

Svea Evangelical Lutheran Church
FEBRUARY REMINDER

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

www.svealutheranchurch.org

What is confession in the Lutheran tradition and what are these confessional ministers?

Christianity at its most basic understanding teaches that we are generally created good, yet terrible folks, who have been redeemed by our creator in the love of the one incarnate God, Jesus Christ. This understanding confronts us every moment of our daily lives. In order to function without being overcome by the burden of our misdeeds we come to our maker to admit or confess our transgressions.



Confession, however formalized, analyzed, and spiritualized is the act of apologizing. It is nothing more complicated than that, the words for which need be no more complex than those which we have used with our parents, family, and friends, so many times before: "I'm sorry."

A confessional minister then, is one who with compassion, and understanding encourages our apology while with empathy assures us that we are loved and forgiven.

As they were leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed him. There were two blind men sitting by the roadside. When they heard that Jesus was passing by, they shouted, 'Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!' The crowd sternly ordered them to be quiet; but they shouted even more loudly, 'Have mercy on us, Lord, Son of David!' Jesus stood still and called them, saying, 'What do you want me to do for you?' They said to him, 'Lord, let our eyes be opened.' Moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes. Immediately they regained their sight and followed him. -Matthew 20:29-34

This selection contains one of the shortest prayers in scripture, known as the 'sinner's prayer' "Have mercy on us, Lord, Son of David" or in our language- "I'm sorry Lord." Often, we find ourselves blinded by the things we have done, yet in Christ Jesus the guilt of the things we have done or not done is alleviated in our apology, and we are strengthened by our attempt to amend our lives. This is a practice that we can share together and on an individual basis. This is a calling to all the people of God, to confess, and assure one another of the forgiveness given in Christ Jesus. I pray this month we might all consider what confession means in our lives, and how we might be encouraging of one another as ministers of the Gospel.

Pr. Erik



Pastor's Report for January 2019

Just as a note to new council members pastor's report is generally highlights or special events outside of "normal weekly events" In addition to what is noted I prepare weekly sermons, devotions, meet with parishioners, participate in conference activities, Willmar Area Ministerial, Lutheran Campus Ministry, and Family Promise on a monthly basis.

Thank you to everyone who assisted with Christmas Services. There were roughly 175 for Christmas in the barn.

4 Youth will be attending a lock-in at Green Lake Bible Camp the weekend of January 25-26

Looking forward to the new year working with new members of council.

There were no ministerial acts this month

Pr. Linda Lagergren will be on call while I am on parental leave Feb. 8-Mar. 5



Svea Church Council Meeting Minutes

January 24th, 2019

Council members attending: Brian Gorans, Linda Roelofs, Tammy Garberich, Kathy Lindblad, Doug Johnson, Gene Gatewood, Courtney Carlson, John Christianson, & Rev. Erik G. Rundquist

Agenda Actions:

1. President Doug Johnson called the meeting to order
 - A. Doug welcomed new council members: Courtney Carlson (youth member), Brian Gorans, Linda Roelofs, and John Christianson
2. Devotions were presented by Pastor Erik Rundquist
 - A. Pastor illustrated the hierarchy or the ELCA Church
 - B. He then led the council in prayer
3. Council meeting minutes from the December 13th, 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved
 - A. Council meeting minutes will be distributed to council and approved electronically
 - B. Purpose is to get the meeting minutes published in the Reminder more timely
4. Pastor Erik gave his pastor report which also summarized the pastoral activities of 2018
5. Committee Reports were discussed:
 - A. Stewardship, Finance, and Estate committee
 - I. The church had a positive cash balance as of 12-31-18 after all bills were paid of \$91.57.
 - II. January 2019 offerings as of 01-24-19 totaled \$20,049 starting the year on a positive.

B. Worship and Music committee:

- I. Kari Stadem's last Sunday as the organist will be Sunday January 27, 2019
- II. Megan Gillis will fill in as organist for February, March, once in April and once in May
- III. Praise service will be every other Sunday
- IV. Pastor Erik will acquire a gift for Kari and present to her on Sunday, January 27, 2019

C. Memorial committee:

- I. Council approved a donation out of the Memorial Fund for up to \$5,000 to Bethesda to sponsor a stained-glass window as requested by the Memorial committee.

