

### October 2025

## HILL AND VALLEY PARISH NEWS Svea and Eidsvold Lutheran Churches



Greetings from the Parsonage,

I have been thinking a lot about prayer recently, and how it is often misunderstood. At the state fair in late August, I passed someone wearing a shirt that read:

Thoughts and Prayers
Policy and Change

Because Kari has often reminded me that strangers do not want to hear me explain why their theology is poor, I walked on without setting them straight. But since I have an article in the newsletter, I thought I might explore the topic here. "Thoughts and Prayers" and "Policy and Change" are not mutually exclusive phrases. In fact, separation robs both of their meaning. Let's begin with what prayer is not. Prayer is not wishful thinking. God is not a genie who owes us a wish or two. Prayer is not without obedience. This means that praying is rarely the end of our role. There has to be an acceptance (obedience) to whatever God calls us to do in this world, and for whatever His will ultimately is. Sometimes we don't like God's answer, but that is the risk that comes with letting God into our lives. Through prayer, we will be changed.

What is prayer? Prayer is humility. For Jonah, prayer begin when he was in the belly of a fish, ready to give up on life. He writes, "When my soul fainted within me, I remembered the Lord; and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple." When the powers of this world and himself failed, Jonah turned to God in prayer. That is humility. That is where prayer must begin.

Prayer is as much about listening as it is talking. Sometimes we use prayer to get God's attention, and sometimes God uses prayer to get our attention. I am reminded of the congregation who long prayed for young families to join their community. Each Sunday, this was in the petitions. Then one day, the congregation was approached by the Lutheran Refugee Services and asked to help resettle a family who evacuated Afghanistan when the U.S. withdrew. That was not what they had in mind when they prayed, but it was exactly what God had in mind for them. I tell my confirmation students that prayer is stepping into the intersection of two roads; one that leads from our home, and one that leads from God's. We take the good and bad of our lives, lift it to God, and God guides us through— sometimes with deliverance, sometimes with a voice in our heart, sometimes with a cry from our neighbor.

What is policy and change? That's an easy one to answer—I don't know. A policy or change can take many forms in our nation, community, or lives, but I do know that for success to be found, they must be rooted with prayer. God speaks to us in prayer so we might be changed, and enact policies—personal or legal—that glorify Him.

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

## **Parish Social Media**

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

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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



## **October Birthdays**

Eidsvold

1 - Leonard Gilbertson

6 - Isabelle Peterson

11 - James Pritchard

11 - Reese Mandelkow

11 - Karen Fuller

13 - Chad Peterson

16 - Fay Albarado

16 - Faith Edwards

19 - Laura Peterson

19 - Heather Mark

25 - Carson Richardson

26 - Mary Finkelson

28 - Judy Lacroix

30 - Fletcher Owen

Lappy Birthday

12 - Dan Maxwell

19 - Rick Phillips

22 - Kari Aakre

22 - Tammy Strain

28 - Sheryl Fritz

29 - Paul Curry

30 - Deb Carlton

# Note: Service Time changes starting in October!

#### CHURCH SERVICE INFO

EIDSVOLD LUTHERAN CHURCH
W6111 COUNTY RD EE
BAY CITY WI 54723
OCTOBER SERVICES
AND SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:00 AM

SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH N2610 770TH ST HAGER CITY WI 54014 OCTOBER SERVICES 10:30 AM

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

Svea

**Eidsvold** 



Try the QR codes printed below.





#### **PRAYER LIST**

Prayers for Healing Lorna Eidem,

Tammy Price, Phyllis Beastrom, John (Butch) Sebion, Jim Bostrom, Mick Borst, Jerry Lacroix, Alvin Eidem, Ann Blue, Sandy Place, Dave Betthauser, Bob Soden, Wendell Manore, Dave Ericson, Maisley Maxwell, Elwyn Manore Prayers for Sustained Strength and Comfort

Verlene Benck, Laura Anderson, Larry Gerdes, Terrence Emery, Chris Larson, Rose Ann Powers, Gerry Hoffman, Connie Rieck, Mavis Flack, 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 (CRU), Isaac and Isabella Thrill, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi

Prayers for those serving in the military

Carson Anway, Tyler Ballman, Nathan Solomon, Andy Smith

## **Community Events**

## Svea Quilters

2nd and 4th Tuesday October 14th October 28th

9 am-noon

No experience is needed. All are welcome.

#### **EUCHRE**

Friday, October 3, Euchre resum Meet at 7:00 at Eidsvold Bring a snack to share (optional). Coffee will be provided.

## Pie and Ice Cream Social

Wednesday, October 1st Eidsvold Lutheran Church 4 - 7 pm

Eidsvold women, please make a pie and deliver to the church on Wednesday.

