



APRIL 2024

HILL AND VALLEY PARISH NEWS
Svea and Eidsvold Lutheran Churches



Greetings from the Parsonage!

A place name tells you as much about the namer as it does the named. Place names reveal where people have come from, where they hope to go, or even how they want the world to understand them.

The names of our two congregations are especially interesting for they have nothing to do with Scripture or our great story of faith! Eidsvold is a town in Norway—the birthplace of some of our founders. Svea is the personification of Sweden—the Swedish equivalent of Lady Liberty is Mother Svea. It was common for Scandinavians to reference towns or cultural markers when naming their parishes. These “ethnic” names sent a message to other immigrants that here was a place where they’d feel at home, here was a place that would provide the comfort and support of the old country. These names helped connect a specific community with a congregation that vowed to serve them.

I like our two names. They remind us that our forebears left behind everything they had for the sake of a new beginning. Was it easy? No. Was there sacrifice? Yes. Am I glad to inherit their work? Yes. Throughout the Gospel, Jesus asks us to leave the world behind, to leave our lives behind, for the sake of living in Him and coming into His Kingdom. Jesus offers us a New Beginning in Him at the expense of everything else. Our two names remind us that we are not the first to face challenges and sacrifice but are rather a part of a community defined by such a leap of faith. A foreign name also reminds us that God is the constant through all change. Although we no longer worship in Swedish or Norwegian, we continue to worship the same Risen Lord.

So how about today? How does a visitor understand our name? They won’t likely hear it and think of their home in Scandinavia like visitors once did—but maybe that’s a good thing. Because most people don’t know what an “Eidsvold” or “Svea” is, we get to define it for them. By our actions and work in this world, the names that were once synonymous with the old kingdom can be synonymous with God’s New Kingdom. Scripture is full of place names defined by God’s Work there, not their namers’ intent.

How do you want your congregation to be defined in this community? Like our forebears, how do we send the message that our congregation continues to be a place of comfort and support in an often unsettling land? That we are a home for all who make their journey through life? Food for thought.

Blessings, Pastor Al



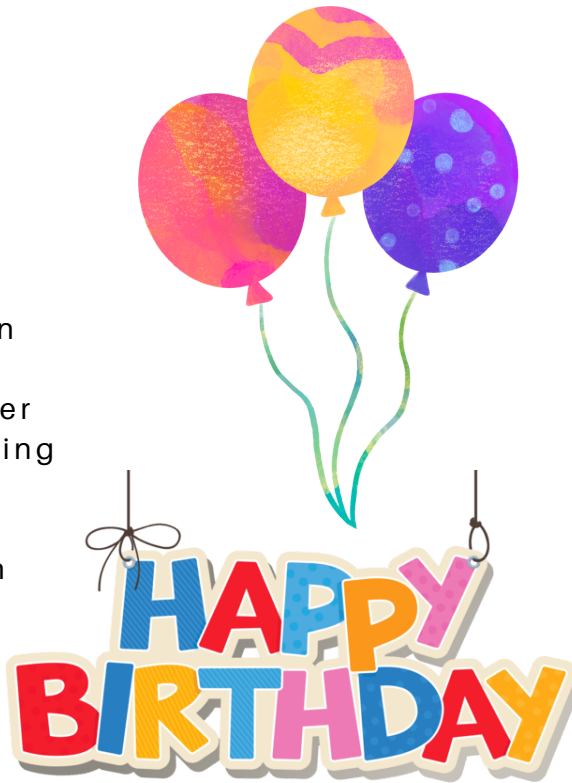
Pierce County Ecumenical Choir Concert

Sunday, April 21st at 7 pm

Eidsvold Lutheran Church-Desserts and Beverages served afterward.

APRIL Birthday

2- Oakly Yarwood
3- Haley Donley
Sally Larson
6- Jenny Scharpen
Anne Girdeen
7- Jim Nelson
10- Pastor Mike
Michael Johnson
11- Kathy Hanson
14- Reggie Schroeder
19- James Willenbring
20- Calvin Langer
Dale Sears
24- Angela Peterson
29- Donna Barr
Max Mandelkow
30- Presley Salava



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

If a birthday was missed
please email Tracie at
tracie.esterby@gmail.com

CHURCH SERVICE INFO: CONTACT INFORMATION

**EIDSVOLD LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
W6111 COUNTY RD EE
BAY CITY WI 54723
MARCH SERVICES AT 10:30
WITH SUNDAY SCHOOL
DURING THE SERVICE

