

# *Svea Evangelical Lutheran Church*

## *January REMINDER*

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

[www.svealutheranchurch.org](http://www.svealutheranchurch.org)

Happy Epiphany! As we begin this new year and new season, it is the perfect opportunity to challenge ourselves and rework our spiritual bodies into better shape for the next year! As anyone who has tried to get back into shape may recall, it can be a painful process. Yet we remember that discomfort of change is necessary for the health of the body.

*Then [Jesus] took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave to them, saying "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Luke 22:19*

You have heard it said that to receive the Holy Meal with great frequency diminishes its significance. But I ask you, does the frequency of intimacy with your partner diminish the significance of the act? Or how many have told children "You have received one hug this month, that should be sufficient for you."

Certainly not!

How many after returning home from an absence would desire to receive family with arms wide open and be embraced by those you love?

Of course, you would! The reception of Holy Communion is the physical uniting of the whole company of saints with the divine. The receiving of this meal is as close as we can get in a physical and spiritual sense to the one who formed us. Until we meet with Jesus face to face in the resurrection, this is the body of our Lord. We need this, as we need physical signs of affection from our loved ones. We do need to struggle and confront the fact that still we deny this meal to our children. We do need to change this practice to reflect our understanding of the Gospel.

The notion that we might move to choose when God's grace is efficacious or given to us is to place a condition up God's gift of Grace. To determine our own ability to receive is to declare to God, "I need not your sign of grace this week! I have done well enough, all on my own. Please do not remind me of my sins, nor reassure me of your love. I do not need you!" Whether intended in this way or not, that is the reality of such a refusal as sure as we are all redeemed sinners in God's eyes.

Just as January is the month in which many people work to make meaningful changes to their physical health, so we also can approach this new season to make meaningful change to our spiritual health. What if we approached every Sunday as an opportunity to work the whole body of Christ into shape for the challenges of the world?

Happy New Year beloved ones as we all work to get in better health!

Pr. Erik





## Pastor's Report for December

Thank you to everyone who helped with the senior Christmas dinner it was well received.

Thank you to Kari & Pete Stadem, John & Anne Christianson, Camy Wenberg, Jordan Gatewood, Kristi Oberdieck for their help with the midweek Advent services which were well received.

Confirmation is progressing well. Students are on break until January 9<sup>th</sup> when we will return to study a movie of social, cultural, and theological significance. Families and the congregation is invited to join us for the evening.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services have been planned. Thank You to Kari Stadem for her efforts.

We are still working to find a part-time music director /organist. Ads have been placed online as well as direct outreach. We will be filling the vacancy with supply accompanists until a permanent replacement can be found.

Thank you to everyone who joined Rachel and Myself for our open house- we had a lively and lovely afternoon with everyone.



## SLC Council meeting-November 13, 2018

*From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.—Luke 12:48*

### **2018 Svea Lutheran Church Council Members:**

Doug Johnson (Chair.), Gene Gatewood (Vice-Chair.), Tracy Gorans (Sec.), Dustin Moran, Kathy Lindblad, Tammy Garberich, Lois Nelson, Matt Erickson, Courtney Carlson, Kaylee Vlaminck, Rev. Erik G. Rundquist

**Absent:** Tracy Gorans, Courtney Carlson, Kaylee Vlaminck

### AGENDA

- 1. Opening: 7:30 pm:** Doug Johnson
- 2. Devotions:** Pastor Erik Rundquist
- 3. Council meeting minutes: October 25th, 2018-** motion made, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and approved
- 4. Pastor's Report:** Pastor Erik Rundquist- Verbally given. Full report to be published in reminder.
- 5. Committee Reports:**

**SFE-** Jake V. (Sec)- To be published in Reminder- Highlights discussed were drafting a letter to the congregation to balance the budget at the end of the year- Pastor Erik will assist in doing so. Discussed supply Pastor needs while Pastor Erik is on paternal leave. He will plan to use four consecutive Sundays. Pastor Erik will plan to be available for the two following Sundays and for emergency's during the 6-week Paternal leave. Laurie B. was assigned a debit card for the youth accounts. 12/6/18 will be the final budget planning meeting for SFE.

