

Svea Evangelical Lutheran Church

NOVEMBER REMINDER

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

www.svealutheranchurch.org

*Because I could not stop for Death
He kindly stopped for me
The Carriage held but just Ourselves
And Immortality. -Emily Dickinson 1890*



This lyric of a longer poem has resonated with me throughout my life and in these past months even more yet. In my profession as a clergyman death and I are close companions, often following each other around like a rainbow after a storm. I have seen the embrace of a peaceful death after the chaos of disease. I have also read the Gospel of grace in the midst of a violent and unexpected destruction.

In my responsibility as a fireman and first responder, death is a constant adversary while ever present in the background to remind us of our own fragility. Death and I have a tumultuous relationship. I have in the same day prayed for its coming to the infirm and cursed its wickedness against the healthy. It is healthy at times to personify death as something we can picture or imagine, a reaper in the corner scratching out names on a tablet, or even a carriage driver kindly taking us on a ride home.

We are confronted perhaps too often with the stark reality that life simply ends rarely when we would like. There is no hooded figure in the corner nor a finely dressed chauffeur, just the cessation a heart-beat and the pain or relief that such a silence brings.

In the life of faith, we find ways to speak of death as an abstract theological premise from which we are saved by the incarnate Word of God. We also have come to practice theology in word and action that our faith might be pushed and molded by experience.

Speaking, however eloquently, most often falls as simply a brace against ground in which we place our saints. Here the liturgy, the act of worship grants us action, tactile sensation as the dust is poured over the casket, we experience the dust of our bones formed into the cross of Christ's victory. We also practice the receiving of a meal which brings us as close to the kingdom of God as we might get in this life. We feel the water of baptism wash over us, as it was washed over our beloved ones.

We may not always trust in these created things, we may not always find hope in the words, and that is ok. We remember those who came before us received in Christ the means to share even these simple practices with us as a reminder that when reality of life is too hard to fathom, the reality of faith guides us gently along. The text in the book of Job, a lyrical poem which also personifies death, destruction, and doubt, reminds the grieving and the lost of our true hope in the darkness of despair.

"and after my skin has been destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side" Job 19: 26.

It is good to grieve, it is healthy to have doubts and fears, it is a blessing to worship together even in chaos. May the hope of all the saints, the love of God in the Grace of Christ Jesus be with you this month and always.

Pr. Erik



Pastor's Report for October 2018

Lutheran Campus Ministry

I helped to coordinate a “steak holders meeting” on October 2nd to broaden awareness and participation in Lutheran Campus Ministry, the meeting was well received, and I look forward to sending out more of those recommendations as well as findings as we move along.

Attended the SWMN Synod Fall Theological Conference

The topic of discussion centered around worship as the means of discipleship. There were three speakers all taking different approaches to this conversation. Bishop Anderson sends his greetings as well as reporting on general health of the synod. A gentle reminder to all of us to be on the lookout for potential leaders in our midst. As well as a non-gentle reminder for pastors to maintain safe boundaries.

Thank you to everyone who helped with Josh Cofer benefit. We were able to raise a little over \$6,000 for the family.

Ministerial Acts:

10/13/18 funeral for Millicent Johnson

10/16/18 funeral for Marlys Portinga at Lake Lillian

Pastor's Dates:

November 7-12 vacation

THANK YOU SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH



What a blessing it was to receive your gift in the mail!! Thank you so much for your check of \$225.00 received on 9/25/18 designated for Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota.

Some of the dollars used are for the following:

- A hot nutritious meal or a caring companion for an older adult
- Financial or family counseling for a returning veteran
- A second chance for a homeless youth
- Independence for a person with a disability
- Recovery from natural disaster for a family trying to rebuild
- And so much more

Thank you again for our important contribution. Your gift will provide new life and hope to the 1 in 65 Minnesotans who utilize the service of LSS of MN each year.

NOVEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

USHERS: Bruce Nelson & Gary Nelson
 VISUAL ARTS: Karen Schueler & Lois Nelson & all Team Members
 COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Doug Johnson (11/3) Gene Gatewood (11/4) Tammy Garberich (11/11)

DATE	ASST MINISTER	LECTORS	GREETERS & OFFERING
Nov 4	Jordan Gatewood	Sherman Schueler	Andrea & Jerome Jacobson
Nov 11	Jessica Gatewood	Kari Stadem	Tammy Garberich & Lois Nelson
Nov 18	Camy Erickson	Karen Schueler	Peggy & Wendall Dahl
Nov 25	Holli Hopp	John Christianson	Bonnie & Peter Swenson

DATE	PROJECTION	SOUND	TELLERS	ACOLYLES
Nov 4	Scott Johnson	Jake Vlaminck	6	Tucker Swanson
Nov 11		Brian Gorans	1	Steven Carlson
Nov 18	Jake Vlaminck	Stacey Vlaminck	2	Matthew Johnson
Nov 21		Kim Gorans	2	
Nov 25	Brian Gorans	Scott Johnson	3	Jacob Flannigan



"Thank you" so much for all of the kind cards and memorial gifts of money given in the passing of our mother. Your

thoughtful words and prayers are appreciated. A special "Thank you" to all who served our family and continue to serve our congregation.

