

Svea Evangelical Lutheran Church

AUGUST REMINDER

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

www.svealutheranchurch.org



Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving. -Colossians 4:2

Patience in expectation can be difficult. Many of us are patiently waiting for the change of the seasons. Many parents are excited for school to start again, as they listen to 'bored' children for far too many hours of the day. Other parents are anxious as their children ready for the great adventure that is the college experience. Many of our farmers are waiting patiently for the rains to end in hope of a dry and bountiful harvest. Still others wait with

timid excitement as other changes in life wait to begin with the dog-days of summer.

There are still county fairs to attend and other summer celebrations to prepare before the rush starts. August overall is wonderful time of hope for things yet unseen, and some traditions remembered with fondness. It is a good thing then to remember with a thankful heart and in prayer all that has yet to be done in this season. The writer of Colossians desires that we pray for all occasions, that through such prayer we might remember to be thankful even in the expectation of things to come.

This is certainly a challenge in all the unknowns and anticipation that we face throughout our lives. Perhaps prayer, is the consistent cure for the seemingly endless days of heat, and excessive rain. In my life patience in expectation has become a daily prayer of thanksgiving as Rachel and I eagerly await the arrival of our first-born child some time in February. For those of you who have had this experience it is exciting, terrifying, exceedingly lethargic, and increasingly expedient. This causes me to remember that prayer is central to the lives of Christians; it is our connection to peace and encouragement in transition.

I encourage all of us to pray more often; to begin with thanksgiving for all we have, to seek forgiveness in hope of reforming, and to ask God's guidance for our lives.

May the hope of God's love in Jesus Christ be with you always,

Pr. Erik



Pastor's Report for July

Thank You to everyone who assisted with VBS.

- There were approximately 12 kids throughout the 4 days. Svea will be hosting the program next year.

Thank You to everyone who helped with Family Promise. Special thank you to new volunteers this month.

“Ketchup” Sunday in the park was a good opportunity to gather and make some progress on our general fund. Thank you to those who help with setup, preparation and participation. Thank you to Jake & Stacy Vlaminck for their efforts
Luther League trip to the BWCA was cancelled for this year due to lack of participation and availability of chaperones.

Ministerial Acts: 7/14/18 Committal for Marvis Smith



PO Box 568 • Willmar, MN 56201

Dear Church,

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous donation of quilts to Safe Avenues.

Our services include emergency shelter, safety planning, safe supervised parenting time, supervised exchange of children from one parent to another, court advocacy, hospital advocacy, support groups, and assistance to victims in their search for jobs, housing, childcare and more.

For the past 35 years we have lifted the cloud of fear, restored safety, provided hope, value and dignity to the survivors of domestic and sexual violence and children at risk of abuse or neglect. In 2017 we assisted 1,462 men, women and children. There were 1,167 victims of domestic violence, 295 victims of sexual assault, 249 women, children and men needed emergency shelter, 3,926 crisis calls were answered through our 24 hour crisis line (11 crisis calls a day) and 244 children and their families were served at Harmony Visitation Center.

By supporting the work of Safe Avenues, you are ensuring that victims and families are able to regain the confidence, skills and resources necessary to move from victim to survivor and from survivor to a participating member of the community.

We wish to acknowledge that no goods, services or benefits were exchanged for this contribution.

Thank you for your support.

Safe Avenues

AUGUST WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

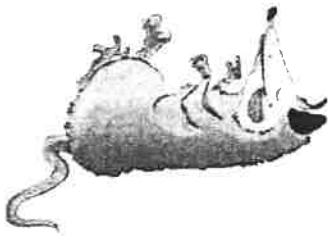
USHERS: Kim Gorans & Dan Swenson
 VISUAL ARTS: Trudy Gorans & Christy Swanson

DATE	ASST MINISTER	LECTORS	GREETERS & OFFERING
Aug 5	Holli Hopp	Karen Schueler	Laurie & Jon Burks
Aug 12	Jordan Gatewood	Peter Stadem	RaiAnne & Matt Erickson
Aug 19	Marny Behrends	Sherman Schueler	Lyn Hallberg & Troy Erickson
Aug 26	Jess Gatewood	Doug Johnson	Jan Thompson & Ed Key

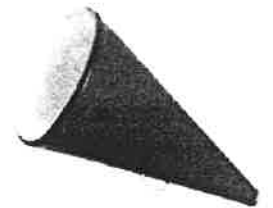
DATE	PROJECTION	SOUND	TELLERS	COMMUNION ASST
Aug 5		Kim Gorans	5	Doug Johnson
Aug 12	Brian Gorans	Tracy Gorans	6	Dustin Moran
Aug 19		Scott Johnson	1	
Aug 26		Jake Vlaminck	2	