PASTOR AL AAKRE 608-799-9703
AAAKRE002@LUTHERSEM.EDU
CHURCH: BELUTHER@BEVCOMM.NET
OFFICE 715-594-3182 LEAVE A
MESSAGE
NEWSLETTER INFO;
TRACIE.ESTERBY@GMAIL.COM
651-380-2212

STAY TUNED:



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JUNE 10-13
FROM NOON TO 3:30 EACH DAY A BUS WILL
TRANSPORT FROM ELLSWORTH SUMMER
SCHOOL, SERVE LUNCH, AND HAVE A FUN
AFTERNOON. DETAILS WILL BE COMING

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

Svea Church Happenings

Svea is looking for a Treasurer. If you are interested or know of someone who would be a great fit for this important role please have them see Mary Schaver, Pastor Al, or another council member. Training would be provided.

Svea 150th Anniversary will be in 2025! The Svea Council would like to form a committee to plan this celebration. If you are interested please see Yvonne Manore or Pastor Al



Congratulations on your
First Communion:
Alexis, Reese, Theo & Ross

SUNDAY

MARCH

24

10:30AM

2024

EIDSVOLD LUTHERAN CHURCH
W6111 COUNTY ROAD EE
BAY CITY, WI 54723



Women of the Parish Bible Study – Monday, April 15th 1:30 p.m.

Our next topic in our Bible study series of Nature as teachers of faith is WATER.

We'll gather at the rivers that flow through Scripture teaching us to pay attention to God's faithfulness throughout generations and God's continued work to carry us toward life, justice, and abundance for all creation. Come and join the discussion.



Community Events

Ruby's Pantry

First Saturday of the Month
April 6th
10-11:30 at
Pierce Pepin Co-op

Euchre:

First Friday of Each Month
April 5th
7 pm at Eidsvold

Bring a treat to share
Coffee will be provided.

Parish Social Media

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

Svea Quilters

2nd & 4th
Tuesdays 9 am-noon

No experience is needed. All are welcome.

Women's Bible Study
Monday April 15th at 1:30pm at Eidsvold



In our prayers:

Families of Roger Girdeen and Virginia Lampman, Sandra Helseth, Lorna Eidem, Ricky Knudsen, Terrence Emery, Jan Kearns, Maisley Maxwell, Jim Nelson, Fred Hoyer, Naomi Ruth, Chris Larson, Jim Larson, RoseAnn Powers, Gerry Hoffman, Connie Rieck, Mavis Flack, Julie Patterson, Jim Swenson, Missy Dailey, Barbara Phillips, Debi Emery, Carson Anway, Tyler Ballman. Blessings to Paige and Josh Owen on welcoming baby girl Lennon. Lennon joins big brothers Oakly, Fletcher, and big sis Jersi! If you have additional people we should pray for or if someone needs to come off the prayer list let us know.

Sunday School News:

4/7/24 – Small Group – Naomi and Ruth

4/14/24 – Small Group – David and Goliath

4/21/24 – Small Group – Elijah and the Widow

4/28/24 – Small Group – Jonah and the Big Fish

5/5/24 – Large Group – Last day of Sunday School – fun activities

Sunday School singing on Palm Sunday!



First Communion News:

On Sunday, March 24th Reese Mandelkow, Lexi Flett, Theo LaFave, and Ross Borchardt had their First Communion.

Conformation News:

Formal classes will resume for 9th-grade students on April 10th, 17th, 24th, May 1st, and 8th. The Banquet Meal will be on May 8th. Confirmation Day will be May 12th during Service.

YOUTH CAMPS

YOUTH CAMPS AND MIDDLE SCHOOL GATHERINGS ARE NOW AVAILABLE! WE HOPE THAT YOU CAN ATTEND. PLEASE SEE TRACIE OR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS FOR FURTHER DETAILS

Funds are available to pay for these camps!

Youth Events:

Pick up your pamphlet at church or go online at Luther Point Bible Camp. If you need help with payment or transportation talk with Tracie or a Sunday School Teacher. Register Early for the discounts.