The family of Millicent L. Johnson

We are looking for any church members that would like to serve on the Church Council or perhaps any other positions in the Church. If interested, please let Pr. Erik, Pres. Doug Johnson or Sec. Deb Portinga know. Thanks



Are you missing a cake pan or any other serving dishes? Please check the church kitchen. Perhaps you forgot to pick them up.



Don't forget to check out the bulletin board for local church fall dinners & festivities.



Sunday Morning Coffee after 10:00 worship services

As we move deeper into Fall and approach Winter, it's a good time of year to gather after worship, share in some fellowship and, of course, have a cup of coffee and a treat.

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



OCTOBER 31, 1936 ~ OCTOBER 1, 2018 (AGE 81)
OBITUARY

Russell D. Osterberg was born on October 31, 1936, in rural Watkins, MN to Gerhard and Selma Osterberg. He was baptized and confirmed at Ostmark Lutheran Church. He graduated from Litchfield High School in 1953 and moved to Minneapolis to find a job. He was not quite 17 when he worked in downtown office buildings doing jobs like mail delivery, typing, and microfilming. After a few years, he continued his education at Lutheran Bible Institute, Augsburg College, and Northwestern Lutheran Theological Seminary, becoming ordained in 1967.

Russ married Ruth Hanson on May 29, 1965, at Diamond Lake Lutheran Church in Minneapolis and moved to Duluth where Russ completed his year of internship. His first call to ministry was at Balaton, MN, where he served two churches, Sillerud and Trinity. While there, the couple had two children, Kristen and Michael. In 1971, they moved to Svea, MN, where Russ was pastor for 21 years. In 1992, Russ and Ruth moved to Alexandria to fulfill his calling of chaplain at Knute Nelson Home, retiring in 2006. He was a dedicated pastor, husband, father and grandfather. He enjoyed visiting with parishioners and nursing home residents, and always had time to listen. He loved spending time with his family and friends. He enjoyed concerts, bible studies and adult forums at church, Senior College, playing Rook and 500, and doing crossword puzzles.

Russ died on Monday, October 1, 2018, at Knute Nelson in Alexandria at the age of 81. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Ruth; daughter, Kristen (Matt) Tangen of Lincoln, NE, and son, Michael of Medina, MN; grandchildren, Joelle Tangen, Lauren Osterberg, Will Osterberg, and Andrew Tangen; brother-in-law, Ordell Ritter; sisters-in-law, Karen Osterberg and Crystal Osterberg; and many other cherished family members. Russ was preceded in death by his parents, Gerhard and Selma Osterberg, his sister, Carol Ritter, and his brothers, Roger Osterberg and Doug Osterberg.

A Memorial Service will be held 11:00 AM on Friday, October 5, 2018, at First Lutheran Church in Alexandria. Visitation will be held from 4-6 PM on Thursday, October 4, 2018, at the Anderson Funeral Home and for one hour prior to the service on Friday.

A thank you sent from Ruth Osterberg:



Thank you to Svea congregation for the beautiful plant in memory of Russ. A significant part of our life happened at Svea, and it was where our family grew up.

Russ loved his ministry there and we were blessed by the many people we got to know and the many wonderful memories from that time. Some memorial gifts will be sent at later date when we can finalize things.

Ruth Osterberg



Svea Church Council minutes.

September 20, 2018

Council met at 7:30 pm.

Those present: Tammy Garberich, Courtney Carlson, Kathy Lindblad, Tracy Gorans, Pastor Erik, Dustin Moran, Doug Johnson, Matt Erickson, Gene Gatewood, Lois Nelson.

Pastor Erik led with devotions. Opening prayer by Pastor Erik.

Doug read last month's minutes, and the council approved.

Pastor Erik read the Pastor's report.

Committee reports were reviewed.

SFE is looking for guidance on capping the Youth fund or to continue to donate the \$1000 a year to the youth fund. It was decided to continue as it is now.

We need to look at a signature card for the youth fund. Dianne Johnson is the treasure now, but it ready to pass it on. We are looking at ways to give Laurie access to some funds for the youth. Recommendation is that we will supply a card of some kind to access funds, we prefer 2 signatures.

We did receive a refund from the old church insurance account. The cemetery board will pay their portion of the insurance.