D. Lutheran Men in Mission LMM committee:

- I. Meetings every third Wednesday at 6:00 am
- II. Discussions in process for a Wild Game Feed – potentially April 27th, 2019

E. Youth committee:

- I. Potentially looking for dates to plan a tubing event

F. Congregation strategic planning:

- I. Questionnaires regarding the future of our congregation were discussed and answered by congregation during the potluck after the annual meeting.
- II. Strategic planning conversations will be revived in March, 2019 when Pastor Erik returns

6. New Business:

A. Installation of council members will take place on Sunday January 27th, 2019

B. Election of council offices to place resulting in:

- I. President: Doug Johnson
- II. Vice President: Gene Gatewood
- III. Secretary: John Christianson
- IV. Treasurer: Doug Hopp

C. Communion will be each week at the rail until Easter & Communion assistants will be:

- I. Feb 3 Kathy Lindblad
- II. Feb 10 Tammy Garberich
- III. Feb 17 John Christianson
- IV. Feb 24 Gene Gatewood
- V. Mar 3 Doug Johnson

D. Pastor Erik will send a sympathy card to the family of Roger Iverson on behalf of the congregation.

E. Next Council meeting will be February 21st, 2019 @ 7:30 pm.

F. Council discussed the opportunity to attend

- I. Equipping Congregations Day – Saturday, February 23rd, 2019 at Bethel Lutheran Church 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.

G. Closed with the Lord's prayer.

FEBRUARY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

USHERS: Jon Burks and Dale Tonsfeldt (**February**)

Wendell Dahl and Troy Erickson (**March**)

VISUAL ARTS: Tracy Gorans and Stacey Vlaminck

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Kathy Lindblad (**2/3**) Tammy Garberich (**2/10**) John Christianson (**2/17**)
Gene Gatewood (**2/24**) Doug Johnson (**3/3**)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ASST MINISTER</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>GREETERS & OFFERING</u>
Feb 3	Camy Wenberg	Lois Nelson	Mindy & Tim Swieringa
Feb 10	Holli Hopp	John Christianson	Deb & Dale Tonsfeldt
Feb 17	Jordan Gatewood	Sherman Schueler	Patti & Dave Chambers
Feb 24	Jessie Gatewood	Matthew Johnson	Linda & Bob Roelofs
Mar 3	Jordan Gatewood	Holli Hopp	Shannon & Gary Christopher

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PROJECTION</u>	<u>SOUND</u>	<u>TELLERS</u>	<u>ACOLYLES</u>
Feb 3	Brian Gorans	Tracy Gorans	1	Matthew Johnson
Feb 10		Kim Gorans	2	Steven Carlson
Feb 17	Scott Johnson	Jake Vlaminck	3	Jacob Flannigan
Feb 24		Brian Gorans	4	Nick Flannigan
Mar 3	Jake Vlaminck	Stacey Vlaminck	5	Matthew Johnson



Happy Birthday

There will be an open house
"90th" Birthday Party for Dick
Gratz on February 3, 2019
from 1:00—3:00 p.m. at



2019 Yearbook

Ebenezer Church in Kandiyohi.

No gifts, please. All are Welcome!

We will soon be publishing the yearbook again. If you have a change in your address or phone numbers, please let the church office know so we may update the Yearbook. Thank you,

Debra, Parish Secretary



*Thank you for your beautiful
Christmas Eve service. It was such
a blessed time for us.*

Palmer Norling.





Notes from Worship and Music 1/17/19

Megan Gilles will be here February 10 & 24, March 10 & 24, April 7, May 5

Megan has been contacted regarding possible Holy Week services

Kari will continue to work with the praise group until they are comfortable with the music to take the lead on their own. Kari will continue to pick the praise music for those Sundays

Lent will begin the use of the 3- part corporate confession to be led by volunteer ministers

Tom Erickson who has tuned our organ for several has retired. We will need to find some to tune the organ from time to time.

We have permission to us a Lenten guitar liturgy from a Lutheran composer named Mark Anzelo, possibly for Lenten Midweek services.

