

AES MINISTRIES
Augustana/East Sveadahl Lutheran Churches
January 2022 Newsletter

Pastor's Column

Dear Siblings in Christ,

It is that time of year when people speak about making New Year's resolutions. We love the idea of having a fresh start. We love the idea of "out with the old and in with the new". We want this new year to mean a new us. We look forward, even if it is just for a week, to living intentionally and focusing on something that will, in some way, improve us.

The most popular new year's resolutions seem to be: exercise more, lose weight, get organized, learn a new skill or hobby, live life to the fullest, save more money / spend less money, quit smoking, spend more time with family and friends. These are all worthy and good things to want to do. Any of these things, by themselves, are noble ambitions that will promote a healthier lifestyle. And yet, as I write this, just after doing my daily devotions, I cannot help but think about how our vocation as Christians, calls us to more.

In 1 Corinthians chapter 11 Paul presents two very different aspects of Christian practice in the 1st century church in Corinth. The first third of the chapter deals with head covering in worship. Paul writes, "any man who prays or prophesies with something on his head disgraces his head but any woman who prays or prophesies with her head unveiled disgraces her head." Please note that "his head" and "her head" can also be translated to mean "Christ" – disgraces Christ takes on a whole new meaning, doesn't it? Translation is so important!

Like us, standing at the beginning of the new year, the Corinthians were standing at the beginning of a new faith. Previously men would exhibit their wealth through the decorative hats or crowns they were able to afford while a woman's wealth was demonstrated through the styling of her hair. Paul is introducing a new idea to them, that in the church one's status is irrelevant, so the new resolution for the Corinthian church is to demonstrate that appropriately through their head covering, or lack thereof.

But personal expression and improvement are not Paul's only concern. Just a few verses later he moves to talking about this church's practice of communion in which they are being exclusionary. Paul tells the congregation in Corinth, "So then, my brothers and sisters, when you come together to eat, wait for one another. If you are hungry, eat at home, so that when you come together, it will not be for your condemnation."

Paul's concern for this church moves beyond what is of personal importance to the individual and into the realm of caring for the community. This is a theme found over and over in the Bible. God is concerned with your life, this is true, however God wants your life to reflect the love and grace you have received from Christ onto everyone you encounter. The gift of faith that we are given in baptism, the forgiveness that we are given in communion, are a calling for us to move beyond ourselves and live fully into God's mission. As you consider which, if any resolutions you will be making for this next year, I encourage you to ask how God is inviting you to live more fully into your faith.

In Christ Jesus,
Pastor Mandy France

AUGUSTANA

ALTAR FLOWERS

Please call the church office if you wish to provide altar flowers for a particular Sunday. Your name will be placed on the schedule.

COFFEE HOUR

January 2: Available
9: Available
16: Available
23: Available
30: Available

LECTORS

January 2: Kristen Gertsema
9: Ruther Haler
16: Deb Style
23: Leora Ask
30: Jim Moody

ALTAR GUILD

Nancy Kunkel, Deanna Hoffman, Bonnie Reid, LeeAnn Nibbe.

USHERS

Jim Anderson, Chris Bass, Chad Gronewold, Darrick Miest, Jackson Miest, Bruce Sharp, Steve Walker, Doug Westman.

TRANSITIONS

BAPTISM:

We welcomed into God’s Family and AES Ministries on December 19, 2021, **Jacob Charles Beckius and Rilynn Sue Beckius**, Daughter of Jacob Beckius and Megan Bocoock.

Please continue to keep these children and their families in your prayers as they grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

FUNERALS:

A celebration of life was held for **Geraldine “Gerry” Ann (Petterson) Swenson** on December 16, 2021 at 11:00 AM at Augustana. Gerry passed away on December 11, 2021.

AUGUSTANA

CIRCLES

January 4: 9:30 am, Rebecca Circle, Fireside Room
January 5: 9:00 am, Martha Circle, Fireside Room
January 18: 9:00 am, Sewing Circle

MISSIONARY SPONSORS

For the Month of January, Bert Swenson is Sponsoring our Missionary in Loving Memory of Gerry Swenson.

Please call the church office to sponsor our Missionary. The cost is \$20.00 for a week.

RADIO INFO ~ KSUM 1370 AM

Sponsor a half hour broadcast for \$40.00. East sponsors the 2nd Sunday of the month, Augustana sponsors the 4th Sunday of the month, 5th Sundays are split between the churches. To sponsor an Augustana broadcast, call 375-4792. The January 23rd radio broadcast from Augustana is available for a sponsor.