Kari Stadem has put in her resignation for the organist position. We will be looking for someone to replace her as of February 1, 2019.

We discussed the Sunday school and church starting times.

Discussed communion every Sunday.

Play proceeds are going into the building fund, they are tagged for the carpet fund.

New business:

LMM fund raiser, possible dates are Oct. 7 or Oct.21st, with bake sale and silent auction.

Oct. 2, 2018 is the Lutheran Campus Ministry supper/ fundraiser. It starts at 6:00 pm. everyone welcome. Let Pastor Erik know if you can come.

2, Thank you cards were sent out.

Ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is October 25th @ 7:30.

Respectfully submitted by Tracy Gorans



SFE Meeting 10/11/2018

Present: Pete Swenson, Gene Gatewood Doug Hopp, Doug Johnson, Rev. Erik Rundquist, Jake Vlaminc

1. Reviewed Financial Statement for Period ending September 30, 2018
 - a. **YTD Balance (\$19,357.90). This includes bank loan of \$6800.00**
 - i. Offerings \$107871.11 - Loan \$6800.00 – Expenses \$115,612.01
 - ii. Borrowed \$3,722 from Building Fund
 - b. 2017 Surplus of \$3,208.94 fully exhausted and held in General fund
 - c. \$318.72 for youth moved from transferable to Youth Ministry line item expense.
 - d. Electrical panels replacement cost was \$3,722.
 - e. 75% of the way through the year Spent 74% of budget
2. Forecasted need to year end
3. Reviewed Personnel Committee notes. Recommended Salary and Wages to council for approval.
4. Discussed Feedback from Council on last month’s Recommendations
5. Supply Pastor Budget Item will need to be increased for 2019 for parental leave
6. Will be adding a line item to 2019 Budget for Communication to cover expenses for on-line social media announcements. Recommending starting at \$500
7. Discussed Cofer Benefit and how funds should be collected and Disbursed
8. Next Meeting 11/8/2018 @ 8:00 PM

Closed with the Lord’s Prayer
Jake Vlaminc



Mission committee meeting- October 2018



Family Promise. There will be a " matching funds" campaign until end of January.

\$951.00 has been given during coffee time on Sunday morn.

November we will have chance to give to local food shelf.

Instead of asking for items before Christmas for Salvation Army we will donate money this year.

Volunteers are needed to bring treats for Sunday morning coffee time

Kathy Lindblad

**thanks
for the
support**

Global Missions Committee

As the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons approach, it is a great time to stop, think about, and be thankful for all the many blessings we have received over the year. There are many ways to be thankful and one, of course, is sharing your resources with others.

In conjunction with our Nov. 4 – 11 Family Promise Host Week, special offering envelopes are being distributed with the worship bulletin on November 4 and we are asking that they be returned the next Sunday on Nov. 11. This offering will go to help fund **Family Promise of Kandiyohi County** and will be part of the \$24,000.00 matching funds available to FPKC from November 2018 through January 2019.

November is also a great time to remember the **Willmar Area Food Shelf** in your giving! Hunger is a daily issue for many people in our area and the Food Shelf is a wonderful resource in our county to help those who have a difficult time providing enough food for their families.

The Mission Committee will be meeting at the beginning of December to distribute the funds we have received over the year to various organizations in our local area and around the world. Any donation designated to the mission committee in your offerings will be used to increase Svea's ability to share with others.

Finally, the Mission Committee sends a special thank you to the organizing committee, Svea's LMM and everyone else who helped in any way with the fund raiser for Josh Cofer. It was a great event!!

SEPTEMBER REMINDER 2018

SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	September 30, 2018	Budgeted	Year To Date
Disbursements - Staff	\$ 76,727.00		\$ 54,837.29
Mission Support	\$ 18,000.00		\$ 13,500.00
Operation - Expenses	\$ 61,447.00		\$ 47,274.72
Total	\$ 156,174.00		\$ 115,612.01
Year to Date Receipts			\$ 107,871.11
Year to Date Receipts Less Expenses			\$ (7,740.90)
Net Designated/Transfer			\$ (3,542.00)
Total General Fund/Designated/Transfer			\$ (11,282.90)

Family Promise News



Our last Family Promise Week for 2018 is November 4-11.

As of the printing of this Reminder, we still have some volunteer needs for this week.

Remember there are 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. Please check our church website at www.svealutheranchurch.org and click on the Family Promise tab for the latest updates. You may also sign up at church on Sunday morning or call or email Karen Schueler--phone 995-6568, email shkaschu@frontiernet.net.

As of the present, there are 3 guest families at Family Promise – a mom with 1 child, a mom with 2 children and a single woman.

We have received our host week schedule for next year. Please take note of these dates!

