

April 2025



HILL AND VALLEY PARISH NEWS

Svea and Eidsvold Lutheran Churches



Warm Greetings from the Parsonage!

Holy Week and Easter will soon be upon us. Given the price of eggs, Kari and I have not quite decided what we will be dyeing this year but we are open to suggestions. It is said that Christians are “Easter People” and I certainly agree. Central to our story of faith is the story of Christ’s journey to and from the grave. Without the Cross and Tomb, without the Resurrection and the Defeat of Death, we would not have a movement to belong to—we would not have a story to share. Easter was so central to the earliest Christians that the ancient church reenacted Holy Week each and every week—reenacting the Last Supper on Thursdays, mourning Christ on Fridays, and celebrating His return on Sundays. Although we have corralled the reenactment a bit, its impact on our faith has not changed—we remain “Easter People.”

Beginning Monday, April 14, the Stations of the Cross will be hung at the cemeteries of both Svea and Eidsvold. There will be a devotional in a white mailbox that will guide you through. The stations will be set up until Easter Sunday. Journeying the “Way of the Cross” is a wonderful practice for Holy Week as it shows the physical and emotional descent into darkness that God endured by our hand and on our behalf. The version that I hang is based on Scripture and was developed about 30 years ago—Catholics and Protestants from around the globe use this modern version although the devotion is unique to this parish. Folks are invited to walk the path and reflect on the journey to the Cross. Hopefully we will not have snow like last year!

On Thursday, April 17, our Maundy Thursday service will be at Svea this year. 7 pm with no meal prior. This is a contemplative service and will explore the last meal that Jesus shared with His disciples before death, the same meal that we are brought into each time we partake in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Communion is not time travel but rather the disintegration of time and place; in the Upper Room, God instituted a moment that seeks us no matter where we are, when we live, and whatever is going on in our lives. When we take of the cup and the bread, we are brought into the meal, and the Grace, shared with His closest followers in Jerusalem some two thousand years ago. The word “Sacrament,” means “sacred mystery,” something beyond our world and beyond our understanding yet given to us in our world and in a way that we can understand.

On April 18, the Ellsworth Area Ministerium is holding a joint Good Friday service, 7 pm, at Eidsvold Lutheran. Pastors from three denominations and eight congregations will be a part of the service. This service rotates each year—Pastor Al won the coin toss to have it at Eidsvold. A pastor other than myself will provide the message, the English Lutheran Choir will be sharing a musical offering, and additional gifts from other congregations will be represented. This is Ellsworth’s only ecumenical (cross denominational) service so I would encourage everyone to attend. Holy Week was when the walls of this world gave way to God’s power; the walls of Sin, Death, Time, Place, Fear, Uncertainty, etc. It should also be a time when the walls that divide us from our neighbors are additionally defeated.

Blessings,
Al Aakre

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

April Birthdays

Eidsvold

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

Svea

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

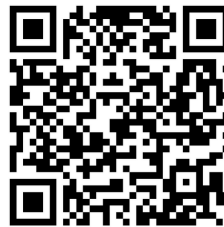


We are excited to announce **electronic** giving through **Vanco!**

Your generosity will help us impact our community with the good news of the gospel.

Try the QR codes printed below.

Eidsvold



Svea



CHURCH SERVICE INFO

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

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



PRAYER LIST

Prayers for Healing

Bob Soden, **Jim** Bostrom, **Bruce** Powers, **Fay** Albarado, **Adeline** Florness, **Tracy** Eidem, **Wendell** Manore, **Kelly** Snyder, **Dave** Ericson, **Maisley** Maxwell, **Missy** Daily, **Elwyn** Manore, those who mourn **Paul** Curry

Prayers for Sustained Strength and Comfort

Terrence Emery, **Jim** Nelson, **Chris** Larson, **Jim** 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

Svea Church Happenings

150th Anniversary
Celebration will be in June, 2025.

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

SVEA'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY IS QUICKLY APPROACHING. ON JUNE 22, WE WILL HAVE A CATERED MEAL FOLLOWING THE SERVICE SO WE NEED FOLKS TO RSVP. IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO SHOULD BE SENT AN INVITATION, PLEASE SUBMIT THEIR ADDRESS TO THE CHURCH OFFICE, A MEMBER OF COUNCIL, OR PASTOR AL.



Svea council members are:

President: Dennis Rieck

Vice President: Kelly Knutson

Secretary: Wade Strain

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 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.

EIDSVOLD HAPPENINGS

Eidsvold Sunday School News!!

April 13th - Palm Sunday - kids will sing in church and stay for the remaining service - no class.

April 20th - Easter Sunday - kids will stay in church no class .

May 4th - Last Day of Sunday School.

Thank you, Bree Lund, for committing to be the Sunday School Superintendent starting this fall!

