Johnson |
| Jerome Jacobson         | 29. Kari Eckhoff     |
| Cora Lindblad           | Jacob Vlaminck       |
| Garrett Swenson         | 30. Andrew Dahl      |
| 16. Betty Peterson      | Andrew Stadem        |
| Nicholas Lothert        | 31. Sarah Nelson     |
| 17. Lyle Portinga       | Warren Matson        |
|                         | Debra Portinga       |