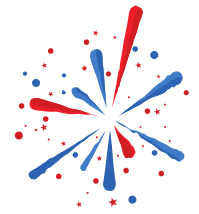


July 2025

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

Warm Greetings from the Parsonage!



Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

– John 21:25

The Bible is the story of God's conflict and victory over all that opposes Him. This opposition comes in many forms; the emptiness in the beginning, the Serpent in the Garden, the wickedness of humanity, the waves against the ark, the wilderness around the Tribes, the nations that move against Israel, the supposedly-faithful followers that move against Jesus, the Death that overtakes the God of Life. Yet, each tale ends with God victorious. However, the Bible is not simply a look into the past, but our current lives as well. Although millennia separate us; we find ourselves in the misdeeds, mistakes, and misguided adventures of the past; we find our own struggle and heartache; we find our pain and sorrow. We also find our God, answering the needs of His people and claiming victory over this world. Reading forms a gateway for God to speak into our lives, into our struggles, into the center where He belongs. If Jesus was able to break the power of death, what in our lives can stand against Him? If He has promised to shatter our tombs, what can keep us from living faithfully?

But how do we actually do it? How do we read Scripture?

The Psalter begins by urging us to meditate on the Word of God, day and night. The Psalmist says we will become, "like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." That word meditate can bring to mind yoga classes, or low-humming, or a gong, but that's not what the Hebrews meant by it. The word the Psalmist uses means to "mutter" or "growl" back to oneself. My mom taught second grade for longer than I'm allowed to tell people. During quiet reading time, she'd give her students whisper phones. They're two PVC pipe corners connected together, one end goes to the ear and other to the mouth. The child reads back to herself, she hears the text, and interacts with it in a way that you don't when you read in your head. That is exactly what the Psalmist is talking about—we are to read aloud so we can interact. The ancients believed that the written word captured the power of spoken word and held it until it was spoken again. Speaking what was written connected you to the original speaker—no matter the distance and time that stood between. The Psalmist doesn't just want us to read but interact with

Scripture; not to glance on the promises, or skim past the pain of this life, but to hear them—hear God's answer to our thirst in a voice so personal it has to be our own. Go and Read! Amen.

Al Aakre

Eidsvold-Svea Lutheran Parish

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

July Birthdays

Eidsvold

1 - Mary Kvam
2 - Rita Anderson
13 - Jersi Owen
15 - Cheyenne Yotter
16 - Cayden O'Reilly
17 - Loni Johnson
18 - Riley Lacroix
18 - Chloe Kaeder
20 - Jim Anderson
20 - Josh Owen
21 - Casey O'Reilly
22 - Odin Gilbertson
25 - Soren Gilbertson
27 - Elliot Kuesel
29 - Ronny Johnson
31 - Mike Whipple
31 - Levi Franklin
31 - Blake Girdeen



Svea

2 - Adam Peters
6 - Neil Bostrom
9 - Jeff Albarado
11 - Joey Emery
12 - Myrt Knutsen
12 - Tammy Rieck
13 - Susan Albarado
22 - Darlene Anderson
23 - Mavis Flack
23 - Doug Carlton
29 - Jim Swenson

CHURCH SERVICE INFO

EIDSVOLD LUTHERAN CHURCH
W6111 COUNTY RD EE
BAY CITY WI 54723
JULY SERVICES
10:30 AM

SVEA LUTHERAN CHURCH
N2610 770TH ST
HAGER CITY WI 54014
JULY SERVICES
9:00 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.

Eidsvold



Try the QR codes printed below.



Svea



PRAYER LIST

Prayers for Healing

Sandy Place Lola Johnson, Cindy Florness, Virgil Hinrichs, Judy Lacroix, Dave Betthauser, Bob Soden, Jim Bostrom, Adeline Florness, Tracy Eidem, Wendell Manore, Kelly Snyder, Dave Ericson, Maisley Maxwell, Elwyn Manore, those who mourn Dennis Potts

Prayers for Sustained Strength and Comfort

Melody Perrin, Larry Gerdes, Terrence Emery, Chris Larson, Rose Ann Powers, Gerry Hoffman, Connie Rieck, Mavis Flack, Julie Patterson, Jim Swenson, 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



Svea Church Happenings

With the grass growing so fast now, any contributions to the cemetery fund to cover the cost of mowing would be greatly appreciated.



