



May 2026



HILL AND VALLEY PARISH NEWS

Svea and Eidsvold Lutheran Churches

Greetings from the Parsonage,

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. John 14:27

In 1806, upon his return from his expedition along the Mississippi, Zebulon Pike stopped in what is now the City of Red Wing but was then a small Dakota village. Pike exchanged gifts with the chief of this village, Tatonka-Mani, one of which was a "Peace Medal." This medal bore the image of President Thomas Jefferson, the inaugural year of Jefferson's term, as well as physical signs of peace—two shaking hands and a peace pipe over a hatchet.

The medal sums up worldly peace well. The peace described is bound to a time frame, to whoever is in power. The peace described is bound to the physical acts of friendship and unity. Lastly—as we know from our nation's bloodied history in regards to indigenous peoples—the peace described is temporary. Pike offered a hollow promise, which the original medals actually were, but this is not the sort of Peace Jesus speaks of. God's Peace is not an exchange between friends but rather a state of being offered to warring enemies. This state comes to us when we recognize God's ultimate control over this world and our lives. This state that comes to us as a person—our Lord Jesus Christ.

I do not need to tell you that trials and tribulations, stressors and pain, are real—and that following Jesus does not exempt you from them. In fact, Jesus tells us that a Cross awaits those who follow Him. When we deal with hard days, we often pray for deliverance—for our situation to change—but we should always pray for Peace as well. If we seek only deliverance and not Peace then our faith is only as strong as that deliverance. What happens when trials do not end? What happens when pain, sickness, and death come again? Does our faith disappear?

Rather than praying only for our situation to change (deliverance) we ought to pray for our hearts to change (Peace). God offers us a Peace that does not disappear when this world shakes and our lives get complicated—but rather offers us strength through those moments. God's Peace, true Peace, does not yield to the world, because it is not of this world. The world promises many things, but it cannot give true Peace. For this reason, God came to us as a wee infant, taught us as He did, bore the Cross for our sake, rose again, then hunted us down. Not even the brokenness of this world, nor of our lives, could keep this Peace from seeking us—Jesus is God's answer to our troubled lives and world. All so we might be at Peace. Amen.

Blessings,

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

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



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
MAY SERVICES
AND SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:30 AM

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

Parish Social Media

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

May Birthdays

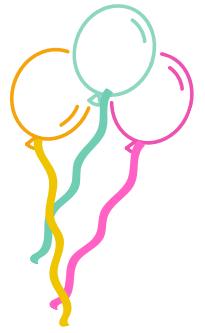
Eidsvold

- 4 - Jerome Johnson
- 4 - Jebediah Johnson
- 7 - Karen Brostrom
- 7 - Darrell Potts
- 7 - Paige Scharpen
- 8 - Riley Plote
- 13 - Haley Kaeder
- 14 - Diane Hohmann
- 16 - Miles Kuesel
- 17 - Seth Johnson
- 18 - Barbara Christensen
- 22 - Bev Bierbrauer
- 22 - Lucy Munsen
- 22 - Averie Soden
- 23 - Lynda Rieck
- 24 - Thelma Hartman
- 25 - Aaliyah Huppert
- 31 - Macey Alms
- 31 - Judy Anderson



Svea

- 5 - Don Manore
- 7 - Max Grand
- 11 - Tate Albarado
- 14 - Denise Witgert
- 16 - Ray Carlson
- 17 - Misty Schwarzhoff
- 25 - Al Schwarzhoff
- 28 - Yvonne Manore
- 31 - Sue Enberg
- 31 - Dennis Rieck
- 31 - Joanne McCoy



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

Did you know Pastor left a message on **YouTube** the Sunday church was cancelled?

There's also other interesting messages on **Svea YouTube** as well as Svea's worship each week. Check them out at <https://www.youtube.com/@SveaLutheranChurch> or simply google Svea Lutheran Church, Hager City WI

Once you're there, click on YouTube.