Svea Lutheran Church Presents:

My Alma Martyr Mystery Dinner Theater



*August 23, 24, 25 at 7:00 pm
 August 26 at 12:00 pm
 Tickets - \$20*



Tickets will go on sale August 5
 (for tickets please call 320-995-6247)

**Come join the class of '48 for their 10-year class reunion from
 Opossum State College.**



*Svea Lutheran Church,
 Thank you for the gift of money for my graduation! I will be
 attending the U of M this fall and will use it wisely there.*

*Thank you for all the support over the years!
 Erin Johnson*



Svea Softball Schedule for August
 (all games are played at Swanson Field in Willmar)

August 2: 7:15 pm at Red
 August 9: 7:15 pm at Yellow



Minutes from Svea Church Council meeting Sunday June 24th, 2018

Present: Doug Johnson, Courtney Carlson, Dustin Moran, Gene Gatewood, Matt Erickson, Kathy Lindblad, Pastor Erik Rundquist

Absent: Lois Nelson, Tracy Gorans, Tammy Garberich, Kaylee Vlaminck

Call to order: Doug Johnson @ 10:45 am

Devotions: Pastor Erik

May 17, 2018 Church Council minutes reviewed- Council approved

Pastor's Report: will be printed in Reminder

Committee reports:

SFE - Published in Reminder

Some discussion on meeting our budget each month. May need Congregational meeting to up our line of credit at Concorde Bank. Would require a special congregational meeting-3 notices prior.

SFE recommended to transfer \$3000 from Memorial Fund to Property Fund for upcoming projects.

This money was donated by family who said to "use it where you need it the most."

Council approved

Amy Biggot presentation postponed until August

Signature cards at Concorde bank still need to be addressed

Property Com.-

Insurance inspector advised we update our electrical panels or would not be covered.

Bid from Pat Hentges Electric for \$3722 to update 5 sub panels at church. Another bid requested- nothing returned from company.

Council approved work to be done by Hentges Electric.

Garage door at Parsonage had track malfunction. Bids will be received.

Council approved up to \$1200 to fix and/ or replace the garage door and track.

Worship and Music-

July 8th outdoor service at Svea Park with meal to follow. SFE will supply meat and bun, chips. Rest of meal will be potluck.

We will continue to offer Communion each Sunday during the worship service.

LMM-

Golf outing in July.

(June Minutes cont.)

Continued business:

Maybe needing some new shade trees to mix in with aging trees at Svea Park.
Clean-up, repair to playground, ball field at Svea Park.

New Business:

VBS starts today at Blomkest thru Wed. Program Wed. Eve.
Pastor Erik asked that his church credit card limit be raised from \$1000 to \$5000 for the month of July.

Council approved.

Discussed the idea of entertaining a bid on our general insurance needs from Church Mutual Insurance Co. Will attempt to schedule a visit from their representative prior to our next council meeting.

Communion assistants:

July 1- Lois Nelson

July 8- Kaylee Vlaminck

“Thank You” cards:

Zero written at this time- verbal “thanks” shared with Gene G. for their family’s hospitality at the barn dance.

Next meeting: NOTE CHANGE. Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at 7:30 p. m. (possibly 6:30 p.m. Insurance presentation). Please let Doug know ASAP if you can or cannot attend on this date. 6 members are required to be in attendance to form a quorum and conduct business.

Closed with the Lord’s prayer

Acting secretary,

Kathy Lindblad



Minutes from Svea Church council meeting July 17th, 2018.

We met at 6:30 with Tim Marks from Church Mutual to discuss insurance on the church building, cemetery, parsonage, park and property. Those attending were: Tammy Garberich, Kathy Lindblad, Tracy Gorans, Doug Johnson, Pete Swenson, Pastor Erik, Doug Hopp, Jake Vlaminck, & Matt Erickson.

The conclusion of this conversation was, this policy would be more coverage less money.

Council met at 7:30 for their monthly meeting.

Those attending were Matt Erickson, Tammy Garberich, Tracy Gorans, Kathy Lindblad, Doug Johnson and Pastor Erik.

Absent were: Dustin Moran, Lois Nelson, Gene Gatewood, Kaylee Vlaminck, Courtney Carlson. Devotions were led by Pastor Erik.