POINSETTIAS:

Thank you to the following for Poinsettia’s: Adam, Ashley, & Talyn Johnson; Kari & Darrick Miest; Lavonne Watson & Family; Lynn Watson; Bryon & Kathy Christenson; John & Cecelia Kulseth; Chad, Tracey, Emily Gronewold and Matt Westman; Philip & Lavonne Anderson; Eugene & Carol Zarn; Stan & Nancy Kunkel; Jim & Judy Sizer; Jayne Anderson; Pastor Mandy France; Ardis Petterson; Roger & Mary Jo Hagen & Family; John & Jeanne Miest

MEMORIALS:

In memory of **Dick Gilbertson**
\$420 – Stained Glass Window Fund
\$25 - Music/Technology

In memory of **Maurine Broste**
\$287.50 - Music/Technology
\$217.50 – Stained Glass Window Fund
\$100.00 – WELCA

In memory of **Gerry Swenson**
\$75 Stained Glass Fund
\$15.00 – Music/Technology

EAST

RADIO BROADCASTS

January 2: First Lutheran, St. James
 9: East Sveadahl
 16: First Lutheran, St. James
 23: Augustana
 30: Augustana

ALTAR COMMITTEE

Julene and Sonja

VISITING COMMITTEE

Cindy and Lorita

LECTORS

January 2: Janet Bloomquist
 9: Mike Menssen
 16: Angie Noren
 23: Dale Anderson
 30: Jerry Noren

EAST RADIO BROADCASTS in 2022

Sponsors are needed for these broadcasts:

January 9, February 13, March 13, April 10,
 May 8, June 12, July 10 & 31, August 14,
 September 11, October 9 & 30, November 13,
 December 11

Call Susan to sponsor any of these broadcasts.
 Cost is \$40.00.

POINSETTIAS

Thank you for the poinsettias:

Lori Urevig, Mackenzie; Lisa Shellum, Macey,
 Mallory; Paul & Cindy Torkelson and family;
 Ray & Leola Anderson's family; Julene
 Hoffman & Jim Anderson; Herbert & Karen
 Noren's family; Ron Noren's family; Lowell
 Bloomquist's family; Susie & Lee Carlson;
 Teresa Andrews; Dale & Deb Anderson and
 family; Creig & Deb Noren; Jerry & Lynette
 Noren and family; Bryon & Kathy Christenson;
 Steve & Charlotte Johnson and family; Kris &
 Tom Suess and family; Sam & Marie
 Christenson; Matt & Mykia Fisch

The **2022 WELCA booklets** are ready.
 They are laying on the table in the narthex. If
 you can, please deliver booklets to members
 who can't get to church. Thank you.

EAST

TRANSITIONS:

Scarlett Esther Anderson, daughter of Matthew
 and Jessica Anderson, was received into God's
 Family through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on
 December 19, 2021. Her sponsors are Kristen
 Anderson, Emily Anderson, and Chloe Anderson.
 She was born October 16, 2021. Welcome to East
 Sveadahl and AES Ministries!

PRAYER CONCERNS: Bruce, Creig, Erma, Sam,
 Tom, Ray, Everett, Chloe, Mary Ann,
 Orval, Charles

STEWARDSHIP REPORTS:

Needed through November	\$65,604.00
Received through November	64,596.49
Behind through November	- \$ 1,007.51
Received in November	\$ 3,178.93

*Happy January Birthday
 Happy Baptismal Birthday*

- 3 Kris Suess [2-8]
 Susan Anderson [5-29]
- 5 Emily Christenson [3-14]
- 7 Erick Avila [4-14]
 Nathan Jurgens [2-19]
- 9 Brent Coleman [2-28]
- 11 Phyllis Jurgens [3-3]
 Makya Keosaksith [4-15]
- 14 James Nasman [3-15]
- 15 David Anderson [2-28]
- 17 Pat Buse [3-6]
 Dakota Menssen [9-3]
- 18 Dacen Anderson [3-17]
 Terrance Bridges [5-2]
 Nicole Johnson [4-15]
- 19 Jennifer Anderson [3-11]
- 23 Don Rathman
- 24 Madison Dougherty [4-00]
- 28 Jennifer Schmidt [2-26]
- 29 Dale Anderson [3-15]
 Brayden Fast [2-09]
 Thomas Johnson [4-3]
 Kaystyn Keosaksith [7-11]

**A New Year's Resolution is something that
 goes in one year and out the other!**

AES JANUARY NEWS

~ ~ **The church office will be CLOSED** on Monday January 17th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

~ ~ **ANNUAL REPORTS and ANNUAL MEETINGS**

Financial Reports:

All Financial Books from both congregations need to be closed. Please ready your financial reports as you have done in the past.