A Minnesota artist donated his water color of Svea. If you would like to buy a print, coffee mug, shower curtain, or greeting card with the print on it, please visit : [fineartamerica.com](https://fineartamerica.com/art/svea+lutheran+church) and search "Svea Lutheran Church," or type in : <https://fineartamerica.com/art/svea+lutheran+church>



All proceeds will go towards the lift and painting projects at Svea.

Pastor Al requested that the artist also paint a picture of Eidsvold. The artist agreed and so we can look forward to that sometime in the future.

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

Svea council members:

President: Dennis Rieck

Vice President: Kelly Knutson

Secretary: Wade Strain

EIDSVOLD HAPPENINGS

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

Thank you to those that have continuously signed up for the duties that keep our church going strong! There are blank spots on our sign up sheet. If you are able, please consider helping in an area of your choice. If you are unsure of what the task involves, please ask any council member!

Thank you for your Time and Talents

Readers

Eidsvold

July 6 **Fay Albarado**

July 13 **Judy Lacroix**

July 20 **Rita Anderson**

July 27 **Joint Service at Esdaile Park**

Kari Aakre

Ushers

July 6 **Fay and Rita**

July 13 **DeLoris and Jan**

July 20 **Kathy Hanson and Kendra**

July 27 **Tracie Esterby and _____**

Joint Service at Esdaile Park

July

Altar Committee

Karen Brostrom

Bake Communion Bread

Phyllis

July 6 & 20

Wash Communion Glasses

July 6 **Fay Albarado**

July 20 **_____?????**

Church Cleaning

Eidsvold

July 6 **_____**

July 13 **_____**

July 20 **Mandy Jepson**

July 27 **Joint Service
at Esdaile Park**

*Thank
you!*



Community Events

Ruby's Pantry
First Saturday of the Month
July 5
10-11:30 at
Pierce Pepin Co-op



Svea Quilters

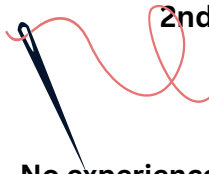
2nd and 4th Tuesday

July 8th

July 22th

9 am-noon

No experience is needed. All are welcome.



Joint Service in the Esdaile Park Sunday, July 27

10:00 am



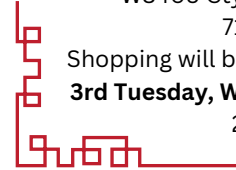
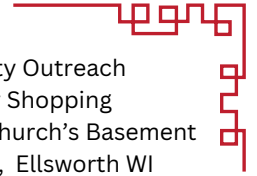
EUCHRE

NO Euchre for the summer.

We will start up again in October

New Community Outreach
FREE Monthly Shopping
at Bethel Covenant Church's Basement
W8405 Cty Rd KK, Ellsworth WI
715-792-2397

Shopping will be held each month on the
3rd Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday
2 PM - 7 PM



Eidsvold Church Council Meeting **May 1, 2025**

Present: Mandy, Laura, Lee, Phylis, Pastor Al via phone. Absent: Kendra and Tana.

6 pm call to order by President Mandy.

- 1) Pastor Al led the Opening Prayer
- 2) Previous Meeting Minutes Review and Approval (Annual Meeting Minutes) Lee made a motion to approve as read. Phylis 2nd.
- 3) New Items:

a) Worship Committee Recommendation:

i. Worship Committee continues to meet with all parties in attendance (whenever possible), and all voices are heard and input gathered. Worship Committee has final authority. Late additions or changes will not be considered out of respect for everyone's time, unless external circumstances arise that warrant consideration.

b) Services in the park - ensure mix of Melody and Phyllis playing. Great idea, no objections!

c) Tana Langer wages: currently \$13/hr; recommended: \$18.50/hr

Eidsvold Council Vote: Phyllis made a motion to make the increase. Laura 2nd. Because this is a shared expense with Svea, it will be brought to Joint Council this month.

