



August 2026

## HILL AND VALLEY PARISH NEWS

### Svea and Eidsvold Lutheran Churches



Greetings from the Parsonage,

I invite you to read Colossians 3:1-17 before reading my reflection. If you do not own a Bible, let me know and we will get you one.

My grandparents would always say, "There is no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothing." They would say it as we were about to do yard work in the rain or something. It's true; what you wear changes the way you interact with the world. A raincoat lets you go in the rain without worry. Rubber overshoes can let you walk through water and mud. A brimmed hat lets you work in the sun. Gloves let you shovel on bitterly cold days. How we dress matters. The same is true for faith.

In his letters to the Ephesians, Romans, Corinthians, and Colossians, the Apostle Paul uses the imagery of clothing. He tells people of faith to clothe themselves in a new way. He essentially says, "Strip off that ratty old thing called anger, malice, slander, and the like and put on clothes better fit for the weather—for the life God has given you through His own Death and Resurrection. Try on compassion and kindness and give me a twirl. I have a coupon for lowliness, meekness, and patience—those will fit you well. Above all, put on love which binds everything together in perfect harmony, and let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. Then, oh then, you will be dressed for the world."

How is the weather in your life? Are you properly dressed for it?

We live in a society that values outrage and over-reaction, where we are taught to see ourselves as wronged and victimized. While offenders certainly dwell among us and inflict their offenses as they will, and while we all have moments of suffering, hurt, and insult, we ultimately have the freedom to respond to these as we choose. We have the freedom to wear whatever hat hangs in our closet—whether it be a hat of anger or love. Jesus gives us the strength to love and forgive in this life, if we will allow Him to carry the burdens with us.

It is not easy to love and forgive. I think these are actually the two hardest things to do in this life, but these "responses" are central to the "resurrected life" God has called us into.

Al Aakre

Eidsvold-Svea Lutheran Parish

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.

#### 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  
AUG SERVICES  
9:00 AM

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

#### Eidsvold



#### Parish Social Media

Facebook

Church Website

<https://www.eidsvoldsvea.com>

Did you know Svea's worship service is on **YouTube** each week?

Check it out at

<https://www.youtube.com/@SveaLutheranChurch>

or simply google Svea Lutheran Church, Hager City WI

Once you're there, click on YouTube.

# August Birthdays

Eidsvold

Happy Birthday



**Correction:** These July birthdays were missed last month (June was accidentally reprinted).  
Sorry about that!



Svea  
July

Happy Belated Birthday!!

Svea  
August

- 1 - Andy Esterby
- 2 - Jada Potts
- 4 - Domenick Donley
- 5 - Chris Peterson
- 6 - Fiona Andrews
- 7 - Marlyce Bayer
- 10 - Kathy Sears
- 10 - Megan Bignell
- 12 - Frank Peterson
- 12 - Mark Girdeen
- 13 - Marc Sears
- 15 - Mason Regenscheid
- 17 - Geraldine Hoffman
- 19 - Brian Girdeen
- 20 - Andrea Helseth
- 21 - TriChelle Smaller
- 21 - Paisley Lewison
- 22 - Martin Johnson-Cass
- 24 - Cooper Borchardt
- 24 - Spencer Peterson
- 27 - Mikael Andrews
- 31 - Lee Langer
- 31 - Rich Lofgren

- 2 - Adam Peters
- 6 - Neil Bostrom
- 9 - Jeff Albarado
- 11 - Judy Emery
- 12 - Myrt Knutsen
- 12 - Tammy Rieck
- 13 - Susan Albarado
- 22 - Darlene Anderson
- 29 - Jim Swenson
- 6 - Jim Bostrom
- 7 - Judy Bostrom

Please let me know if I missed a birthday or need to make any corrections.

## PRAYER LIST

Prayers for Healing

Diana Gilbertson  
DeLoris Bloomstratn  
Faith Edwards  
Denice Girdeen  
Sam Stockwell  
Herb Enberg  
Heather Ritchie  
Jon Swedien  
Bill Emery  
Richard Scharpen  
Nate Rieck  
Margaret Groop  
Karl Groop  
Jim Bostrom  
Liliah Larson  
Gail Gusa  
Virgil Hinrichs  
John (Butch) Sebion  
Sandy Place  
Bob Soden  
Wendell Manore  
Dave Ericson  
Elwyn Manore

Prayers for Sustained Strength  
and Comfort

Darrell Schuster  
Tammy Price  
Johnnie Albarado  
Norma Hanson  
Laura Anderson  
Larry Gerdes  
Terrence Emery  
Chris Larson  
Rose Ann Powers  
Gerry Hoffman  
Julie Patterson  
Jim Swenson,  
all caregivers in our parish

Prayers for those serving  
in the military

Carson Anway  
Tyler Ballman  
Nathan Solomon



**Sunday School will be starting in September!**

Please contact our Superintendent, Bree Lund, if you have any questions or if you know of someone that would like to join Sunday School!

