



April 2026



HILL AND VALLEY PARISH NEWS
Svea and Eidsvold Lutheran Churches

Greetings from the Parsonage,

As we walked home from the last midweek Lenten service, Kari and I stopped in our tracks at the sound of Trumpeter Swans. The benefit of living in the Mississippi Flyway is that we get to see an array of migrating birds in astounding numbers. At first, we did not see the swans, we could only hear them. And heard them we did! Trumpeter Swans are hard to miss when they get going—they earn their name. After staring up at the sky for a little bit, we finally saw them—a wedge of two hundred or so Swans bound for Alaska. The sight was enough to put us in complete silence. The birds flew above the tree line over the parsonage, and in our captivation, we could hear the sound of their wings rhythmically flapping. That slow powerful movement whispered down to us and I was humbled by the glory of God’s creation. If I had never heard their trumpeting, I may have walked on, gone inside, and completely missed the low sound of their flapping. However, I heard the trumpet and took the time to listen further.

Easter Sunday is the sound of a trumpet—it gets our attention. Easter is hard to miss, it brings folks who rarely worship into the sanctuary with gusto—but there is another sound that God makes in our lives. That sound is the low, slow, often easy to miss, call of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit moves in our lives so we may move in our lives. The Spirit calls us to the people and places who sit apart from the love, light, and fellowship that we enjoy with Christ. The Spirit calls us to serve as we are able in those places. In this season of Resurrection, do not let Easter—that Trumpet—be the end of listening for God. Keep your ears open for the hushed sounds. Lent is a season of prayer and reflection, and in many ways, a season of training to listen deeper and closer to the call of our God. Our Lord gets our attention so we might give Him our heart and ear—and follow as He bids us. It is my hope to see you all this Easter and the Sundays that follow, and that you will continue to listen for the low call of our God.

Blessings,

Al Aakre
Eidsvold-Svea Lutheran Parish
(608) - 799 - 9703

We are excited to announce **electronic** giving through **Vanco!**
Your generosity will help us impact our community with the good news of the gospel.

Try the QR codes printed below.

Eidsvold



CONTACT INFORMATION

PASTOR AL AAKRE 608-799-9703
AAAKRE002@LUTHERSEM.EDU
CHURCH: BELUTHER@BEVCOMM.NET
OFFICE 715-594-3182
LEAVE A MESSAGE

CHURCH SERVICE INFO

EIDSVOLD LUTHERAN CHURCH
W6111 COUNTY RD EE
BAY CITY WI 54723
APRIL SERVICES
AND SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:30 AM

SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH
N2610 770TH ST
HAGER CITY WI 54014
APRIL SERVICES
9:00 AM

Parish Social Media

Facebook
Church Website
<https://www.eidsvoldsvea.com>



Sunday, April 5th!

April Birthdays



Eidsvold

- 2 - Oakley Yarwood
- 3 - Haley Donley
- 3 - Sally Larson
- 4 - Reggie Schroeder
- 6 - Jenny Scharpen
- 6 - Anne Girdeen
- 10 - Pastor Mike Knudson
- 10 - Michael Johnson
- 11 - Kathy Hanson
- 20 - Calvin Langer
- 20 - Dale Sears
- 24 - Angela Peterson
- 29 - Donna Barr
- 29 - Max Mandelkow
- 30 - Presley Salava

Happy Birthday



Svea

- 6 - Bill Emery
- 6 - April Sarnstrom
- 14 - Shirley Bostrom
- 15 - Kathy D'Ann
- 18 - Elwyn Manore
- 23 - Debi Emery
- 25 - Bonnie Curry

Did you know Pastor left a message on **YouTube** the Sunday church was cancelled?

There's also other interesting messages on **Svea YouTube** as well as Svea's worship each week. Check them out at <https://www.youtube.com/@SveaLutheranChurch> or simply google Svea Lutheran Church, Hager City WI

Once you're there, click on YouTube.

Pastor and others are currently creating an **Easter Worship that will be on this Youtube for Easter**. So check that out too!

There's already a wonderful Christmas service on it.

PRAYER LIST

Prayers for Healing

Margaret Group, Karl Group, Jim Bostrom, Lisa Tesch, Barry Barringer, Darrell Schuster, Liliah Larson, Gail Gusa, Virgil Hinrichs, Tammy Price, John (Butch) Sebion, Sandy Place, Bob Soden, Wendell Manore, Dave Ericson, Elwyn Manore

Prayers for Sustained Strength and Comfort

Norma Hanson, Laura Anderson, Larry Gerdes, Terrence Emery, Chris Larson, Rose Ann Powers, Gerry Hoffman, Connie Rieck, Julie Patterson, Jim Swenson, and all caregivers in our parish

Prayers for our Ministry Partners

Bishop Martin Halom, the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, Debi Emery, Isaac and Isabella Thrill, Zeke and Cassie Wettstein, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi

Prayers for those serving in the military

Carson Anway, Tyler Ballman, Nathan Solomon



Community Events



Svea Quilters

2nd and 4th Tuesday

April 14

April 28

9 am-noon

No experience is needed. All are welcome!