Summer Camp 2024



	1st - 4th Grades	4th - 6th Grades	7th - 9th Grades	Specialty Camps	Family Camps
June 9-14	3rd & 4th Half Week (12th - 14th)	4th - 6th Grade	Jr. High & Confirmation		Grandparent/ Grandchild Camp (9th - 11th)
June 16-21		4th - 6th Grade	Jr. High & Confirmation	4th - 6th Grade Fish Camp	
June 23 - 28	1st & 2nd Grade Overnight (24th & 25th)	4th - 6th Grade	Jr. High & Confirmation	Beginning Horse Camp	
June 30 - July 2	3rd & 4th Half Week (30th - 2nd)	4th - 6th Grade Half Week	Jr. High & Confirmation Half Week	Jr. & Sr. High Night Life	
July 7-12	3rd & 4th Half Week (10th - 12th)	4th - 6th Grade	Jr. High & Confirmation	Fish Camp	Grandparent/ Grandchild Camp (7th - 9th)
July 14-19		4th - 6th Grade	Jr. High & Confirmation	Arts & Music Camp	Half & Full Week Family Camp
July 21-26	1st & 2nd Grade Overnight (22nd - 23rd)	4th - 6th Grade	Jr. High & Confirmation	Intermediate Horse Camp	

Summer Theme

Our theme for Summer 2024 is Overcoming Storms! During Bible study, we will be reading stories from the bible where a physical storm occurs and talk about how the people in the story overcome the storm. Additionally, we will be diving deeper into how trusting in God can help us overcome the storms in our personal lives. throughout the week we will be incorporating the summer theme into not only Bible studies but also crafts, games, and other camp activities!

"Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you." Deuteronomy 31:6

ENCOURAGE

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GATHERING

APRIL 13, 2024

GRADES 5-8 \$50 PER

8:00 - 4:30 PARTICIPANT

Bethany Lutheran Church
35 W Messenger Street
Rice Lake, WI



Information and Registration:
<https://nwswi.org/synod-youth-board>

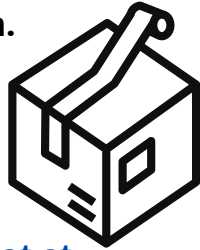


Northwest Synod of Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

EIDSVOLD HAPPENINGS



Sunday, April 14th Youth Bowling at St Croix Lanes in River Falls. 1-3pm If you want to come bowling sign up form in the back of Eidsvold Church.



Fed My Starving Children

Saturday, May 4th 5-6:30 pm at Eagan Location

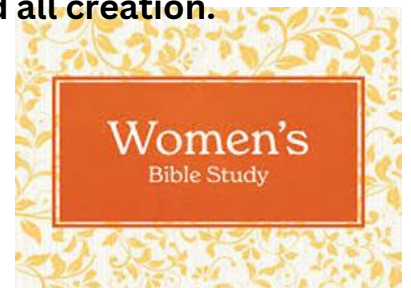
We have a school bus for our ride. Meeting at the Ellsworth School parking lot at 3L30 pm and leaving at 3:40 sharp. We will have snacks on the bus and will stop on the way home for a quick supper.

40 spots are available to go. See form at the back of Eidsvold to sign up!

Women of the Parish – Eidsvold and Svea – come and gather for Bible Study t Monday, March 18th at 1:30 at Eidsvold. Last month we discussed how God is speaking to us through weather. This month we'll look at Biblical stories of creatures and how God speaks to us about ourselves and all creation.

Come – let's learn and share together!

thank you



New kitchen faucets were installed! Thank you to Alvin and Loren Eidem for keeping our church in working order!



Thank you to all that filled our Easter Bags. 30 bags were collected for the food shelf!

Lexi, Olivia, and Miles had their bapisesem at Eisvold. Parents Levi and Ashley Kuesel



Times and Talents: March



Readers:

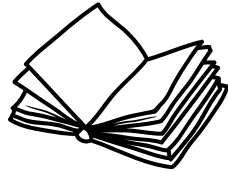
Eidsvold

April 7 Michelle Plote

April 14 Carol/Angie
Peterson

April 21 Justin Mandelkow

April 28 Judy Lacroix



Ushers:

Eidsvold

April 7 Karen Brostrom/Bev
Peterson

April 14 Fay Albarado/Carla
Schuster

April 21 Deloris B/Alvin Eidem

April 28 Mary Williams/Karen
Brostrom



Church Cleaning:

Eidsvold

April 7 Collin LaFave

April 14 Kathy Sears

April 21 Alvin Eidem

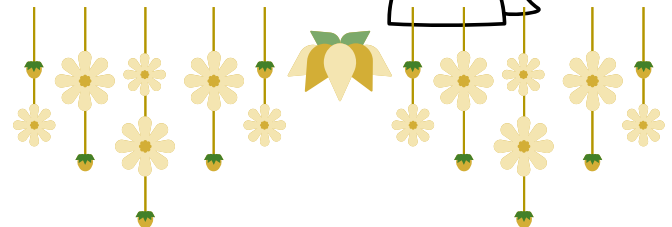
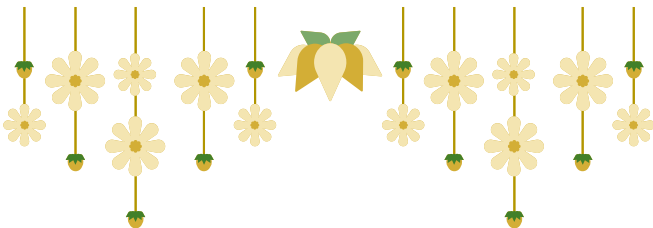
April 28 Will&Kari Schroeder



Altar Committee: Tracie Esterby
Communion Bread: Kendra/Kathy Hanson

Washing Communion Cups: April 7 Molly
and Austin Langer

April 21 Deloris Bloomstrand



Sunday, April 28 First zoom to prepare for synod assembly and election of the bishop. See Phyllis if you are interested.

Attention upcoming Graduating Seniors: On Sunday, May 5th we will celebrate you at church. Macey Alms and Colin Johnson from Bethlehem and Carson O'Rielly from Eidsvold. If you are graduating and are not mentioned please let us know.

APRIL SHOWERS
Bring
MAY FLOWERS

Women Morning of Renewal - April 20, 2024

All women are invited to hear Ginny Rassier as she encourages us with stories of God's faithfulness to revive us in our desert seasons and situations. We will remember the Biblical heroes of our faith and be encouraged by their unexpected joy as God made a way where there didn't seem to be a way. Ginny will share her personal experience of finding hope in the hard places. Together we'll reflect on God's goodness and deepen our trust in His love. Theme verse Isaiah 35:1-2 The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and bloom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.

Registration 8:30-9:00; program 9:00-11:30; Lunch 11:30-12:30 Cost \$15 - pay at registration that morning

Location: First Lutheran Church, 218 County Rd K, New Richmond WI

Grace Place will also be presenting. Grace Place offers shelter to homeless families and single individuals in the St. Croix River Valley, including residents of St. Croix, Pierce, and Polk Counties, and offers classes and training to enable folks to be on their own in the community.

April 20, 2024

First Lutheran Church

218 County Road K, New Richmond, WI

All My Deserts Are Rivers of Joy

Ginny will encourage us with stories of God's faithfulness to revive us in our desert seasons and situations. We will remember the Biblical heroes of our faith and be encouraged by their unexpected joy as God made a way where there didn't seem to be a way. Ginny will share her personal experience of finding hope in the hard places. Together we will reflect on God's goodness and deepen our trust in His love for us.



Isaiah 35:1-2

The desert and the parched land will be glad;
the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.

Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom;
it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.

Speaker

Ginny Rassier

- Local friend, wife, mother and grandmother who loves Jesus.
- Grateful to have been a lifetime part of the church community
- Involved in prayer, youth and recovery



8:30—9:00 am — Registration

9:00-11:30 am — Program

11:30 am—12:30 pm — Lunch



Just Sing

Presented by

*The Pierce County
Ecumenical Choir*

The public is welcome.



2024 Concert Schedule

Sunday April 7 at 7pm

*St. Paul's Lutheran Church
320 West Ave, Red Wing, MN 55066*

Sunday April 14 at 3pm

Lund Covenant

7pm

W10899 County Rd CC, Stockholm, WI 54769

*St. John The Baptist Catholic Church
212 Church Rd., Plum City, WI 54761*

Sunday April 21 at 3pm

*Gilman Lutheran Church
N8107 330th St., Spring Valley, WI 54767*

7pm

Eidsvold-Svea Lutheran Parish

Sunday April 28 at 3pm

W6111 County Rd. EE, Bay City, WI 54723

Ezekiel Lutheran, River Falls

7pm

202 S. 2nd St. River Falls, WI 54022

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

W5706 WI-72 Ellsworth, WI 54011

Free Will Offering

(A portion of the proceeds will be donated to local charities.)

Refreshments following concert

(Find us on facebook at Pierce County Ecumenical Choir)