We reviewed the minutes from the last meeting and council approved.

The dinner theatre pay will be held August 23-26th, 2018.

Pastor Erik read the Pastor's report.

Council voted to go with Church Mutual when our current policy expires.

The Audio-Visual committee is looking for a few people to help with the sound system and run the screen.

National night out will be held on August 7th, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

We would like to continue on doing park improvements.

5 Thank- you's were sent.

Closed with the Lord's prayer.

Next meeting will be held August 16th, 2018 at 7:30.

Respectfully submitted by Tracy Gorans

JUNE REMINDER 2018

SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	June 30, 2018	Budgeted	Year To Date
Disbursements - Staff	\$ 76,727.00		\$ 37,029.64
Mission Support	\$ 18,000.00		\$ 9,000.00
Operation - Expenses	\$ 61,447.00		\$ 32,342.88
Total	\$ 156,174.00		\$ 78,372.52
Year to Date Receipts			\$ 71,657.81
Year to Date Receipts Less Expenses			\$ (6,714.71)
Net Designated/Transfer			\$ (1,689.82)
Total General Fund/Designated/Transfer			\$ (8,404.53)

BORROWED MONEY

Transfer Building Fund Savings	\$ 200.00
Loan from Bank Line of Credit	\$ 9,800.00
Total Funds needed for June	\$ (18,404.53)

GOSPEL PROCLAMATION at the Kandiyohi County Fair



August 8th at 6:30 pm

Join Youth for Christ, Esperanza Viva, Word of Faith Family Church and Casa de Misericordia for an evening of Gospel ministry featuring Brann T., The Cody James Band and Bobby Jones on Wednesday, August 8th at 6:30-10:00 pm on the Heritage Square Stage. All that's needed is admission to the fair! Call 235-0119 with questions.

-A TRUE STORY ABOUT A DOG, AN OLD MAN AND FORGIVENESS

“Watch out! You nearly broad sided that car!’ My father yelled at me. “Can’t you do anything right?”

Those words hurt worse than blows. I turned my head toward the elderly man in the seat beside me, daring me to challenge him. A lump rose in my throat as I averted my eyes. I wasn’t prepared for another battle.

“I saw the car, Dad. Please don’t yell at me when I’m driving.”

My voice was measured and steady, sounding far calmer than I really felt.

Dad glared at me, then turned away and settled back. At home I left Dad in front of the television and went outside to collect my thoughts. Dark, heavy clouds hung in the air with a promise of rain. The rumble of distant thunder seemed to echo my inner turmoil what could I do about him?

Dad had been a lumberjack in Washington and Oregon. He had enjoyed being outdoors and had reveled in putting his strength against the forces of nature. He had entered grueling lumberjack competitions and had placed often. The shelves in his house were filled with trophies that attested to his prowess.

The years marched on relentlessly. The first time he couldn’t lift a heavy log, he joked about it; but later that same day I saw him outside alone, straining to lift it. He became irritable whenever anyone teased him about his advancing age, or when he couldn’t do something he had done as a younger man.

Four days after his sixty-seventh birthday, he had a heart attack. An ambulance sped him to the hospital while a paramedic administered CPR to keep blood and oxygen flowing.

At the hospital, Dad was rushed into an operating room. He was lucky; he survived. But something inside Dad died. His zest for life was gone. He obstinately refused to follow doctor’s orders. Suggestions and offers of help were turned aside with sarcasm and insults. The number of visitors thinned, and then finally stopped altogether. Dad was left alone.

My husband, Dick, and I asked Dad to come live with us on our small farm. We hoped the fresh air and rustic atmosphere would help him adjust.

Within a week after he moved in, I regretted the invitation. It seemed nothing was satisfactory. He criticized everything I did. I became frustrated and moody. Soon I was taking my pent-up anger out on Dick. We began to bicker and argue.

Alarmed, Dick sought out our pastor and explained the situation. The clergyman set up weekly counseling appointments for us. At the close of each session he prayed, asking God to soothe Dad’s trouble mind.

But the months wore on and God was silent. Something had to be done and it was up to me to do it.

The next day I sat down with the phone book and methodically called each of the mental health clinics listed in the Yellow Pages. I explained my problem to each other sympathetic voices that answered in vain.

Just when I was giving up hope, one of the voices suddenly exclaimed, “I just read

something that might help you! Let me go get the article.”

I listened as she read. The article described a remarkable study done at a nursing home. All the patients were under treatment for chronic depression. Yet their attitudes had improved dramatically when they were given responsibility for a dog.