d) Building and Maintenance:

i. Basement storage room window replacement - Lee Franklin getting estimates

ii. Pastor Parking sign - Jill Sears, \$45; determine where to post. Lee Langer will work on installing.



e) Vanco Giving - charity opportunities

(From Pastor Al - The charity we were recognized for was Lutheran Social Services (LSS); we increased our giving by some needed percent and so our gifts were matched by an anonymous donor. Along with 49 other congregations (Svea included), we raised \$770,000 which was matched. Because of this, we were recognized as a "Loving Lutheran Congregation." There is an additional drive to raise money so LSS can reopen a L.E. Phillips Center in Chippewa Falls, which was a recovery center for addiction/chemical dependency—each dollar raised is matched by another anonymous donor. It is very easy to add another "giving square" on Vanco if we wanted to highlight LSS or any other cause.)

Would we like to offer this up in Vanco? Maybe even promote it over the next month that if anyone would like to make a special donation for this specific charity, they can donate via Vanco or check written out to the church but in the memo line write LSS?

Phyllis will work with Vanco to get a tile added to the online portal that members can use to donate to this if they choose. A check from Eidsvold will be written at the end of the giving period so it qualifies for the matched funds. Phyllis will also check to be sure we are receiving the ELCA fee/rate when members are giving. Need to verify that compliance is being done every three months.

f) This Sunday is Senior/Graduate Sunday. Any college graduates we should be recognizing?

We are unsure of any college graduates; Pastor Al will ask during service if anyone should be recognized.

g) Last day of Sunday school and Megan Franklin's last day as Sunday School Superintendent!

Recommend \$50 Reuvers gift card and recognition during announcements. Include SS teachers in the announcement recognition, however, they will not be in attendance.

Mandy will purchase gifts for SS teachers and a special gift for Megan.

4) Old Business

a) Church Cleanup learnings:

i. Announce on Sunday the need for members to take turns to sign up to clean. Offer support to help new members who aren't familiar with where supplies are and what we do? Pass sign up sheet around on Sunday.

b) Other?

Financial Report given by Treasurer Phyllis.

Checking balance is \$178,975.53 as of 4/1/25. That total includes memorial fund \$26,575.26 / Youth \$1,935.05 / Building \$24,252.58 / Parsonage \$37,196.62

The offerings collected during Lent will be designated towards our World hunger mission. Phyllis will send a check for \$500.

5) Upcoming Joint Council Meeting Agenda Items:

a) Tana's wage increase recommendation and vote

b) Pastor Al summer vacation approval and pulpit supply alignment

c) Any ideas for Fall of 2025 : God's work, our hands projects?!

6) All joined in the Lord's Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 7pm

Submitted by Laura Peterson, Financial Secretary

Eidsvold-Svea Joint Council Meeting-May 15-2025

In Attendance: Pastor Al, Kendra H., Mandy J., Dennis R. Wade S., Lee L., Phyllis B.

Pastor Al led with a prayer.

Kendra read the minutes of the last meeting. Mandy motioned to accept, all in favor. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

·Luther Bible Camp=no one has signed up yet.

NEW BUSINESS:

·Tana Langer is the new church secretary. Motion made to increase the wage. Kendra H. made a motion and Dennis R. seconded it.

·Vacation Bible School will be the week of June 15th. With English Lutheran, Zion, and UCC.

·Possible fundraiser of a pancake feed since that went over well last time we did that. Thinking of 2nd weekend, Sept. 14th. We can pick a cause to donate the proceeds too.

·\$3000 in the Pastors budget for hospital mileage. Pastor Al will now document mileage of where he visits and travels to.

·Pastor Al's vacation:

- o 6-15-25
- o 7-27-25
- o 8-3-25
- o 8-24-25

Next Joint Council Meeting: **August 14th @ 6 PM at Svea.**

Worship in the Esdaile park:

July 27th

August 24th

Wade S. made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Lee L. seconded.

Meeting minutes submitted by Kendra Hanson, Council Secretary

A BELATED THANK YOU FOR ALL THE FOOD DONATED TO
OUR LENTEN SUPPERS.
A DONATION OF \$300 WAS GIVEN TO THE PIERCE COUNTY
FOOD SHELF!