Serving sandwiches, barbecues, pie & ice cream!



#### **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.

## **SVEA CHURCH HAPPENINGS**

Help is needed for setting up communion. Anyone who could help for a month or a couple of weeks, please let Bonnie Hasenberg know.

(612-720-7411) Thank you

Contact Bonnie Hasenberg if you have information you want included in the newsletters 612-720-7411.

## Blessing of the Quilts

We will be having the blessing of the quilts on October 5th before they are sent off.

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## The No-Bake Bake Sale

Will be held during the month of October! All donatons are welcome and a quilt will be given to a lucky winner!

## **Shop Early**

**SVEA Cookbooks are available for** Christmas gifts and can be purchased for \$25. Ornaments / Magnets are also for sale for \$12.

If anyone has pictures from Svea's 150th celebration, please give any extra pictures to Mary Shaver as we want to keep record of the occasion

## EIDSVOLD HAPPENINGS

## Thank you for your Time and Talents

#### Readers

#### **Eidsvold**

Oct 5 Tana Langer
Oct 12 Rita Anderson
Oct 19 Kari Aakre
Oct 26 Karen Brostrom

### **Ushers**

Oct 5 Mary W and Jan K
Oct 12 Rita A and Karen B
Oct 19 Alvin and Lorna Eidem
Oct 26 Franklin family

## **October**

#### **Altar Committee**

**Mary Williams** 

#### **Bake Communion Bread**

Rita Anderson October 5, 19, 26



#### **Wash Communion Glasses**

October 5 Mary W October 19 Mary W October 26 Mary W

### **Church Cleaning**

**Eidsvold** 

Oct 5 \_\_\_\_\_ Oct 12

Oct 19 Alvin and Lorna

Oct 26 \_





#### What we will be learning about:

September 28 - Noah's Ark

October 5 - Abram's Call

October 12 - Abraham & Sarah's visitors

October 19 - Isaac's Blessing

Otober 26 - REFORMATION SUNDAY (No class - kids will sing in church!)

**Looking Ahead - In November Christmas Program Practice begins!** 

WE ARE EXCITED TO RETURN TO SUNDAY SCHOOL!





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





Thank you to everyone that helped on Rally Sunday to made our hot dog lunch a success! It was a great turn out. Thank you Lee Langer for donating the hot dogs.

## Confirmation Schedule 6th Grade

**Catechism and Lutheran History** 

October 1

October 8

October 15

7th Grade

Lutheran Living

October 27 October 29

Meet at 5:30 for a meal Class-will be 6:00 - 7:00

Thank you, Phyllis, for providing school kit bags.
Bags (and lists of items) are at each church ready
to be filled. LWR kits include:

- School Kit
- Personal Care Kit
- Baby Care Kit
- Fabric
- Quilts

### **Eidsvold Council Meeting** September 4, 2025

- Sunday School Rally Sunday is Sept 14.
- Met at parsonage prior to meeting do discuss bat/bee issues. Motion made and seconded to get a pest person to solve the problem
- Try three Christmas Eve Services this year
  - o 2 pm at Svea
  - o 4 pm at Eidsvold
  - o 8 pm at Svea
- Reviewed Financial Information for a 5-year plan
- No Windows this year. We will ask at the Annual meeting about anyone willing to donate money from the Memorial Fund for basement windows.
- C & T Siding gave a quote of \$20,000 for six windows
- Possibly some windows in the Parsonage need to be replaced as well. Will check to get a quote on those as well.
- Drain tile would help in the furnace room. Lee will check with township regarding tar to build a lip on the edge of the yard/driveway to stop waterflow
- Basement flooring Carpet cleaning looks good, we will hold on flooring until water issue with landscaping, 2026 plan.
- Discussed parsonage rental.
  - Keep it the same for now
  - Railing to the basement needs to be installed for safety
  - Rental agreement needs to be finalized for tenant to sign and council to do a walk through annually.
- Pastor's benefit packaging through Portico is changing. We will discuss best option for his family and the church. TBD.
- New member Sunday November?
- Pie and Ice Cream Social will be Wednesday, Oct 1. Proceeds for the Window Fund.
- God's Work Our Hands project Fall cleanup at the Eidsvold Cemetery. This will be Sunday, Oct 12th following the 9 AM service. Food/beverages will be proveded.

Submitted by Kendara Hanson Council Secretary



## God's Work, Our Hands Project

**Eidsvold Cemetery Clean-Up** 

Sunday, October 12, 2025

Following the 9:00 am Service Food/beverages will be provided.

Wear your work clothes and bring gloves, rakes, scrub brushes, buckest, weed trimmers, tarps, and any equipment that may be needed for clean-up. Your help is needed and appreciated!