We are also looking for extra people to help with teaching our children.

bree\_lund@outlook.com or 651-764-2227



# Community Events



Summer Retreat  
St. Croix Valley Conference  
**Saturday, August 15, 2026**  
Redeemer Lutheran Church 1097  
Scott Road  
Burkhardt, Wisconsin

Theme:  
"Anticipate God's Goodness"

God really does have good things planned for us—even on the days we're scratching our heads wondering what He's up to. What if we started *anticipating* His goodness *right in front of us*?

With an infusion of encouragement, Gaye brings a blend of Bible messages, life stories, and humor to help us do just that. Let's laugh, reflect, and leave encouraged. He has even more goodness waiting for us than we can imagine!

"For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations."

Psalms 100:5

With a message from God's Word, an infusion of encouragement, and a dose of humor, Gaye will remind you that God has wonderful things planned for you.

Anticipate His Goodness!



Speaker:  
Gaye Lindfors

Schedule:  
8:30 am - Registration  
9:15 am - Program  
11:30 am - Lunch  
  
Registration fee: \$15.00/person

## Svea Quilters

2nd and 4th Tuesday

**Aug 11**

**Aug 25**

9 am-noon

No experience is needed.

All are welcome!



### EUCHRE

No euchre for the summer, we will resume in the fall.

## 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

## Word in Season

Devotionals

**July- Aug - Sept**

Available on the small table at the back of the church.



## Joint service planned for AUGUST 23, 2026

We are trying a new location!



Just head across the railroad tracks toward the lake and you'll find signage for the park.

It's a lovely park with playground equipment, picnic shelter, picnic tables, and electricity. We have paid the fee for the park so it is reserved for us.

**Worship at Saratoga Park**  
(Bay City Park)

**August 23, 2026**

**10:00 am**

**Potluck to follow!**

**Music by the 'Hot Flashes'**

*Led by Cindy Hammond*



Bring your lawn chair and invite a guest!





# SVEA CHURCH HAPPENINGS

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

## An update on the construction and lift project -

Still planning on getting this done this summer. Awaiting final bids on the lift from 2 different companies and another permit is needed.

Lawn mowing season is here and anyone interested in helping out financially with the cemetery mowing is asked to donate to the Svea cemetery fund.

Any amount is appreciated.



Svea quilters are looking for clean double, queen, and king size flat sheets, preferably 100 percent cotton. More help is needed also, so anyone is welcome to join us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. No experience with sewing is required as just **cutting material is needed.**



## Svea Cookbooks for sale!

THEY MAKE GREAT  
GRADUATION, WEDDING  
SHOWER OR WEDDING GIFTS.  
\$20.00 EACH FOR 2 FOR \$30.00.

# EIDSVOLD HAPPENINGS

## Thank you for your Time and Talents

### Readers

Aug 2 **Judy Lacroix**  
Aug 9 **Mandy Rikli**  
Aug 16 **Fay Albarado**  
Aug 23 **Rita Anderson**  
Aug 30 **Kari Aakre**

*Thank you!*

### Aug

Altar Committee  
**Bev Peterson**

Bake Communion Bread   
**Phyllis Beastrom**  
Aug 2 & 16

Wash Communion Glasses  
Aug 2 & 16 \_\_\_\_\_

### Ushers

Aug 2 **Judy Lacroix & Faith Edwards**  
Aug 9 **Alvin & Lorna Eidem**  
Aug 16 **Fay Albarada & Jan Kearns**  
Aug 23 **Rita Anderson & Bev Peterson**  
Aug 30 **Frank & Carol Peterson**

**Thank you for volunteering  
and being in the rotation!**

## STRENGTHS

- active Sunday School
- family confirmation meals
- good friends
- loving one another
- children's message
- being kind to others
- welcoming congregation
- young families
- altar guild volunteers
- awesome communion bread
- fellowship
- great children's message and their participation

## SWOT

- **STRENGTHS**
- **Weaknesses**
- **Opportunities**
- **Talents**

### WEAKNESSES

Areas we can improve.  
Post your thoughts on the board!  
What do you want our church to offer?  
Expectations and Ideas welcome!

Next....

### OPPORTUNITIES

Areas we can get involved in

# LWR - Lutheran World Relief Kits...

**ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS for each kit are available at both churches**

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES ARE ON SALE!**

NOW is the time to purchase school supplies for students in our community or for Lutheran Wor



## SCHOOL KITS

- 4 Spiral wire bound notebooks (70-80 pages each)
- 1 - 30 centimeter ruler (12 inches)
- 1 - pencil sharpener
- 1 - blunt scissors
- 5 - unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- 5 - black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- 1 box of Crayons (16 or 24 count)
- 1 - 2 ½ inch eraser



Bags are available at each congregation – 4 bags inside another bag for total of 5. If you want less, remove bags and put in the extra box. Small rubber bands available at each church for bundling pencils and pens.

