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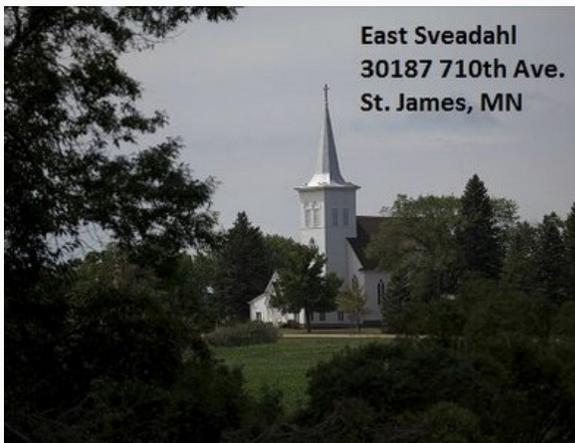


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# AES MINISTRIES OFFICE UPDATE

## February 17th



### ASH WEDNESDAY

**The Lenten Season begins today, Ash Wednesday, February 17th with a 12:00 pm "Drive-By" communion distribution and blessing at Augustana.**

**The "Drive By" will be in the parking lot off Weston Avenue by the back church door. Due to COVID restrictions, there will a blessing alternative to the imposition of ashes.**

**The in-sanctuary Ash Wednesday evening communion worship service is at 6:30 pm at East Sveadah. This service is also on Facebook. Due to COVID restrictions, there will be a blessing alternative to the imposition of ashes.**

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**Sunday, February 21st, 2021 ~ Pastor Gene Alms**  
In Sanctuary Worship and Facebook at Augustana 9:00 am  
In Sanctuary Worship at East Sveadahl 10:45 am

**SUNDAY MORNING IN-CHURCH PROTOCOLS**

Entering the churches: Augustana – enter and exit through the education wing doors  
East -- enter in the front door; exit through the south door  
Ushers will direct you to your seat. The Sanctuary is the only part of the church that is open.

Use the hand sanitizer as you enter and when you leave.

All members need to wear a mask; please bring your own.

All members are asked to be mindful of social distancing when entering, sitting in the pews & exiting churches.

At the end of the service, you will be ushered out of the sanctuary and are asked to go directly

out of the church. If you choose to visit, it must be outside – social distancing.

If you don't feel comfortable coming into the sanctuary yet, please listen to the service on Facebook.

Any members who have underlying health conditions or who are ill are encouraged not to attend, but are invited to enjoy the service on Facebook.

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**The 9th Grade Confirmation class meets at 7:30 pm today,  
Wed. Feb. 17th, via Zoom.**

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A private memorial service for the immediate family of **Merlin "Sonny" Reinke** will be held at Sturm Funeral Home in St. James on Saturday, February 20th, 2021. Burial with military honors will follow at Calvary Cemetery in St. James,

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**"Equipment/Furniture For Sale at Augustana"**

**We are looking to sell the roll top desk that houses the current sound system. With the technology upgrades, additional storage space is needed and we would like to offer it for sale to our congregation members. There is currently an offer of \$500.00 from outside the congregation and the deadline is Sunday, February 21, 2021. If interested, please contact Terry Engel at 507-720-2336.**

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The deadline for the March newsletter is **Saturday, March 20th.**

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#### **WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING!**

Becky Cobb and Jo Howe host an old fashioned weekly prayer meeting every week on Monday morning at 10. We read a Psalm, pray general petitions together, and then lift up each name from our congregation's prayer list. We do this via Zoom and the link to join is found below, as well as the Sunday bulletin. Also, if you have a prayer request, please e-mail or call the church and we will add this to the weekly list that we pray for. There are several people that we pray for by name whose reason for being on the list is confidential. God knows the need and we trust God to provide what is most needed. Please join us on Monday mornings for about 20 minutes. Come as you are, you will be welcomed!

Click Here to Join the Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77502081644?pwd=NTdkeXB6TUlrzliSzVKZkhwTjg1UT09>

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#### **Augustana Worship Services on Cable TV**

We are excited to announce that the Augustana Worship Services are back on Mediacom Public Access television station in St. James. As part of our technology and equipment improvement project at Augustana, we were able to bring this back to our congregations and community.

The services are recorded each Sunday and will be played back on Tuesdays at 2:15 PM.

Thank you for your support and enjoy the services!

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#### **WATONWAN COUNTY FOOD SHELF**

The Watonwan County Food Shelf has some very exciting things going on in the next few weeks. Our first exciting news is that we are going to be hosting more COVID food box distributions. Our next one is going to be Friday, February 19th from 4-6pm at Memorial Park. Also Save the Date for our next distribution which is scheduled for Friday, March 19th from 4-6 at Memorial Park. As always in order to make these events a success volunteers are needed. If you are interested in volunteering please sign up at this link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DA4AC2FA2FACE9-august>

**We are in need of Food Shelf Volunteers for February, especially for our COVID food distribution scheduled for Friday, February 19th at Memorial Park. If you are able to help, or know someone**

**that is, please sign up at the link below!**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DA4AC2FA2FACE9-august>

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**To view the videos of worship services and devotions –**

Go to the church website at [augustanachurch.org](http://augustanachurch.org).

Click on the white “f” in the box (Facebook icon) by the search box,  
or at the bottom of page.

This will bring you to the church Facebook page.

Click on “Posts” or “Videos” on left side and you will be able to view these videos.

Make sure volume is turned on and up.

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**Augustana and East Sveadahl** continue to have financial needs to be met in these uncertain times. We ask for your contributions and are grateful to all who have been giving.

Thank you!

Augustana members may leave donations in the **new payment drop box** located by the back entrance to church.

You can send a donation through the mail to:

**Augustana Lutheran Church**

P.O. Box 151, St James, MN 56081

**East Sveadahl Lutheran Church**

30187 710th Avenue, St James, MN 56081 or

Sonja Coleman, 39702 780th Ave., St. James, MN 56081

+ You can go to – [www.augustanachurch.org](http://www.augustanachurch.org) – website, click on the Secure Contributions tab, and follow the links. Donations can be made from your checkbook or by credit card

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**Changes ---**

If your **home address**, your **email address**, or your **phone number changes**, please get that information to the church secretaries Sue at 375-4792 and Susan at 507-317-5293.

We don't want to lose touch with our members!

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**Locked** – The East Sveadahl church is now locked.

Augustana church is not open to the public per the Stay Home MN order. Only essential employees should be in the building, we ask that people please follow the guidelines. If you have questions or need something from the church, please call office at 375-4792. Thank you!

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Remember to check our AES Ministries Facebook page for changes and updates!.

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**We urge everyone to stay safe!**