**Worship & Music-** Deb P. (Sec)- At this point we do not have a full-time organist. Still working on a solution.

**Parish Ed.-** Patti F. (Sec)- **no meeting**

**Property-** Gene G. (Sec)- Gene reported that the strobing light was replaced but the bulb didn't work. Needed an electrician to fix. In front of the doors a light is out. Received water and temp sensors from insurance company. Jordan will take care of installing them. Should a sensor go off, there is a need for up to 6 names and numbers to call for notification. Attention to dish return room needed- Has been damp and is in need of a really good cleaning.

**Global Missions-** Kathy L. (Sec)- **no meeting**

**Adult Ed.- COMMITTEE TEMPORARILY INACTIVE**

**LMM-** Peter S. (Sec)- **no meeting**

**Visual Arts-** Tracy G (Sec)- Lois did oral report—discussed Christmas decorating—Snowflakes across the sanctuary, and the alter disappearing and being replaced with the octagon table with the map of the world for Advent services, then a waterfall for lent and then the alter returning by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April. Keys will set up the large tree in the Narthex. Christmas decorating will be on 11-26 at 5:00. Discussion with the council about temporarily replacing the altar. It was decided the Altar will remain and the table will be placed before the rail.

Audio/Visual- Tracy G. (Sec)- **no meeting**  
Memorial- Tammy G. (Sec)- **oral report**  
Personnel- John C. (Sec)- **no meeting**

Library- Teresa J. (Sec)- **no meeting**  
Youth- Courtney C. (Sec)- **no meeting**

#### **6. Continuing Business:**

Funding the 2018 General Fund Budget-This was discussed during the SFE minutes. We will wait for the final budget to be presented at the December council meeting

Youth Ministry- budget line item- It was discussed that the \$1000.00 per year for the youth will be given only if the youth fall under \$3000.00 in their checking/savings accounts. A motion was made, 2<sup>nd</sup> and passed to implement this policy beginning 2018.

Communications- budget line item-proposed budget will be \$300 to \$500 per year. This is for tracking purposes.

Youth Treasurer and banking situation- Laurie B. & Tammy G.- Banking situation has been taken care of. Still in need of a replacement Treasurer for the Youth Committee

Organist-Still working on getting an organist

Communion assistants- weekly? Will continue communion every week- 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday will be council members assisting.

Thanksgiving service- Thanksgiving service is good to go... Pies and LMM to serve.

“Good Grief” bible study- will start in November possibly.

#### **7. New Business:**

Proposed 2019 budget- We reviewed a rough draft. As was discussed during the SFE report we will draft a letter to the congregation. The SFE committee will approve the letter prior to mailing. Large increase in 2019 budget for organist and for the Pension and Health for Pastor Erik and family.

Senior dinner- Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> @ 12:30pm-All is planned and ready to go.

Service in the barn- December 25<sup>th</sup> will be at Dale and Deb’s again. Thank you, Dale and Deb!

Caroling- question if it will take place this year

Nominating committee to meet- those meeting will be Matt, Tracy and Lois from council as their terms will be ending, along with Marni and Cammy. The ballot will be needed for council approval by the December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### **8. Communion Assistants:**

Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>- TBD

Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>- TBD (Thanksgiving) Lois will serve

Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>- TBD

Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>- Kaylee V. (Rail)

Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>- Lois N. (Rail)

Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>- TBD

Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> TBD - (Rail @ Christmas PM service)

Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>- Doug J. (Int. @ barn)

**9. “Thank You” cards:** None were written this month. Plan to write five next month!

**10. Next meeting:** Thursday December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 @ 7:30pm

**11. Closing:** Lord’s Prayer

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Lois Nelson, Acting Secretary.



## SLC Council Minutes for December 13th, 2018.

**Present:** Doug Johnson, Tammy Garberich, Pastor Erik, Kathy Lindblad,  
Dustin Moran, Tracy Gorans, Gene Gatewood, Matt Erickson.

**Absent:** Lois Nelson, Kaylee Vlaminc, Courtney Carlson.

Doug Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Pastor led with devotions. Doug also followed with a short devotion.

Last month's minutes had been e-mailed out and council approved.

Pastors report will be written out for the Reminder.

Global Missions met and Kathy Lindblad gave a verbal report.

LMM is now meeting Wednesdays at 6:30 a.m.

Youth committee- Laurie Burks will get a debit card to use for youth events.

Funding the 2018 General fund budget- Approx. \$12,000 is needed to year end.

Council went over the budget for 2019 and approved.

The Youth should meet to discuss possible events. They will also need to find a new treasurer

Dianne Johnson is ready to retire.

