



Svea Evangelical Lutheran Church

NOVEMBER REMINDER

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

www.svealutheranchurch.org

2022



505 years ago, lead by the study, efforts and work of Dr. Martin Luther, the Protestant Reformation occurred and thus the beginning of the Lutheran Church. The protest was over the Roman Catholic Church collecting Indulgences, money that is, for the purpose of people believing that their sins would be forgiven as a sign of repentance and thus they would gain entrance into Purgatory, a place to reside until one was granted access to Heaven. Martin Luther vehemently opposed this practice and idea. He then authored the 95 Theses which contradicted the practice and theology of the Catholic Church and nailed the document to the door at Wittenberg. There was a huge outcry from the Pope and the Catholic Church. Martin Luther became a wanted and hunted person. It almost cost him his life.

Martin Luther's stand and faith was based not on what we do or do not do, but by the Grace of God and his works thru Christ we are given faith and are granted salvation and Eternal Life. It is not by works and good deeds, but by Faith that we have a relationship and future with God. Our good deeds are a result of what God thru Christ has done and is doing for us. As Luther stated, we are all beggars. We are Saints and Sinners at the same time. We live and believe by Grace.

Following the Reformation, The Christian Church deemed Nov 1 as All-Saints Day. It is a time set aside as we pause to honor all of our loved ones who have died and are now Saints. Svea and Calvary Congregations will pause during the Church service to read the names of those who have died the past calendar year and light a candle in their memory. They are Saints. We also recognize and remember the newly baptized because they too are Saints. In the eyes of God, we are Saints who are forgiven and are Children of God. We belong to God.

Reformation Day and All-Saints are of great importance in the life and faith of God's people. These days are of great importance and commemoration in the life of a Christian. We recognize our history and give thanks for what Christ is doing in our lives and those we love. To demonstrate our Thanks, Calvary has invited Svea congregation to join them for a Thanksgiving Eve Service at 6:30 on Wed Nov 23. Two lay speakers which include Louise Swenson from Svea will give a brief talk on "What I am Thankful for this Year". The service will be followed by Pie and Coffee in Bethany Hall.

Thanks to All!!! My Best!!

Pastor Dean

Svea Evangelical Lutheran Church
Council Minutes: 10/13/22
Reported by: Kristi Gatewood



Present: Josh Larson, Christy Swanson, Kristi Gatewood, Louise Swenson, Lois Nelson, Jake Vlaminc, Diane Johnson, Carter Christopher, Pr Dean Johnson
Absent: Tucker Swanson

Pastors report from Pastor Dean:

- Homebound Communion- Calvary pastors plan to visit shut ins to give communion 3 times per year. Pastor Dean suggested we have congregational members visit and give communion as well. The council agreed that this was a good idea. If you are interested in volunteering please let Kristi Gatewood know. If you think of anyone who would benefit from a visit please let the Svea office know.
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- Thanksgiving Eve- A motion was made to have no service at Svea on Thanksgiving Eve. The motion was seconded and passed the council vote. Service will be at Calvary at 6:30pm followed by pie and coffee.
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- Pastor Naomi has resigned from Calvary to pursue a position with the synod. A reception was held at Svea on October 23rd with rolls and a special gift for Naomi. Calvary is holding a reception from 9-10am on October 30th.
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- Christmas Eve- A motion was made to hold Christmas Eve service at Svea at 6:30pm. Motion passed. Services will be held at Calvary at 3:30pm, 5pm, and 10pm.
-
- Christmas Day- Christmas in the barn will be held at the Tonsfeldt Farm at 9am. Calvary will hold service at 10am.
-

The Family Promise organization will be visiting Svea on November 13th to give a presentation. Josh will make arrangements with Karen.

Affirmation of Confirmation of Ty Larson was approved by council.

Financial Report- Jake

There is an issue with the online giving service through the Venmo service.

Council discussed passing the offering plate. The plate will not be passed during the service. It was decided that a note will be put in the bulletin and a sign will be placed by the plate at the back of the sanctuary to let people know.

Statement from SFE on Potential sale of the parsonage: "If the parsonage is sold, the funds should be deposited into an endowment fund with strict parameters set after congregational discussion."

The property committee has interviewed 2 realtors to gather more information about possible sale of the parsonage. Jake suggested an additional realtor to interview.

An open conversation was held on October 16th to discuss the congregation's thoughts on the idea of selling the parsonage. Another meeting will be held during coffee time on November 13th.

Lois reports that the third floor Sunday school is going great. They plan to meet every other week.