Pastor and others are currently creating an **Easter Worship that will be on this Youtube for Easter**. So check that out too! There's already a wonderful Christmas service on it.

PRAYER LIST

Prayers for Healing

Nate Rieck, Margaret Group, Karl Group, Jim Bostrom, Barry Barringer, Darrell Schuster, Liliah Larson, Gail Gusa, Virgil Hinrichs, Tammy Price, John (Butch) Sebion, Sandy Place, Bob Soden, Wendell Manore, Dave Ericson, Elwyn Manore

Prayers for Sustained Strength and Comfort

Johnnie Albarado, Norma Hanson, Laura Anderson, Larry Gerdes, Terrence Emery, Chris Larson, Rose Ann Powers, Gerry Hoffman, Connie Rieck, 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, Isaac and Isabella Thrill, Zeke and Cassie Wettstein, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi

Prayers for those serving in the military

Carson Anway, Tyler Ballman, Nathan Solomon



Community Events

Svea Quilters

2nd and 4th Tuesday

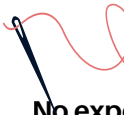
May 12

May 26

9 am-noon

No experience is needed.

All are welcome!



BETHEL'S BASEMENT BLESSINGS

New Community Outreach

FREE Monthly Shopping

at Bethel Covenant Church

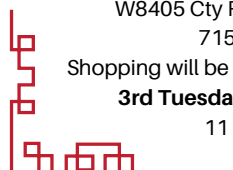
W8405 Cty Rd KK, Ellsworth WI

715-792-2397

Shopping will be held each month on the

3rd Tuesday and Wednesday

11 AM - 6 PM



EUCHRE

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



Community Events

Come to St. Paul's United Church of Christ for **FREE cajon drum lessons.**

Every Saturday in May from 11 am to 12:30 pm with lunch provided.



Adults & Students can still join the group who are having a wonderful time.

St. Paul's UCC church is the brick church east of Ellsworth at the junction of Highway 72 & 63.

Address: W5706 State Road 72, Ellsworth



NO Ruby's Pantry
This event has been cancelled and will no longer be available.

Retreat for Women!!



NORTHWEST SYNOD OF WISCONSIN

WELCA WOMEN'S RETREAT

God Is Writing Your Story

Speaker: Pati Kachel

<https://www.theparablefund.org/bio>

Monday and Tuesday, June 29 & 30

One day option available for Monday, June 29

\$95.00 (2 days) Early bird special available until 6/5/26

\$65.00 (Monday) Early bird special until 6/5/26

Luther Park Bible Camp

944 24 1/4 Street Chetek, WI

Contact Barb Krug for more information

715-965-5696 or barbkruh@charter.net

SVEA CHURCH HAPPENINGS

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

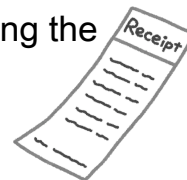
A BIG thank you to **Mary Shaver** for serving as treasurer and on the church council for several years. You always helped and served with a smile and positive attitude.

THANK YOU!!



Russ Oberg has offered his services to being treasurer and filling the vacant spot on council.

Thank you for stepping up and helping out!



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.



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

Any amount is appreciated.



EIDSVOLD HAPPENINGS

Thank you for your Time and Talents

Readers

Eidsvold

May 3 Carol/Angie Petereson
 May 10 Justin Mandelkow
 May 17 Judy Lacroix
 May 24 Phyllis Beastrom
 May 31 Fay Albarado

thank you!

Word in Season

Devotionals

April - May - June

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

Confirmation Schedule

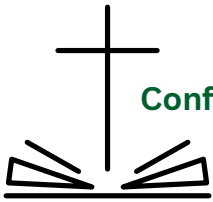
9th Graders

5:30 Meal 6:00 - 7:00 Class

at Eidsvold

Wednesday, May 6

Confirmation Day Sunday, May 10



May

Altar Committee

Phyllis Beastrom

Bake Communion Bread

Phyllis Beastrom
 May 3, 10, 17, 31

Wash Communion Glasses

May 3 _____
 May 10 _____
 May 17 _____
 May 31 _____



Ushers

May 3 Kari Schroeder & Lynda Rieck
 May 10 DeLoris & Darren Bloomstrand
 May 17 Judy Lacroix & _____
 May 24 Alvin & Lorna Eidem
 May 31 Fay Albarado & Jan Kearns

Thank you for volunteering and getting on the rotation!