BETHEL'S BASEMENT BLESSINGS

New Community Outreach

FREE Monthly Shopping

at Bethel Covenant Church

W8405 Cty Rd KK, Ellsworth WI

715-792-2397

Shopping will be held each month on the

3rd Tuesday and Wednesday

11 AM - 6 PM

Volunteers Needed

At the **Pierce County Food Pantry**

in Ellsworth.

Just a few hours a week will help.

Clean, friendly environment.

Call Heidi at 715-821-7763 for more information.

EUCHRE



Friday, April 3 is Good Friday.

Therefore, NO cards this month.

Ruby's Pantry

First Saturday of the Month

April 4

10-11:30 at

Pierce Pepin Co-op



Morning of Music with Warren Petryk

Wed. April 15, 10 a.m.

at Bethel Covenant Church,
W8405 County Rd KK, Ellsworth.

Freewill offering

Lunch will be provided.

See Poster on bulletin board



Mark your calendar:

**Eidsvold will host the
Ecumenical Choir**

Sunday April 12 at 7:00 pm

(The Sunday after Easter!)

**Come and relax and enjoy a great
message through music.**

Invite a guest!

Happy Easter

LIGHTHOUSE

Middle School Youth Gathering

5th - 8th Grade

Saturday, April 11

9:00 am - 4:15 pm

Bethany Lutheran Rice Lake, WI

Word in Season

Devotionals

April - May - June

Available

Retreats for Women!!

St. Croix Valley Conference Morning of Renewal

Saturday, April 18, 2026

Theme: The Freedom that God provides Through Forgiveness”

Encouraging, uplifting, and insightful!

Rebekah Storey is a captivating and unforgettable storyteller.

She will share the lessons that God taught her so each of us can discover that forgiveness is possible no matter the circumstances.

She'll share events from her life that

- Shaped who she has become
- Taught her lessons she never thought she'd never need to learn
- Forged a strength she never knew she would need.

Cost: \$15 which includes lunch. Registration 8:30 a.m. Program 9:15 a.m.

You do not need to register in advance – just come.

Phyllis is planning to attend so contact her about a ride!

See poster on bulletin board

NORTHWEST SYNOD OF WISCONSIN

WELCA WOMEN'S RETREAT

God Is Writing Your Story

Speaker: Pati Kachel

<https://www.theparablefund.org/bio>

Monday and Tuesday, June 29 & 30

One day option available for Monday, June 29

\$95.00 (2 days) Early bird special available until 6/5/26

\$65.00 (Monday) Early bird special until 6/5/26

Luther Park Bible Camp

944 24 ¼ Street Chetek, WI

Contact Barb Krug for more information

715-965-5696 or barbkrug@charter.net



EIDSVOLD HAPPENINGS

Thank you for your Time and Talents

Readers

Eidsvold

- April 5 Karen Brostrom
- April 12 Tana Langer
- April 19 Mandy Rikli
- April 26 Michelle Plote

Thank you!

April

Altar Committee

Tracie Esterby

Bake Communion Bread

Phyllis Beastrom

April 5, 19

Wash Communion Glasses

April 5 _____

April 19 _____



Ushers

April 5 _____

April 12 _____

April 19 Mandy, Taylor, Tom

April 26 _____

Rotation will be starting soon. Please let Lee Langer know if you are able to usher. If there are 24 volunteers, that would only be ushering about 4 times a year!

Sunday School News!

PLEASE CONTACT BREE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE THAT WOULD LIKE TO JOIN SUNDAY SCHOOL!

WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR EXTRA PEOPLE TO HELP WITH OUR CHILDREN.

BREE_LUND@OUTLOOK.COM OR 651-764-2227



Behind the scenes:

Do you know who teaches 1st Communion classes to the 5th graders?

Answer:

Tracie Esterby

Easter Gift Bags

Thank you to everyone that filled an Easter Bag!
What a great way to make a child's Easter special!

Confirmation Schedule

9th Graders

5:30 Meal 6:00 - 7:00 Class

at Eidsvold

Wednesday, April 8th

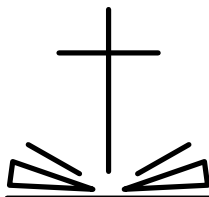
Wednesday, April 15

Wednesday, April 22

Wednesday, April 29

Wednesday, May 6

Confirmation Day Sunday, May 10



STRENGTHS

Did you post your thoughts on the board?

It would be appreciated if everyone could add one idea!

SWOT

STRENGTHS

Weaknesses

Opportunities

Talents

Next....

WEAKNESSES

Areas we can improve.

Post your thoughts on the board!

What do you want our church to offer?

Expectations and Ideas welcome!