Council suggested that the Property committee look into replacing the lights and fans in the Sanctuary.

NOVEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Communion will be the first and second Sundays of each month.

Contemporary Service Kari Stadem and Gatewood Family, Accompanist

Traditional Service Megan Gilles, Organist

Communion Assistant: Jake Vlaminck

Visual Arts: Karen Schuler, Lois Nelson and all Team Members

Ushers: Bruce Nelson and Gary Nelson

	<u>ASSISTANT MINISTER</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>Tellers</u>
Nov 6	Karen Schueler	Louise Swenson	5
Nov 13	Jordan Gatewood	Doug Johnson	6
Nov 20	Holli Hopp	Arianna Gilles	1
Nov 27	Gene Gatewood	Lois Nelson	2

	<u>Screen</u>	<u>Sound</u>
Nov 6		Scott Johnson
Nov 13	Brian Gorans	Ben Johnson
Nov 20		Kim Gorans
Nov 27	Scott Johnson	Jake Vlaminck

Pastors for November Worship

Nov 6	Pr. Ingrid Skilbred
Nov 13	Pr. Dean Johnson
Nov 20	Pr. David Severtson
Nov 27	Pr. Dean Johnson

Office hours:

Monday: 10 am to 2:00 pm
 Thursday 10:00 am—12:00 pm (Hours vary on Thursdays)



Pastor's office hours:

Monday: 11:00 am—2:00 pm



Ladies' Bible Study

Ladies' Bible Study will meet on Tuesday, 1:30 pm at the Middle Fork Café in Willmar. All ladies are welcome to attend.

SEPTEMBER REMINDER 2022

SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	September 30, 2022	Budgeted	Year To Date
Disbursements - Staff	\$ 102,262.00		\$ 50,514.16
Mission Support	\$ 14,745.00		\$ 19,640.86
Operation - Expenses	\$ 47,560.00		\$ 35,439.93
Transfers			\$ 8,034.00
Total	\$ 164,567.00		\$ 113,628.95
Year to Date Receipts and Transfers			\$ 97,764.96
Year to Date Receipts Less Expenses			\$ (15,863.99)
Year End Carry-over for Benevolence Dist			\$ 12,405.89
Total General Fund/Designated/Transfer			\$ (3,458.10)
Total Funds available after September 2022 expenses:			\$ (3,458.10)

Thank you for your gift to God's Work-Our Hands. The offering plates are for your convenience at the entrance to the Sanctuary.

October 9, 2022

Dear Svea Members,

It is with mixed emotions that I announce that I will be resigning from Calvary to accept a new call. I am being called to serve as The Synod Minister – Equip Congregation Leaders for the Southwest Minnesota Synod of the ELCA.

When I started at Calvary 8 years ago, as an interim pastor, I did not imagine that I would have the privilege of serving with you for this long. It has been an honor and joy for me to be your pastor and share in your lives.

I am grateful for your kindness and support to me and my family over these eight years, and all the ways you have helped to me to grow in my life in Christ. While I am sad to be leaving Calvary, I am excited to be able to serve the larger church in a position where I believe I can use my gifts for ministry in a new way.

My last Sunday will be October 30th and my last day in the office will be October 31st.

Fortunately, this new call does not require me and my family to move, so I will continue to live in the Willmar area. I will be happy to see you and greet you if we bump into one another when we are out and about. However, it is church protocol that I will no longer be your pastor and will not be able to serve you in that capacity after I leave.

I am confident that you will be in good hands with Pastor Dean, Pastor David, and Svea's lay leadership as God leads this congregation into the future.

Let us keep each other in prayer as we go through this transition. You will always have a special place in my heart, and I pray that you will always know God's presence and grace.

"I am confident of this, that God who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1: 6

In Christ,

Pastor Naomi Mahler



**CONGRATULATIONS AND
BEST WISHES**

to the following people

Lyn Hallberg and Troy Erickson who were married on July, 14, 2022.

Sydney Tyler and Joseph Tonsfeldt who were married on August 20, 2022.

Jacki Jensen and Josh Larson who were married on October 22, 2022.

Kristen & Sam Bowen on the birth of their twins— a boy and a girl. Born on September 20, 2022. There names are: Oakley Jean and Liam Jerald.

NOISY OFFERING

The Noisy Offering is one more way we can teach our children the importance of giving and serving. After today, starting in November, we will do this on the first Sunday of each month. During the closing song, Sunday School children will go into the congregation with tin buckets to collect your spare change. We hope to make a lot of noise as the coins fall into the bucket! In other churches children eagerly await this Sunday and participate energetically. The noisy offering will be designated for a need determined by the Sunday School. Thank you for your participation!