Have the Cemetery board meet so new members of the committee can learn how things are done.

We are still looking for an Organist/ Pianist/ Music director. We will need to try to fill in the calendar with a weekly schedule until someone is found.

Council discussed how often communion should be served. Pastor stated his reasoning behind why he would like it to be served every week.

Good grief bible study has been canceled.

The Christmas Eve offering will go to the general fund.

Christmas day service in the barn at Tonsfeldts will be at 9:30 a.m. Children are needed to participate in the service, talk to Deb Tonsfeldt if you would like to do this.

Council discussed the Church cancellation policy. Pastor will decide or the council president, by 7a.m. A call to operation snow desk will be made at that time. Pastor will be at church and giving his message so it can be recorded and seen on the church website, weather it is called off or not.

A 2019 Ballot is put together, council approved.

The Annual meeting will be held January 20th 2019.

We will have a Congregational Strategic planning-conversations/survey over dinner that day.

Five "Thank you" cards were sent.

Communion assistants: January 6th - Tammy (rail)

January 13th - Gene G (rail)

January 20- TBD

January 27<sup>th</sup>-TBD

Closed with the Lord's prayer.

Next meeting will be January 24th, 2019 @ 7:30 p.m.

Council minutes are respectfully submitted by Tracy Gorans

## JANUARY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

USHERS: Andy Lindblad & Scott Johnson  
 VISUAL ARTS: Karen Schueler & Lois Nelson & all Team Members  
 COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Tammy Garberich (1/6) Gene Gatewood (1/13) TBD (1/27)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ASST MINISTER</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>GREETERS &amp; OFFERING</u>	
Jan 6		Doug Johnson	Doug & Teresa Johnson	
Jan 13	Camy Wenberg	Louise Swenson	Anne & John Christianson	
Jan 20	Holli Hopp		Louise & Dan Swenson	
Jan 27	Gene Gatewood	Lois Nelson	Trudy & Doug Gorans	
<u>DATE</u>	<u>PROJECTION</u>	<u>SOUND</u>	<u>TELLERS</u>	<u>ACOLYLES</u>
Jan 6	Jake Vlaminck	Stacey Vlaminck	3	Nicholas Flannigan
Jan 13		Scott Johnson	4	Steven Carlson
Jan 20	Scott Johnson	Brian Gorans	5	Tucker Swanson
Jan 27		Kim Gorans	6	Matthew Johnson



In case of bad weather:  
 listen to *Operation Snow desk* on your local radio station. Please do not jeopardize your safety to make it to worship.



### SLC 149th Annual Meeting

SLC Annual meeting will be held after worship services on January 20th. Potluck dinner will be held after the meeting. Members with the last name A-J bring salads, K-Z bring a hot dish. Church council host and bring a dessert.

Here are ballot nominees for 2019:

**Church council** —Dianne Johnson, Jon Burks, Linda Roelofs, Brian Gorans & John Christenson

**Youth council**—Courtney Carlson

**Cemetery Board**—Terry Swenson

**Synod delegate**—Doug & Holli Hopp and Ed Key & Janet Thompson

**Head Usher**—Mike Lindblad and Dan Swenson

**Nominating Committee**— Lois Nelson, Camy Wenberg, Tracy Gorans

**Auditing Committee**—Scott Johnson

## SFE Meeting 12/6/2018

**Present:** Pete Swenson, Doug Hopp, Doug Johnson, Rev. Erik Rundquist, Jake Vlaminck

1. Doug Hopp Lead a Devotion from Mark 12:41-44 and 'Christ In Our Home' Devotional
2. Reviewed Financial Statement for Period ending November 30 2018
  - A. November offerings = \$18,466 Expenditures \$12,496
  - B. YTD -\$139.89 - Bank Loan \$6,800 -Building Fund Loan \$5,028 = -11,967.89 short fall.
  - C. 2017 Surplus of \$3,208.94 fully exhausted and held in General fund
3. Discussion on Holiday offerings Beyond General Funds.
  - A. Designations of holiday offering would need to be announced prior to the beginning of the service. Default is to the general fund.
  - B. Would not seem appropriate to make a designation after the collection if there is still a need in the general fund. However, end of year offering could be disbursed from general fund surplus.
  - C. Suggest the next two advent offering be designated to support Synod Leadership training. A Dollar for Dollar match is being offered by Bethel Church Endowment Fund.
  - D. Suggest the Christmas Eve service offering stay with General Fund. Unless otherwise indicated by donor.
4. Forecasted need to year end
  - A. Expenditures in December \$12,031.29 + Bank Loan \$6,800 + Build fund loan \$5,028 = \$23,859.29.
  - B. 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in December offering \$3,892 + 2017 surplus of \$3,208.94 reduce YE need to \$16,758.35
  - C. 4 Sundays and Christmas Eve service left in 2018 for offering collection to General Fund.
5. Long and Sincere discussion on the proposed budget for 2019.
  - A. Large increase in Disbursements section of budget Mainly due to Rising cost of Pastoral Health & Pension line as well as the organist.
  - B. Concentrated on operations section to look for budget cuts.
    1. Insurance cost have already been reduced thanks to research complete by this committee and Doug Hopp
    2. Reduced a few other line items that are in within our control.
6. Completed 2019 Budget proposal to be presented for Council approval. Final approval pending vote at congregational meeting.
  - A. Budget will increase from \$156,714 in 2018 to \$170,006 in 2019
  - B. Total increase of 8.86%
  - C. Weekly offering need for 2019 will be \$3,269.35
7. Next Meeting 1/10/2019 @ 8:00 PM  
Closed with the Lord's Prayer

***Svea Lutheran Church,***

*Thanks you for the beautiful Christmas party on Dec 1st. Thanks for the dinner, fellowship and the gift. You made our day brighter in bringing the community together.*

*Martin & Shirley Knoll.*

***To the Svea Congregation,***

*Thank you for a the wonderful Christmas lunch, program and gifts. It really put me in the Christmas mood  
Shirley Conway.*

***Gene, Shelly and all the Elves,***

*Thanks you so much for the lively party and meal. Everyone enjoys celebrating the season in this special  
ways "Chingity Ching"*

*Judy*

***THANK YOU*** to the Gatewood's and all of their helper at the Senior dinner on December 1st. The Scandinavian meal was delicious program was fun along with the visit from Santa who gave out the goody bags. Elf Henry stole the show with his basket of candy canes. What an enjoyable way to being the Christmas Season.  
*Opal Fixsen, Mae Freeberg and Ina Holt.*

***Sincere thank*** to the Gatewood's, Svea Church, the Burks, and all who took part in the dinner and gifts and entertainment. It was very much appreciated and enjoyed! God bless all!  
*Evie Bendel*



<b>Budget/Proposed</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Organist	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 8,000.00
Office Secretary	\$ 8,622.00	\$ 8,622.00
Property Manager	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
Social Security (Employee), etc		
Supply Pastors	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Pastor's Salary (3)	\$ 40,019.00	\$ 41,540.00
Pension & Health	\$ 18,973.00	\$ 27,621.00
Pastor Social Security	\$ 3,913.00	\$ 4,246.00
Housing Equity	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
<b>\$</b>	<b>76,727.00</b>	<b>\$ 93,729.00</b>
<b>MISSION SUPPORT (BENEVOLENCE)</b>		
SW MN Synod	\$ 15,300.00	\$ 15,300.00
Lakeland Conference	\$ 950.00	\$ 950.00
Green Lake Ministries	\$ 850.00	\$ 850.00
Lutheran Social Services	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00
		<b>\$ 18,000.00</b>
<b>OPERATIONS</b>		
Social Security	\$ 751.00	\$ 1,363.00
Professional Expenses (1)	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 4,200.00
Insurance	\$ 7,411.00	\$ 5,854.00
Fuel (2)	\$ 6,200.00	\$ 7,200.00
Utilities (2)	\$ 6,105.00	\$ 6,105.00
Parsonage (2)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,000.00
Property	\$ 5,075.00	\$ 4,500.00
The Lutheran	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00
Church/Office Supplies	\$ 6,165.00	\$ 6,165.00
Church-Copier/Lease, Etc	\$ 2,890.00	\$ 2,890.00
Worship/Music Ministry	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 500.00
Communications - Social Media		\$ 400.00
Youth Ministry	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Education/SCS/VBS	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 1,000.00
Library	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Delegates/Conference	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
Custodian/Contractor	\$ 8,640.00	\$ 8,640.00
Mowings/Snow Blowing	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,000.00
Discretionary Fund	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Worship Arts	\$ 160.00	\$ 160.00
Sewer Assessment	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 1,800.00
<b>\$</b>	<b>61,447.00</b>	<b>\$ 58,277.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 156,174.00</b>	<b>\$ 170,006.00</b>
<b>Per week General Fund Needs</b>	<b>\$ 3,003.35</b>	<b>\$ 3,269.35</b>
<b>Percent of Increase</b>		<b>0.0886</b>