## PERSONAL CARE KIT

- 1 bath light weight towel, dark color preferred (20"x40" & "52" x 27"
- 2 or 3 bath size bars of soap, 8-9 oz. total, any brand, in original wrapping
- 1 adult sized toothbrush\*\*
- 1 sturdy comb, no picks or fine- toothed combs
- 1 metal nail clippers

\*\*Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business envelope; no plastic bags or wrap.

## FABRIC KITS

- 2 spools of matching or neutral colored general purpose thread (totaling 500-600 yds)
- 2 pieces of cotton or cotton blend fabric (no knits or 100% polyester) fabric should not have stains or holes

Cut fabric into pieces measuring: General instructions:

2 ¼ yards of 58"-62" wide OR

3 yards of 42-45" wide OR

4 yards of 34"-37" wide

Wrap one piece of fabric and both spools of thread inside second fabric piece and tie with yarn, sturdy string, ribbon, or strip of fabric. Do not enclose kit or any of its contents in a plastic bag



## BABY CARE KIT

- 2 lightweight cotton t-shirts
- 2 long or short sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)
- 2 blankets, medium weight, cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted 36" to 52" square (please include 1 flannel blanket and 1 knitted or crocheted blankets if choose to include these)
- 4 cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
- 1 jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with
- Hood or include a baby cap
- 2 pairs of socks
- 1 hand towel, dark color
- 2-3 bars of soap, 8 or 9 oz. total in original wrapping
- 2 diaper pins or large safety pins

## SOAP

LWR no longer accepts boxes of soap. They only accept soap in personal care kits and baby care kits.



ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW OR LIKE NEW CONDITION! When custom officials find stained, unhemmed or worn items, they penalize LWR with a hefty fine & won't release the shipment to be distributed until the fine is paid. Wrap items in one of the receiving blankets and secure with diaper pins. Visit [lwr.org/beinvolved](http://lwr.org/beinvolved) and click on Baby Care Kits

**QUILTS** - so much more than a blanket! shields against the cold and rain, serves as tent, floor covering, baby carrier, and provides warmth

Place a piece of fabric 64" x 84" right side down on table, followed by a filler measuring 60" x 80" and then another piece of fabric also measuring 60" x 80" right side up on top of the filler. Please be sure fabric has no stains or holes.

Tie the layers together using crochet or similar cord, or machine-quilt them together. Ties should be no more than 8 to 10 inches apart.

Bring the edges of the 64" x 84" piece over the top, pin and machine stitch the edge, using a zigzag stitch if possible.

Quilts are highly preferred due to their handmade quality and warmth, but LWR also **accepts new or like new blankets** 60" x 80" size. No afghans or electric blankets. They NO LONGER ACCEPTS FLEECE TIED BLANKETS.

# LWR Continued...



**NOW is the time to purchase school supplies for students in our community  
or for Lutheran World Relief school kits.**

**Local schools always appreciate donations of school supplies and are grateful to receive notebooks, glue, pencils, pens, erasers crayons, colored pencils and markers, paper towels, Kleenex, cleansing and sanitary wipes, etc.**

Lutheran World Relief **School Kits** provide hope and future for Children around the world.

**Education is one of the strongest tools for breaking poverty**, and educating girls has even stronger results. School kit supplies help children—and adults—learn, which leads to a better life for them, their families, and their communities.

**Personal Care Kits** provide much needed self-care, critical germ fighting, and the chance to regain dignity amidst fear and uncertainty when families are forced to leave their homes and arrive at refugee camps or other places of safety. Phylis has ordered Thrivent Action Funds to purchase items for Personal Care Kits and they will be assembled in the fall.

## General instructions:

- Please give new items only except where otherwise noted. Quality items also withstand the harsh conditions that many people who receive these supplies are facing.
- Please send only the items listed for each kit - do not add extra.
- Please do not donate items with religious symbols, messages or with your congregation's name. LWR provides quilts and kits based on need, regardless of religion. Religious references may be misinterpreted by governments of the receiving countries, jeopardizing delivery to the people who need the items most.
- Please do not donate items decorated with a US Flag, patriotic or military symbols including camouflage. LWR has access to areas of the world others do not because they are an impartial humanitarian organization. If intentions are misinterpreted as being politically motivated, their work and the people they assist could be endangered.

**SHIPPING COSTS:** The comprehensive cost to transport, process, store, and deliver these lovingly made gifts is now \$4 per item, an increase over previous years due to many global factors.

If you would like to donate to help with shipping costs make check payable to and mail to: Lutheran World Relief, Quilt & Kit shipping Fund, PO Box 17061, Baltimore MD 21298-9832 or make it out to your church and label it LWR SHIPPING.  
7/2026

***Stretch your hearts and hands to help people in need.***



Coming next month...



## **Pie and Ice Cream Social**

Wednesday, **September 23, 2026**

Eidsvold Lutheran Church

4 - 7 pm



Ladies, please make a pie and bring to the church.  
If you are able to work, that would be appreciated.  
This is one way we can be involved in our community!  
More information next month.