Lois Erickson's 90th Birthday

(November 14)

It is with an abundance of caution that there will not be a party for Lois' 90th birthday. We are asking you to give her a call on or around November 14th, send a card (no gifts necessary), or take her out for coffee or lunch. She will enjoy these visits more than a crowd. She would love to hear from you.

She resides at : Copperleaf Assisted Living

1550 N. 1st Street

Willmar, MN 56201

Ph: 320-894-4644

Don't forget to check out our church's website at: **svealutheranchurch.org**

The website has worship services schedules, worship streaming, monthly reminders, family promise and much more.

Dear Svea,

Thank you so much for the lovely basket of goodies you gave me at my going away coffee. You all will always hold a special place in my heart. I am grateful for the opportunity I've had over the past year to have been able to serve you as one of your pastors. Svea Lutheran Church is still a vibrant and caring congregation. It was a true gift to have shared in ministry with you this past year. God is faithful and will continue to be with us all as we step into the future. It is exciting to see what God might be up to!

In Gratitude,

Pr. Naomi Mahler



VP Jake Vlaminc presented a farewell gift basket to Pr. Naomi Mahler. It has been a privilege to have Pr. Naomi serve our congregation. God's blessing to her.



Ty and Pr. Dean Johnson



Congratulations to Ty Larson on his confirmation. He was confirmed at Calvary on October 9th and was also recognized at the Svea service. He is the favorite son of our Council President Josh Larson. God's blessings to him.



Family Promise News



Thank you to everyone who prepared suppers for our host week Oct. 23 – 29. It is much appreciated by the families we serve!!

Our Family Promise Director, Kelsey Vosika, will be attending our Sunday morning coffee time and worship service on November 13th. She will be here to talk about our Family Promise Mission and where we are headed in the future to help families in our area who lack housing. She is also looking forward to meeting people at Svea who have supported and volunteered with Family Promise.

Karen Schueler, FP coordinator



Thanksgiving eve service will be held at Calvary Wednesday eve, November 23, 6:30 pm. Coffee & pie will be served following the service.

Sunday Morning Coffee Hour

There have been several requests to start our coffee time earlier, so from now on coffee will be ready at 10:00. As always, the mission committee is asking for volunteers to help make the coffee and to also bring treats. Please sign up to serve on the list in the fellowship hall where you get your coffee. Thank you!



**The Svea Church Council has requested the Property Committee
to research the future of the Parsonage.**



October 16, 2020 10:00 am – Fellowship Hall – First conversation

November 13, 2022 10:00 am – Fellowship Hall - Second conversation

December 11, 2022 10:00 am – Fellowship Hall -Third conversation

January 15, 2023 follows 11:00 Worship – Annual Meeting

Three realtors have been interviewed. Selection will be done by Property Committee approved by Church Council. Parameters for realtor hired will be determined at negotiated contract first by Property Committee and final approval by Church Council.

Considerations that have been discussed to date:

Trend: candidates would rather buy a home to earn equity.

A candidate who wishes to buy their home increases the pay schedule by approximately 30%.

Property Committee is aware that there are inherent problems using a house as a rental.

Houses need to be occupied to keep them healthy. Yes, the Parsonage has sat vacant up to two years knowing that our Svea Church would go into a call process. Current situation(s) indicate that our Svea Church is financially unable to afford to call a candidate. This unfortunately is a trend for many rural congregations.

Our relationship with Calvary Lutheran is currently under contract. Church Council is optimistic that this arrangement is stable.

Costs to maintain Parsonage:

No minister in residence 10/2021 – 9/2022 \$4,086.12

Includes rented softener \$589. Softener removed 10/2022

Minister in residence 6/2020 – 5/2021 \$5,962.93

Friend in Faith event at the Gatewood Farm was fun for all ages.



Stella and Thea



Lunch was served after worship services before heading out to the Gatewood Farm.



Jessica and Jordan



Entrance to the corn maze



Enjoying a good meal



Gatewood helpers



Waiting for the hayride to start



Owen shoveling kernels of corn



Beautiful day for a hayride.