I drove to the animal shelter that afternoon. After I filled out a questionnaire, a uniformed officer led me to the kennels. The odor of disinfectants stung my nostrils as I moved down the row of pens and each contained five to seven dogs. Long-haired dogs, curly-haired dogs, black dog, spotted dogs all jumped up, trying to reach me. I studied each one but rejected one after the other for various reasons too big, too small, too much hair. As I neared the last pen a dog in the shadow of the far corner struggled to his feet, walked to the front to the run and sat down. It was a pointer, one of the dog world’s aristocrats. But this was a caricature of the breed.

Years had etched his face and muzzle with shades of gray. His hip bones jutted out in lopsided triangles. But it was his eyes that caught and held my attention. Calm and clear, they beheld me unwaveringly.

I pointed to the dog. “Can you tell me about him?” The officer looked, and then shook his head in puzzlement. “He’s a funny one. Appeared out of nowhere and sat in front of the gate. We brought him in, figuring someone would be right down to claim him. That was two weeks ago, and we’ve heard nothing. His time is up tomorrow.” He gestured helplessly.

As the words sank in I turned to the man in horror. “You mean you’re going to kill him?”

“Ma’am,” he said gently, “that’s our policy. We don’t have room for every unclaimed dog.”

I looked at the pointer again. The calm brown eyes awaited my decision. “I’ll take him,” I said. I drove home with the dog on the front seat beside me. When I reached the house, I honked the horn twice. I was helping my prize out of the car when Dad shuffled onto the front porch... “Ta-da! Look what I got for you, Dad! I said excitedly.

Dad looked, and then wrinkled his face in disgust. “If I had wanted a dog I would have gotten one. And I would have picked out a better specimen than that bag of bones. Keep it! I don’t want it” Dad waved his arm scornfully and turned back toward the house.

Anger rose inside me. It squeezed together my throat muscled and pounded into my temples. “You’d better get used to him, Dad. He’s staying!”

Dad ignored me. “Did you hear me, Dad?” I screamed. At those words Dad whirled angrily, his hands clenched at this side, his eyes narrowed and blazing with hate. We stood glaring at each other like duelist, when suddenly the pointer pulled free from my grasp. He wobbled toward my Dad and sat down in front of him. Then slowly, carefully, he raised his paw.

Dad’s lower jaw trembled as he stared at the uplifted paw confusion replaced the anger in his eyes. The pointer waited patiently. Then Dad was on his knees hugging the animal.

It was the beginning of a warm and intimate friendship. Dad named the pointer Cheyenne. Together he and Cheyenne explored the community. They spent long hours

walking down dusty lanes. They spent reflective moments on the banks of streams, angling for tasty trout. They even started to attend Sunday services together, Dad sitting in a pew and Cheyenne lying quietly at his feet.

Dad and Cheyenne were inseparable throughout the next three years. Dad's bitterness faded, and he and Cheyenne made many friends. Then late one night I was started to feel Cheyenne's cold nose burrowing through our bed covers. He had never come into our bedroom at night. I woke Dick, put on my robe and ran into my father's room. Dad lay in his bed, his face serene. But his spirit had left quietly sometime during the night.

Two days later my shock and grief deepened when I discovered Cheyenne lying dead beside Dad's bed. I wrapped his still form in the rag rug he had slept on. As Dick and I buried him near a favorite fishing hole, I silently thanked the dog for the help he had given me in restoring Dad's peace of mind.

The morning of dad's funeral dawned overcast and dreary. This day looks like the way I feel, I thought, as I walked down the aisle to the pews reserved for family. I was surprised to see the many friends Dad and Cheyenne had made filling the Church. The pastor began his eulogy; it was a tribute to both Dad and the dog that had changed his life.

And then the pastor tuned to Hebrews 13:2. "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it."

"I've often thanked God for sending that angel," he said.

For me, the past dropped into place, completing a puzzle that I had not seen before; the sympathetic voice that had just read the right article...Cheyenne's unexpected appearance at the animal shelter...his calm acceptance and complete devotion to my father... and the proximity of their deaths. And suddenly I understood, I knew that God had answered my prayers after all.

Life is too short for drama or petty things, so laugh hard, love truly and forgive quickly. Live While You Are Alive. Forgive now those who made you cry. You might not get a second time. Lost time can never be found.

God answers our prayers in His time...not ours.

Written by: Connie ???

August 2018
SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH

REMINDER

Svea Lutheran Church
12651 15TH ST SE
Svea MN 56216

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

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