There may be an opportunity for a country music liturgy as a part of our worship rotation.

There was discussion about compensating our praise team participants or assisting ministers for their time in the coming year.

The committee as well as congregation are encouraged to continue looking for individuals who may be interested in being our music director

Respectfully Submitted: Pr. Erik



Thank you, congregation, for the extravagant gift certificate to the Arrowwood Lodge in Alexandria. I will certainly enjoy spending time there!

Thank you also for all your support through these years. From organ lessons to appreciative comments to making sure your children participated in various musical events, you have brought me a lot of joy as we've made music together. I pray that Svea remains a "singing congregation," and I look forward to continuing to participate with you in worship of our Lord.

With love,

Kari Stadem



Visual Arts Committee

Met after church on Sunday Jan. 27, 2019.

Present were Trudy Gorans, Karen Schueler, Stacey Vlaminc, Tracy Gorans, Holli Hopp, and Louise Swenson.

Schedule for 2019.

Feb-March-April – Stacey Vlaminc & Tracy Gorans

May- June-July – Holli Hopp & Louise Swenson

August- Sept- October – Trudy Gorans & Christy Swanson

November-December-January – Karen Schuler & Lois Nelson

Items discussed:

Schedule.

Holli is doing the sign in front of the church, if we need any adjustments let her know.

Easter is April 22, 2019.

\$50.00 is the amount for altar flowers.

Put up banners when you would like to and you can pick what you would like up.

After a funeral make sure to water the flowers that are left for the church and put the wood tables away.

Submitted respectfully,

Tracy Gorans



A Book Review on the subject of confession and forgiveness.



This short essay written a little over 20 years ago outlines a theological calling and a humanitarian approach to working within the fractured systems of repressive and formerly repressive regimes towards a model of justice for the oppressor and the oppressed. While some of the information is dated, it is an interesting look at how this approach has helped in certain nations and where the work of non-violence and Christian led reconciliation has brought systematic change to parts of the world even half a generation later.

It is an interesting read as we continue to find ourselves in divided times on a national level.

Available in the Library- Pr. Erik

Walter Wink "When the Powers Fall: Reconciliation in the Healing of Nations
Fortress Press, Minneapolis 1997, 75 pages. Young Adult- Adult Non-Fiction

***Svea Lutheran Church
149th Annual Meeting
January 20, 2019***



Vice President Gene Gatewood conducted the annual meeting.



The Sunday School Children entertained the congregation with a couple of songs.

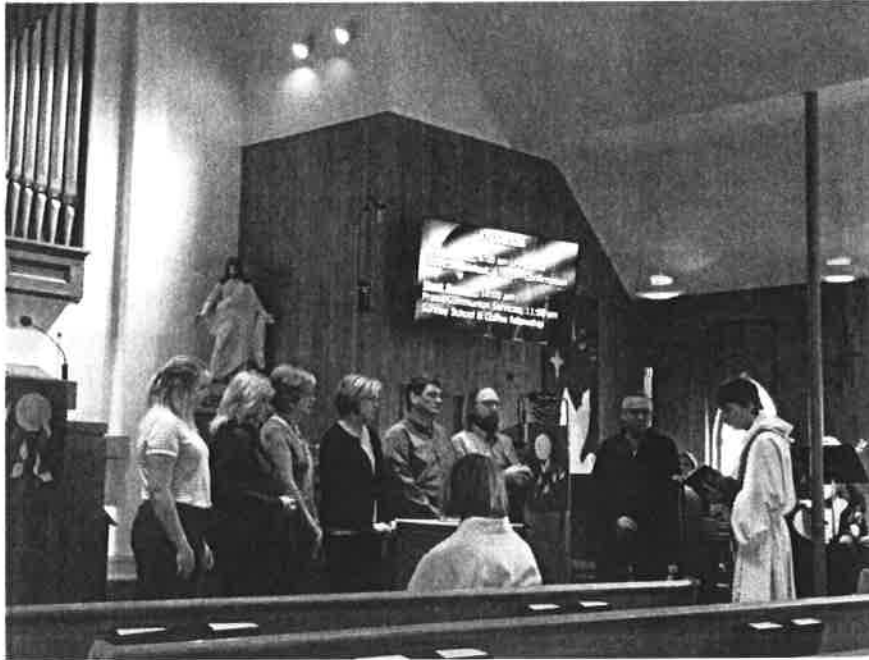


Church members enjoyed a potluck dinner after the meeting.