Lola and Owen



Lola, Olof and Owen



Jacki & Josh

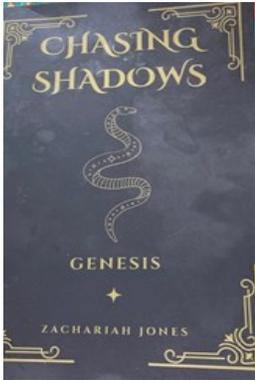


The Bounce House



Deb and Lyle

The library committee has been very busy cleaning, organizing, and coming up with new ideas. Come and enjoy the library, pick up a book, check out the devotionals, self-help books, craft books, history books and so much more.



Chasing Shadows by Zachariah Jones is one of the new books in the library. It is written by Zack Thelen-Liebl who was born and raised in Willmar. Inside the front cover of the book is the article about him that was in the West Central Tribune.

This book is about good versus evil. Placed in St Paul during the 1920's the author takes back in time to the life style back then along with taking us down the streets of old St Paul. It is about an unexpected death in the O'Connell family that the police and private detectives have been unable to solve. Jarek receives a letter from an unknown person who lives in the household to have him come and help solve the murder as he is their last resort and Jarek has an unusual way of investigating. Jarek arrives at the O'Connell home a few days before Christmas. From there things get interesting, from trying to solve the murder, to trying to figure out who sent the letter, to who the ghosts are, to who the demon is.

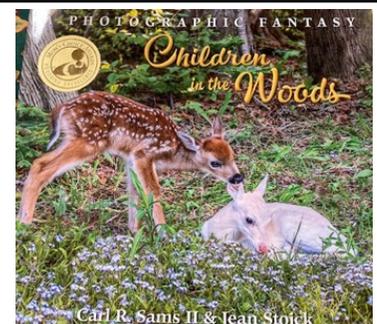
I enjoyed his writing style, along with the location being in St Paul. It is a good versus evil book. Is not scary in any way,

Book read by Lois Nelson



Children in the woods is written by Carl R Sams II and Jean Stoick. This can be found in the Childrens section, however it is a great book for kiddos from all ages 1 to 110. Sams and Stoick are from Minnesota The pictures in their books are amazing, and the story like is sweet. Have a few minutes, pick it up, relax and enjoy. Each time you look at a picture, you see something different.

Book Read by Lois Nelson



Please feel free to write a note about the books you have read in the library and put it in the reminder. Is fun to share what one is reading, gives us a chance to read something different than we usually do. Keep looking for new additions to the library. Also check out the amazing jig saw puzzles to check out.

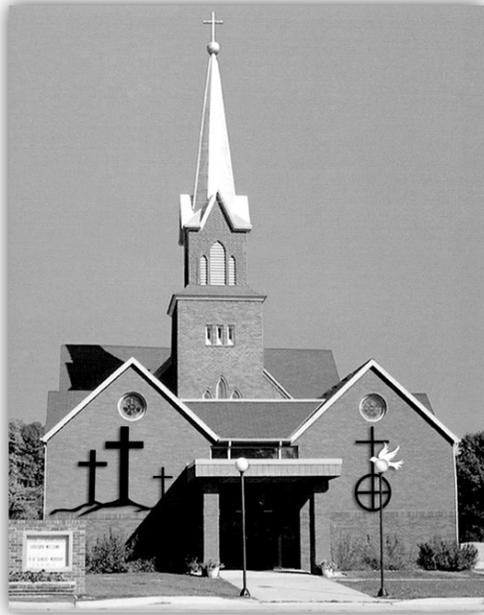
SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR



NOVEMBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 1:30 pm Ladies Bible Study at Mid- dle Fork Cafe	2 6:00 pm Confirmation	3 6:30 am LMM 8:00 pm Worship/ Music meet- ing	4	5
6 9:45 am Sunday school 10:00 am Coffee 11:00 am ELW Worship	7	8 	9 6:00 pm Confirmation	10 6:30 am LMM 8:00 pm SFE	11 	12
13 9:45 am Sunday school 10:00 am Coffee 11:00 am Praise	14	15	16 6:00 pm Confirmation	17 6:30 am LMM 7:30 pm Church Coun- cil	18	19
20 9:45 am Sunday school 10:00 am Coffee 11:00 am ELW Worship	21	22	23 6:30 pm Thanksgiv- ing eve ser- vice at Calvary	24 	25	26
27 9:45 am Sunday school 10:00 am Coffee 11:00 am Praise	28  Reminder articles due	29	30 6:00 pm Confirmation			

REMIINDER
NOVEMBER 2022
SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH
12651 15TH ST SE
SVEA MN 56216



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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| 1. Frank W. Christianson
Cameron Swenson | 14. Rodney Anderson
Lois Erickson |
| 2. Christopher Gorans | 16. 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 | |