If you have questions regarding Sunday School, please contact Megan Franklin.
meganmfranklin@yahoo.com



SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS WILL SING IN CHURCH ON PALM SUNDAY APRIL 13



Thank you for your Time and Talents

April

Readers

Eidsvold

April 6 Phyllis Beastrom
April 13 Fay Albarado
April 20 Brenda Singer
April 27 Rita Anderson

Ushers

Eidsvold

April 6 Karen B & Al Eidem
April 13 _____
April 20 DeLoris B & _____
April 27 Kathy S & Rita A

Altar Committee

Tracie Esterby

Bake Communion Bread

Phyllis Beastrom
April 6, 13, 20



Wash Communion Glasses

Volunteers Needed

April 6 _____
April 13 _____
April 20 _____

Church Cleaning

Eidsvold

April 6 Alvin E
April 13 Faith E
April 20 Lee & Tana Langer
April 27 _____



Thank you!

Spring Cleaning

Sunday, April 27 will be the day we give our church a deep clean (inside and out).

Following our service we will dust, mop, wash windows, Murphy Oil pews, etc.



The lp tank needs to be scrubbed again, sticks picked up, etc. Wear your “work clothes” to church and bring gloves, a rake, or your favorite cleaning tool.

Hopefully about an hour will give our worship space some TLC.

Morning of Renewal - St. Croix Valley Conference

Mt. Zion Lutheran Church 505 13th Street South, Hudson, WI

Saturday, April 5, 2025

Nikki (Powers) Ness, is a New Richmond native and NRHS graduate. She is the founder of Eyes That See, a non-profit organization located in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. They are committed to fighting poverty and injustice through community, education, and empowerment, specifically through helping women leave the sex industry. They provide safe housing, medical care, counseling, education, and vocational training, as well as a strong sense of community and belonging.

8:30am – 9:15am Registration and Coffee

9:15am–11:30am ~ Event

11:30 ~ Lunch & Craft Sale (proceeds go to Eyes that See)

\$15 Admission Fee (includes program and lunch)

See flyer posted on bulletin board

Community Events

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



Svea Quilters

2nd and 4th Tuesday
April 8th
April 22th
9 am-noon

No experience is needed. All are welcome.



Euchre

The first Friday of the month.
April 4

7:00 pm at Eidsvold

Bring a snack to share, coffee will be provided.
Don't know how to play? Come and learn!

First Communion

5th Graders

Classes are complete and
students will participate in
communion on Palm Sunday!

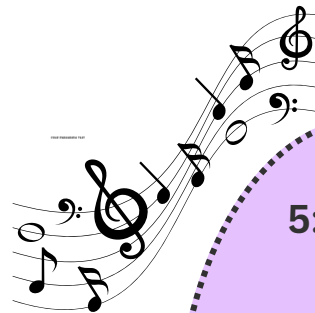


New Community Outreach
FREE Monthly Shopping
at Bethel Covenant Church's Basement
W8405 Cty Rd KK, Ellsworth WI
715-792-2397

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

Recognition of Graduates

Sunday, May 1st



Choir

5:30 p.m. practices

April 2: Svea
April 9: Eidsvold
Holy Week practice: TBD

April 20: Easter Sunday
(sing during worship)
9 a.m. Eidsvold
10:30 a.m. Svea



**LENTEN SERVICE SCHEDULE
FOR APRIL**

APRIL 2 - SVEA

APRIL 9 - EIDSVOLD

APRIL 17 - MAUNDY THURSDAY

7PM AT SVEA

APRIL 18 - GOOD FRIDAY

7:00PM AT EIDSVOLD



Luther Point Bible Camp

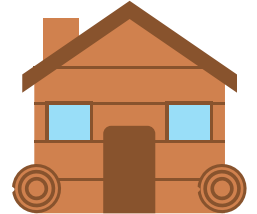
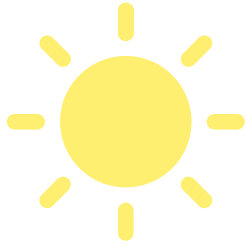
ELLSWORTH AREA LUTHERAN CHURCHES ARE ENCOURAGING THOSE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING **LUTHER POINT BIBLE CAMP** TO REGISTER FOR THE WEEK OF **JULY 13-18**.



THERE ARE FULL WEEK AND HALF WEEK OPTIONS. WE ARE HOPING TO MAKE THIS AN UNOFFICIAL "ELLSWORTH SCHOOLS WEEK." AS A PARISH WE ARE COMMITTED TO PROVIDING THIS OPPORTUNITY FOR **EVERY CHILD/STUDENT**.



IF YOU NEED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO MAKE CAMP A REALITY, PLEASE CONNECT WITH PASTOR AL.



Vacation Bible School

When? Monday, June 16 thru Thursday, June 19th

Noonish - 3:30 pm (after Summer School is done for the day, like in years past)

Where? English Lutheran Church

Luther Point Bible Camp will be sending a team of counselors to help us lead our VBS program this summer...

- **this will take a lot of the work from our plates**
- **we'll just need to provide helpers, meals, and snacks for VBS**
- **We will also need to provide housing, breakfast, and dinner for the counselors.**

Pastor Al at Eidsvold-Svea has been the contact person for LPBC so the contract and details will be going thru him.