Svea – 2019

Family Promise Host Weeks

March 10 – March 17

May 19 – May 26

August 11 – August 18

November 3 – November 10

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.

Thank you so much for volunteering!



Property committee meeting October 2018

1. Talked about water filters for the parsonage- all house and RO drinking faucet
2. Discussed lights. We have a lot of bulbs right now Jordan will replace ballasts as needed and use up the bulbs.
3. Mike will get the fan in the men's upstairs bathroom looked at.
4. Jordan has ordered toilet paper and paper towels from Crow Chemical in Willmar.

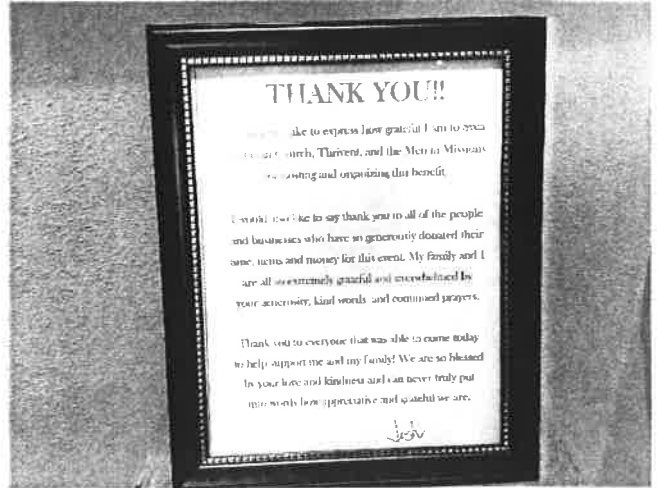
Sec. Gene Gatewood

Way to go Svea!!

Another successful benefit. Thanks to everyone who helped in anyway. The benefit raised over \$7,000 to help Josh with his medical expenses.



Josh (in the middle) with his family



A thank you from Josh Cofer



Stacey & Jake coordinated the benefit



Enjoying a delicious meal



Silent Auction



Displaying the quilts



One of the many helpers

There will be an "Open House" 90th birthday party in honor of Phyllis Gorans on Sunday, December 2, from 2:00 pm -4:30 pm at her home. Everyone is welcome.



Phyllis Gorans
Birthday



SVEA YOUTH



Thanks to all the youth and parents who came out to pack food for Feed My Starving Children. The group packed 22 boxes (36 packages in each box) out of the 117 boxes total! That will feed 70 kids for a whole year!! Way to go Svea.

Open House at the Parsonage





Sunday, December 9, 2018

12:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

Come and enjoy a light lunch, seasonal treats, coffee, and hot apple cider!

Pastor Erik and Rachel

NOVEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>4 10:00 am Praise Service/Communion 11:00 am Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 9:30 am Peace Circle at Church</p>	<p>7 6:00 am LMM/Bible Study/Breakfast</p>	<p>1 1:30 pm Patience Circle at Linda Roelofs</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 7:00 pm All Saints Vigil Services</p>
<p>11 10:00 am ELW Service/Communion 11:00 am Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship 7:00 pm Harvest Fest at Blomkest Church</p>	 <p>12</p>	<p>13 7:30 pm Council Meeting</p>	<p>14 6:00 am LMM/ Prayer 6:30 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 9:30-10:30 am "Coffee with Rachel" at Parsonage TURKEY BINGO 5:30 pm at Blomkest Community Cr.</p>
<p>18 10:00 am Praise Service/Communion 11:00 am Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 6:00 am LMM/ Prayer 7:00 pm Thanksgiving service/Communion</p>	 <p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25 10:00 am WOVS Service/Communion 11:00 am Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 Reminder articles due</p>	<p>28 6:00 am LMM/Bible Study/Breakfast 6:30 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>29 Reminder published</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>December 1 Noon Senior Dinner at church</p> 

**NOVEMBER 2018
REMINDER
SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH
12651 15TH ST SE
SVEA MN 56216**



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Frank W. Christianson
Cameron Swenson | 14. Rodney Anderson
Lois Erickson |
| 2. Christopher Gorans | 16. Rev. Erik Rundquist
Sarah Leshuk
Patrick Knake |
| 3. Cori Thompson | 17. Reid Christianson
Jamie Thorson |
| 4. Bonnie Swenson | 21. Amber Oslund |
| 6. Joseph Tonsfeldt | 22. Marcia Solbrack |
| 7. Christy Swanson
Melinda Swierenga | 24. Zachary DeGraw |
| 8. David Chambers | 25. Judy Larson
Brantley Thorson |
| 10. Patricia Flannigan | 26. Emily Carlson |
| 11. Joel Stadem
Daniel Stadem
Luke Freed | 27. Peter Swenson |
| 13. Byron Feifarek
Wesley Daniel Thompson | |