East: Financial reports turned in by **Monday, January 10, 2022**

Audited reports turned in by **Monday, January 17, 2022**

Auditors: Julene Hoffman, Wes Beck, and Creig Noren

Written Reports:

Please send Augustana reports to the church secretary by **Monday, January 3, 2022.**

Please send East reports to the church secretary by **Monday, January 17, 2022.**

Reports for both congregations: Pastor's, 2021 Annual Meeting, AES Ministries, WELCAs, Worship and Music, Education, Youth, Property, and Resolutions

For Augustana: Evangelism/Faith Chest /Grounds for Hope, Finance/Stewardship/Memorial, and Martha, Rebecca, and Sewing Circles

Annual Meetings:

Augustana Annual Meeting – Sunday, January 16, 2022, following the 9:00 am worship service.

East Annual Meeting – Sunday, February 2, 2022

~ ~ **CONFIRMATION**

We are at the halfway point with our Confirmation year already!

There are **many students** who have yet to complete their work in order to be on track to be confirmed. As a reminder, I **will not confirm** any student who has not completed their work. They will be able to be confirmed the following year. All students and parents should have received the requirements at the beginning of the year for Confirmation. This includes memory work, attending church council meetings, helping to deliver children's sermons (once TLC starts back up this would be a great time to help with those!), attending worship, service projects, and faith projects for the 9th and 10th graders. Faith Project proposals are due to me **no later than January 19th.**

If you are unable to attend in person worship, you can view the services on our Facebook page. I can send home the worship notes with you, and you can turn them into me at class. If you do not have a mentor, please get in touch with me as soon as possible. Our next meeting for mentors and students is January 9th at 6pm at East. Please reach out to me via email if you have questions or concerns.

~ ~ **NOISY OFFERING**

January has five Sundays! The next Noisy Offering Sunday will be January 30th!

The church councils determine where the offering is given. Start saving!

~ ~ ELECTRONIC GIVING

1. Electronically: visit church web site and on the “Secure Contributions” tab
2. Secure Contributions: visit the church website www.augustanachurch.org
3. Give+Text: from your phone, text number is 844-686-4439 (unique to Augustana)
4. Offering envelopes: through the mail or into the drop box

Questions: Contact Financial Secretary, Deanna Hoffman 507-317-7724, ddesigns@mchsi.com

~ ~ PRAYERS and PRAISES

We appreciate the concern and care you show for family members and friends by placing them on the Prayer Concern list in our bulletins. We do believe in the power of prayer! If you have added someone to our list, **please let us know when to remove their name if the need is no longer there.** Thank you.

~ ~ KEEPING IN TOUCH

Facebook: “Like” the Augustana/East Sveadahl Ministries Facebook page for pictures, updates, etc.

AES Ministries website: www.augustanachurch.org

Address changes: Augustana Office 375-4792 or Susan at East 507-317-5293

Weekly Bulletins: Sunday bulletins will be posted weekly on the AES Ministries website home page

~ ~ WINTER CANCELLATIONS

Winter weather is coming! We ask you to please use your best judgement and common sense before venturing to church. Your safety is very important to us! Please check the sources listed below for cancellations before you leave home.

CHURCH CLOSINGS: Listen to 101.5 FM (KRRW), 860 AM (KNUJ), Channel 12 KEYC-TV, check the AES web site at www.augustanachurch.org, or our Facebook page for any snow emergency information. If school is cancelled or closed early, confirmation classes will also be cancelled.

~ ~ NEWSLETTERS

If you are interested in having the newsletter, come to you by email only and not as a paper copy in the mail, please contact the Augustana church office or Susan. If you are not a member of AES Ministries and no longer wish to receive a newsletter, please contact us.

Current newsletters are available on the AES website at www.augustanachurch.org.