Once we have the contract and details in hand, we should have a meeting to divvy up the duties. I'm looking forward to another amazing week of VBS in Ellsworth!!

**Pastor Pete Warren
English Lutheran Church**



EIDSVOLD – SVEA JOINT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 27, 2025 6PM (SVEA CHURCH)

SVEA PRESIDENT DENNIS RIECK CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:05PM
ATTENDEES: KELLY K, KENDRA H, TANA L, LEE L, PHYLLIS B, AMANDA J,
PASTOR AL, DENNIS R, MARY S, WADE S

OPENING PRAYER BY PASTOR AL

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS JOINT COUNCIL MEETING READ BY KENDRA H AND
APPROVED (KELLY K, LEE L MOTIONS)

NEW BUSINESS: ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE IS MARCH 5 @ 7PM SVEA (NO
SUPPER).

IT WAS AGREED THAT LENT SERVICES START AT 7PM, SUPPERS START AT
6PM.

LENT SERVICES WERE SCHEDULED FOR EIDSVOLD ON 03/12, 03/26, 04/09

LENT SERVICES WERE SCHEDULED FOR SVEA ON 03/19, 04/02

JOINT SERVICES WERE DISCUSSED AND SET FOR 10AM AT SVEA ON 05/25
(MEMORIAL WEEKEND-INDOOR SERVICE), 06/22 (ANNIVERSARY SERVICE
INDOORS) AND 06/29, (ANNIVERSARY SERVICE IN THE GROVE – WEATHER
PERMITTED)

EIDSVOLD JOINT PARK SERVICES WERE SET FOR 10AM 07/27 AND 08/24

IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOST CHURCH FOR THE JOINT
MEETING WILL PRESIDE OVER THE MEETING AND THE HOST CHURCH
SECRETARY WILL TAKE NOTES.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES WERE DISCUSSED AND PASTOR SUGGESTED
ELIMINATING THE CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE AND ADD A THIRD ON CHRISTMAS
EVE. THE TIMES ARE TENTATIVELY SET FOR 2PM AND 8PM AT SVEA, 4PM AT
EIDSVOLD. (KENDRA H, AMANDA J MOTIONS)

PHYLLIS READ OVER THE SHARED MINISTRY PLAN AND A DISCUSSION WAS
HELD REGARDING MINOR LANGUAGE CHANGES TO REFLECT CURRENT
PRACTICES. THE PLAN WILL BE SIGNED BY AMANDA J AND DENNIS R
(PRESIDENTS OF EACH COUNCIL) WHEN PHYLLIS COMPLETES THE LANGUAGE
CHANGES. (AMANDA J, KENDRA H MOTIONS)

FUNDRAISING OPTIONS WILL BE CONTINUALLY DISCUSSED AT FUTURE
MEETINGS.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AND REVIEW: PASTOR ADVISED AGAIN THAT THRIVENT
HAS ACTION GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR PARTICIPANTS THAT CAN BE USED IN
VARIOUS ASPECTS. THIS IS SOMETHING THAT CAN BENEFIT THE CHURCH AND
INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANTS.

OLD BUSINESS: A DISCUSSION REGARDING VBS WAS HAD AND PASTOR
ADVISED THAT LUTHER POINT WILL BE SENDING PERSONNEL TO THE
EIDSVOLD SERVICE ON JUNE 15 AND THAT VBS WILL BE HELD DURING THE
ENSUING WEEK @ ENGLISH LUTHERAN IN ELLSWORTH.

PASTOR ADVISED ON A RESOURCE FAIR (NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR) SATURDAY
APRIL 5 FROM 10A-1P AT SVEA, AND THAT PIERCE COUNTY ECUMENICAL
CHOIR MAY PERFORM AT EIDSVOLD ON GOOD FRIDAY 04/18.

ADJOURN (AMANDA J, WADE S MOTION)

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

SVEA SECRETARY WADE STRAIN

Next Eidsvold Council Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 1 at 6:00 pm
Next Joint Council Meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 15 at 6:00 at Eidsvold

Please contact your council members for questions or concerns that you would like discussed at the meetings.

PRESIDENT: Mandy Jepson

VICE PRESIDENT: Lee Langer

COUNCIL SECRETARY: Kendra Hanson

TREASURER Phyllis Beastrom

FINANCIAL SECRETARY Laura Peterson

Voices of Praise

The Pierce County Ecumenical Choir

2025 Concert Schedule

Sunday April 6 at 3 pm Sabylund Lutheran Church

W11103 Cty Rd J. Stockholm, WI

7 pm Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church

S105 Sabin Ave., Spring Valley, WI

Sunday April 13 at 3 pm Spirit of Grace

127 S 2nd St., River Falls, WI

7 pm St. John The Baptist Catholic Church

212 Church Rd., Plum City, WI

Sunday April 27 at 3 pm English Lutheran Church

229 Main St., Ellsworth, WI

7 pm Rush River Lutheran church

N8623 Cty Rd Y, River Falls, WI

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)