There were 48 voting members attending the Annual Meeting.

Newly elected Council Members for 2019 are: Linda Roelofs, Brian Gorans, Courtney Carlson, and John Christianson. Present Council Members are: Kathy Lindblad, Tammy Garberich, Doug Johnson, Gene Gatewood and Dustin Moran.



Council Members being installed on Sunday, January 27th.



Kari was presented with a gift certificate for her many years of service as music director.



2020 Committee Report

Svea. A wonderful name for a community. A wonderful name for a little girl that lives in Portland, Oregon. Svea. "The Swede place". A reminder of the life a church and its community has built together and what it will forward to the next generations, some which have already scattered and moved away from this unforgettable, unique spot in all of our hearts.

That is what the 2020 committee has been working on since it's inception three years ago. We are now one year away from the finish date. Our 150th anniversary as a church has sparked an interest among the members of our committee to write down community history as well as sharing stories of how the good Lord has blessed this sweet place and formed the good lives of so many church members. The task has prompted some of us to conduct diligent Genealogy research. I know of two family history books that were written this past year which are a result an fee interest sparked by our upcoming church anniversary book.

It is not too late to add to the anniversary book. If you have a story to tell about an event that happened which had an impact on your life, or would like to share an old story your grandparents used to tell when all the cousins got together, we encourage you to step up to the plate and share that precious memory. All stories long or shot are welcome. Don't be shy.

Jan Thompson



SFE Meeting 1/6/2019

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

Reviewed Financial Statement for Year End Dated 12/31/2018

Reminder that Budget is on a Cash Basis. All Bills and offerings received on or before 12/31/2018
Would be on 2018 Budget. Any offerings received after that date would go towards the 2019
Budget.

In December we received \$20,765 in Offerings. December Expenses were \$11,824. Disbursed
\$24,122 – All Debts have been paid off.

2018 Year End Balance \$91.57

Discussed that all Accounts need to be audited by the Auditing committee.

Next Meeting 2/14/2019 @ 8:00 PM

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

February 2019

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2
3 10:00 am Praise Worship; 11:00 am SCS & Coffee fellowship	4	5 9:30 am Peace Circle at Church	6 6:00 pm Confirmation	7 1:00 pm Quilting	8	9
10 10:00 am ELW Worship; 11:00 am SCS & Coffee fellowship	11	12	13 6:00 pm Confirmation	14 <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i> 1:00 pm Quilting 8:00 pm SFE Mtg	15	16
17 10:00 am Praise Worship; 11:00 am SCS & Coffee fellowship	18 	19	20 6:00 am LMM/ Bible Study/ Breakfast 6:00 pm Confirmation	21 1:00 pm Quilting 7:30 pm Church Council	22	23 8:30 am-3:30 pm Equipping Congregation Day at Bethel Church, Willmar
24 10:00 am WOV Worship; 11:00 am SCS & Coffee fellowship	25	26	27 6:00 pm Confirmation	28 1:00 pm Quilting		 Family Promise March 10—17

REMIINDER

FEBRUARY 2019

SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH

12651 15TH ST SE

SVEA MN 56216



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Madison Lindblad | 16. Glendon Pregler |
| 5. Levi Lindblad | Andrew Swenson |
| 7. Kent Jacobson | Joshua Mott |
| Jon Burks | 17. Tina Bloch |
| 8. Bruce Nelson | Tyler Arhendt |
| Gary Christopher | 19. Stephen Stuhr |
| 10. Taryn Moran | 21. Joshua Boone |
| 11. Christopher Swierenga | 22. Evelyn Mikes |
| Braidan Landin | 24. Lindsey Elliott |
| 14. Pearl Berg | 25. Julie Newberg |
| 15. Dawn Oslund | Markus Citterman |
| Mackenze Eischens | 27. Liz Gorans |
| Jack Christianson | 28. Katie Ross |