There are still openings that need to be filled. Let Lee Langer know if you able to usher or if you are willing to be a sub.

Ecumenical Choir



*April 12, 2026
 The church was filled with singers, music, and joy!*

Sunday School News!

May 3 Last Day of Sunday School

Thank you to Bree, Superintendent, and teachers: Heather and Molly. You are appreciated!!

PLEASE CONTACT BREE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE THAT WOULD LIKE TO JOIN SUNDAY SCHOOL!

BREE_LUND@OUTLOOK.COM OR 651-764-2227



Behind the scenes:

Do you know who changes the altar cloths and fills all those communion cups?

Answer:

Altar Guild: Kathy Sears, Lorna Eidem, Kathy Hanson, Tracie Esterby, Phyllis Beastrom, Bev Peterson, Karen Brostrom, Fay Albarado, Mary Williams

SWOT
STRENGTHS
Weaknesses
Opportunities
Talents

STRENGTHS
Did you post your thoughts on the board?
It would be appreciated if everyone could add one idea!

Next....

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

Luther Point Bible Camp

Grantsburg, WI 54840

www.lutherpoint.org

Have you ever been to camp?



Luther Point is place where young people encounter God, build lasting friendships, and discover their faith in ways that shape their entire lives.

Students 1st through 12th grade are encouraged to attend.

Horse Camp, Fish Camp, and Outpost Camp are just a few choices.

See the bulletin board for the appropriate time and age group for your child!

Contact Pastor Al with questions.

Concerned about the cost? Funding from the church is available!



Isabelle Peterson

1. What is your favorite high school class and why?

Athletic Training, Anatomy, or Advanced Team Sports. I enjoy learning about the body and how it functions, so Anatomy was super interesting. Athletic Training allowed me to incorporate taping techniques to help the body which was exciting to learn about. I have always loved sports, so being in a gym class where others are competitive has been very enjoyable and it is also a nice break from schoolwork.

2. What is your fondest memory of high school?

My fondest memory of high school is my time on the dance and track team. Through both I was introduced to new people who became my friends.

3. Who are the people that have influenced you the most?

My parents have influenced me the most. I learned almost everything from them. Also, my friends. They play a huge part of my life and have shaped me into the person I am today.

4. If you could interview anyone, living or dead, who would you choose?

I would choose to interview Simone Biles because she is the world's greatest gymnast and has been a HUGE influence to me.

5. What do you plan to do after high school?

After high school, I plan to attend University Wisconsin Eau Claire, to major in Exercise Science, in hopes of becoming an athletic trainer.

Cayden O'Reilly

1. **What is your favorite high school class and why?** Construction, building a house
2. **What is your fondest memory of high school?** Winning Semi-Final Game at State and playing in the Championship Game at USBank Stadium
3. **Who are the people that have influenced you the most?** My Dad and Mom
4. **If you could interview anyone, living or dead, who would you choose?** Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson
5. **What do you plan to do after high school?** Farming on the family organic dairy farm



Everyone is invited to Cayden's Grad Party - Invite above:



Ava Scharpen

1. **What is your favorite high school class and why?** My favorite class was Horse, dairy livestock class.
2. **What is your fondest memory of high school?** Sophomore prom.
3. **Who are the people that have influenced you the most?** My parents.
4. **If you could interview anyone, living or dead, who would you choose?** Hailey Kinsel, pro barrel racer.
5. **What do you plan to do after high school?** Attend CVTC and compete in college rodeo.