~ ~ MONDAY MORNING PRAYER MEETING

The Weekly Prayer Meeting is Monday morning at 10:00 am via Zoom. Type in the link to join (or click on the link on the website)

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77502081644?pwd=NTdkeXB6TUlrazliSzVKZkhwTjg1UT09>

~ ~ AES at GREEN LAKE

Camping at Green Lake Bible Camp is quickly approaching! Our week is Week 7 (July 24-28)! Paper registration forms will be in the mail in a couple of weeks. Registration opens December 13th, and the early bird discount ends Tuesday, February 15, 2022. Spots have been reserved for Half Blast, Andy's Gang, Trailblazers, and Stargazers. There are a few changes this year such as drop off is on Sunday afternoon and pick-up is on Thursday evening with open worship offered to parents again this year!

Keep your eyes peeled for forms and more information coming soon!

~ ~ THANK YOU

- ✝ Thank you to those who decorated the church for Christmas. These decorations helped get everyone into the Christmas Spirit. Your efforts were appreciated by everyone. - The East Council
- ✝ Thank you to all our 2021 radio sponsors. Our radio audience appreciates being able to hear the worship service.
- ✝ Dear Members of East Sveadahl Lutheran, Thank you for giving to Green lake Lutheran Ministries for Give to the Max Day! We're so grateful for your contribution and support on this important day. Your gift of \$500 will help us fund a pontoon and lift for Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp. ...
Sincerely, Travis Aufderheide, Executive Director
- ✝ Thank you WELCA for the Poinsettia's, cookies, reading materials, and candy. It was very generous and appreciated! - Don & Betty Flater
- ✝ Dear Augustana Church, Thank you for the bible and other Items. - Ella Flohrs
- ✝ What a nice surprise with such beautiful cards from Augustana WELCA! On this cold beautiful winter morning what a treat it was going to the mailbox and finding such a thoughtful gift—including stamps. Please thank the committee; their kindness is much appreciated. - Peace, Sandra Resick
- ✝ Thank you Jean Leopold and Ruth Haler for the cookies! I appreciate it a lot! - Viola Sandberg
- ✝ I would like to say THANK YOU to the Augustana WELCA for the amazing gift basket! It was deeply appreciated and the goodies were all enjoyed! Thank you! I would also like to say THANK YOU to East Sveadahl for the generous Christmas gift. It was very kind of you and deeply appreciated! I am thankful to serve such wonderful people. Thank you again! - Pastor Mandy
- ✝ Thank you so much Augustana WELCA for my gift basket! I appreciate the thoughtful gift along with all of the goodies that were inside! They were delicious! - Lauren Moll
- ✝ Thanks to both congregations for their love and support during the years & special thanks for the Christmas gifts & goodies. I can assure you I enjoyed them thoroughly! Blessings to all and thanksgiving to God, the giver, we move forward together in bringing hope & love to all in the name of Jesus our Savior & Lord. -Deacon, Lyla Klee

COMMUNITY EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

~ ~ HIGH SCHOOL PANTRY NEEDS

The High School Food Pantry is in need of socks and personal care items (shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, etc.) for students. If you are able to purchase any of these items to be donated, please bring them to Augustana during regular church office hours and place them in the box outside of Pastor Mandy's office. Pastor Mandy will then deliver them to the high school. Thank you!

~ ~ FOODSHELF VOLUNTEERS

We thank ALL of you for your support and help to continue to make us a successful non-profit. With that said, we are in need of volunteers for our final days in December and then beginning in January. Below is the link that you can sign up at. It is not mandatory that you use the link to sign up,
(Continued)

you can just show up and volunteer on the days that we are open. This registration link allows us to just know that we will have someone there for our doors to be open. Please, invite a friend along to help, bring your children, ALL are welcome and there are no training requirements. If you have questions, please reach out! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DA4AC2FA2FACE9-august>

~ ~ ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM - MVAC

If you or someone you know has difficulty paying their monthly energy bills, please request an application by calling MVAC at (507) 345-6822 or (800) 767-7139 or downloading the application from MVAC’s website at mnvaac.org. Applications are available now, and the deadline to apply is May 31, 2022. Check the church bulletin boards for more information.

~ ~Financial Facts

September, October, November 2021

	<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Total Giving	\$8,255.15	\$13,201.15	\$13,327.61	\$128,498.17
Total Expenses	<u>\$15,827.48</u>	<u>\$8,179.04</u>	<u>\$15,455.09</u>	<u>\$123,615.88</u>
	- 7,572.33	+5,022.11	-2,127.48	+4,882.29

This is our Financial Summary for the past 3 months. Each month is a slightly different story but the **YTD** is the best indicator of our overall financial status. Please note our payroll expenses will be slightly higher in December and going forward with the change is our Secretary and Custodial positions and the addition of a paid position for snow removal. As the year ends our Missionary Covenant Financial support is due and there are also giving opportunities to World Hunger, Benevolence “Special Gifts” and Disaster Relief. I’ve received notifications that ELCA disaster response will be assisting in the tornado damaged areas in Kentucky and other states. These dollars are directly forwarded to the synod for that purpose.