**NOVEMBER REMINDER 2018**  
**SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

November 30, 2018    Budgeted    Year To Date

Disbursements - Staff	\$ 76,727.00	\$ 67,133.68
Mission Support	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 16,050.00
Operation - Expenses	\$ 61,447.00	\$ 55,538.32
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 156,174.00</b>	<b>\$ 138,722.00</b>
Year to Date Receipts		\$ 138,582.11
Year to Date Receipts Less Expenses		\$ (139.89)
Net Designated/Transfer		\$ 310.00
<b>Total General Fund/Designated/Transfer</b>		<b>\$ 170.11</b>

**BORROWED MONEY**

Transfer Building Fund Savings	\$ 5,028.00
Loan from Bank Line of Credit	\$ 6,800.00
<b>Total Funds needed for November</b>	<b>\$ (11,657.89)</b>



Family Promise News

Thank you very much to everyone who volunteered in any way during our hosting weeks in 2018. Our volunteers are the ones who make Family Promise possible! We still have a couple of months before we are scheduled to host again. See hosting schedule below. If you haven't volunteered yet and would like to, please contact Pastor Erik or Karen Schueler (320-995-6568). We'd love to have more people join in helping us during host weeks.

**Svea – 2019**  
**Family Promise Host Weeks Schedule**  
**March 10 – March 17**  
**May 19 – May 26**  
**August 11 – August 18**  
**November 3 – November 10**

The \$25,000.00 matching fund grant for donations to Family Promise is still available until January 31<sup>st</sup>. We haven't quite reached that goal, so if you would like to donate to FPKC, this is your chance to double the value of your donation.



**Sunday Morning Coffee after 10:00 worship services**

Coffee and treats are available after every Sunday worship service in the fellowship hall, please come. It's a great opportunity to visit with our neighbors. 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. This year we've received close to \$1300.00. THANK YOU!!





Looking Ahead to Lent

The Mission Committee is once again sponsoring the collection of **Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits** during the Lenten season. If you're out shopping and spot some good deals on toothbrushes, towels, bars of soap, sturdy combs, or nail clippers, pick some up.

# January 2019

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

		<b>1</b> 	<b>2</b> 6:00 am LMM/ Prayer	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 10:00 am ELW Communion 11:00 am SCS & Coffee fellow- ship	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 1:30 pm Pa- tience Circle at Delphie's	<b>9</b> 6:00 am LMM/ Prayer  6:30 pm confir- mation	<b>10</b>  <b>8:00 pm SFE Mtg</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>  10:00 am Praise Communion 11:00 am SCS & Coffee fellow- ship	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 6:00 am LMM/ Prayer  6:30 pm Confir- mation	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b>  10:00 am WOV Communion  11:00 am SCS & <b>Annual Meeting</b> Noon-potluck dinner	<b>21 MLK, Jr</b> <b>Day</b> 	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 6:00 am LMM/ Prayer  6:30 pm Confir- mation	<b>24</b>  <b>7:30 pm Church</b> <b>Council</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>  10:00 am Praise Communion 11:00 am SCS & Coffee fellow- ship	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 6:00 am LMM/ Prayer  6:30 pm Confir- mation	<b>31</b>		

**REMIINDER**

**JANUARY 2019**

**SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**12651 15<sup>TH</sup> ST SE**

**SVEA MN 56216**



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**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- 2. Jeremy Negen  
Troy Erickson
- 3. Pamela Moran
- 5. Alicia Oslund
- 7. Rodney Lothert
- 8. Louise Swenson
- 9. Ed Keys
- 10. Teresa Johnson  
Drake Vlaminck
- 13. Sara Freed

- 15. Troy Bjerkness  
Douglas Peterson
- 16. Doreen Cox
- 17. Aubri Beverly Lindblad
- 18. Courtney Carlson
- 19. Daniel Garberich  
Colton Swenson
- 21. Jerry Negen
- 26. Sadie Vlaminck
- 27. Laura Christianson
- 28. Kurt Garberich