I will not be distributing the Thrivent Choice deposits at the year end. As of the end of November there is only \$16 in that account. Thank you for supporting ALL of the missions of Augustana!

Respectfully Submitted

- Judy Thulien – Treasurer

AES JOINT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – December 2, 2021

The AES Ministries Joint Council met on Thursday, December 2, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at Augustana. The following members were present: Wayne Jurgens, Leora Ask, Janet Bloomquist, Becky Cob, Terry Engel, Mark Kulseth, Michael Messen, and Pastor Mandy. Wayne Jurgens, Chairperson, called the meeting to order. Pastor Mandy opened with prayer. A motion by Mark, seconded by Terry, and passed to accept the November minutes as printed in newsletter. **Pastor Mandy** gave her report. Some of the highlights were:

- The Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service at First Presbyterian Church went very well.
- Pastor Mandy delivered 8 thanksgiving baskets.
- Jesse Shores is helping with confirmation, and Pastor Mandy is very grateful, and it’s going very well.
- There are 9 family units (some families and some individuals) expressing interest in joining AES Ministries – some in each congregation. Pastor Mandy would like to see some sort of brochure highlighting events within the church to be able to hand out to prospective members. Pastor Mandy will work with Lauren, the Augustana Secretary and design a handout.

(Continued)

- Pastor Mandy met with area pastors concerning a family in need of assistance. The month of December will be our chance to donate money for the family. Your donation will be tax deductible. Pastor Mandy will give more information at the Sunday services.
- There have been a number of donations to the High School pantry, and Pastor Mandy will deliver it this week.
- AES youth are being registered for the National Youth gathering in 2022.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mark Kulseth reminded us that TLC will begin again in January if COVID numbers allow. Terry shared that Augustana will be back on the radio on December 26, and the normal schedule will start in January. Wayne handed out the updated AES Partnership Agreement. The changes are highlighted and need to be approved at each church's annual meeting. We have been working under these changes since 2020 but, because of COVID our annual meeting dates changed, so we couldn't get them approved.

As there was no further business we closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Our next meeting will be January 6, 2022.

Respectfully submitted, Janet Bloomquist

EAST SVEADAH LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES -- December 9, 2021

The East Sveadahl Church Council met on December 9, 2021, at 7 p.m. at church. Those present were Tom Anderson, Wayne Jurgens, Janet Bloomquist, Evonne Moll, James Nasman, Susan Anderson, and Sonja Coleman. Tom Anderson, Council Chairman, called the meeting to order and opened with prayer. The November 2021 secretary's report was approved as read. Sonja Coleman, Financial Secretary, and Evonne Moll, Treasurer, presented their reports. A motion by Wayne, seconded by Janet, and passed to accept the reports as given. The outstanding bills were presented by Tom. A motion by Evonne, seconded by Wayne, and passed to approve paying of bills.

The AES report was presented by Wayne. Full report can be read in the newsletter.

In the absence of **Pastor Mandy**, her report was highlighted by Tom:

- Masks are required at the Christmas Eve Services.
- Pastor Mandy met with area pastors concerning a family in need of assistance. The month of December will be our chance to donate money, which is tax deductible, to the family. As of this meeting Sonja reported donations of \$725.00 have been given.
- Pastor Mandy was wondering if the approved purchase of an Ipad for the church has been done.

Susan's report:

- The office hours at Augustana will be changing to Monday – Thursday so Susan will go to those days also. This change at Augustana is due to daycare for Pastor Mandy.
- Susan will be gone from January 2-9.

Old Business:

- Tom checked in the parking issues around the church but didn't get much information. He will keep working on the issue.

New Business:

- A motion was made by Janet, seconded by Evonne, and passed to give the \$500.00 from the Special Funds money to the family in need of assistance.
- Tom asked Pastor Mandy if the AES Operation Concern fund was in need of extra funds. It is fine as of now.
- A motion was made by James, seconded by Janet, and passed to give Christmas bonuses to Susan, Myka, Lisa, Lyla, and Pastor Mandy.

(Continued)

- January meeting will focus on the 2022 budget.

As there was no further business, we closed with the Nicene Creed.

The next church council meeting will be January 13, 2022, at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Janet Bloomquist, Council Secretary

AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES - DECEMBER 8, 2021

Present: Terry Engel, Deanna Hoffman, Kyla Schломann, Lyle Anderson, Lynn Watson, John Coleman, Paul Missling, Judy Thulien, Pastor Mandy, Mark Kulseth, Lisa Carlson, Andy Freitag, Dean Swenstad

Absent: Jill Beckius, Kristi Zellmann

Kulseth called the meeting to order at 7:35p.m. in the Social Hall. Devotions were led by Watson.

Reports:

Motion by Missling to approve the Secretary's Report as printed, seconded by Watson. Motion carried.

Motion by Watson to approve the Treasurer's Report as printed, seconded by Schломann. Motion carried.

Thulien also gave some information about the Finance meeting which will be listed later in the rest of the Finance notes.

Hoffman presented the Giving Report. The offerings have been going well. The safe won't open. It was suggested to see if Craig's Lock & Key could open it or we could order new keys from the manufacturer.

Pastor Mandy's Report: She participated in the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service held at First Presbyterian. She was able to deliver five food baskets to families. There had been a request for gas money. We will get Casey's Gas cards and SuperFair Foods gift cards to have on hand for these types of needs. This is funded by our Operation Concern fund. She would like to see acolytes being used for our services.

Missling will help get this program going and Schломann has volunteered to train the kids. Christmas Eve service will be at 5:30. Kulseth mentioned that bags of peanuts and an apple will be given out after the service. Confirmation has been going well. Jessie Shores has been helping with the 7th & 8th grades. TLC Drive-in movie is next week so there will not be 9th & 10th Grade Confirmation.

AES Ministries: The TLC position is being looked at. Hours spent per week have been about 10. The hourly wage is \$16/hour for 36 weeks. East Sveadahl will have their Christmas Eve service at 4:00. The booklet about the 2 Point Partnership Agreement needs to be updated and voted on at the annual meeting.

Committee Reports:

Education Committee: They will meet December 9th.

Evangelism/Social Ministry/Worship & Music Committees: The new member service will be held in February. Nine family units will be joining between the two congregations. On Christmas Eve Augustana's service will be at 5:30. We will wear masks and distance as we can. Plans are starting for Lent. Pastor Mandy would like to start a ministry for 0-3 year-olds with maybe a young parents' group meeting once a month. There is a baptism this week. We need more people helping with the services now that we are back in person. There are a few people doing all the work. We need the groups who took care of things before Covid to be activated. Some groups are already back in place. Schломann will help with getting the ushering teams in place. We are also looking for more people willing to learn the technology to broadcast the services.

Finance Committee: The budget was discussed and they have a starting point to work with. The Council will vote on it at the next meeting. Some budget increase possibilities are FICA, office supplies, Altar Guild, insurance, worship supplies and payroll. They will fine tune the budget.

Property/Cemetery Committee: Snow removal will now be done by Craig Grove at \$15 per hour. Kulseth will continue to do the parking lot. The company doing the Stain Glass Window restoration needed to know what color we want for the frame and materials around the window. Bronze was chosen. The John Deere tractor needed a new battery. Craig was shown how to use our snow removal equipment.

(Continued)

Youth Committee: 15 kids are registered for the National Youth Gathering and a few more will be added. When the kids sign up for the NYG, they get to go to Bible Camp for free provided for by the camp.

TLC update: The plan is to resume in January.

New Business: The annual meeting will be January 16th at 10:00a.m. New council members will be needed for AES: a member to be President and a council member for a 1-year term. New members will also be needed for Augustana Council. The Nominating Committee will work on that.

Adjourned at 8:56p.m. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Council meeting will be January 12th at 7:30p.m.

Lisa Carlson, V.P., acting Council Secretary

AES EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT - December 9, 2021

We began with a Christmas carol prayer. During these Covid times we need to be as positive as possible! Music can really lift a person's spirits!

New Business:

- Christmas Movie will be shown outside December 15th at 5:30 pm at Augustana. Terry is helping Erica out with the technical end of the activity. Thank you, Terry!! We will be watching "The Star" with popcorn and hot cocoa. Yum! The teachers will be passing out their Christmas cards and gifts for their students during the movie.

- We discussed the TLC Youth Facebook page. It was mentioned that we need it connected on the AES website. There is a lot of potential there for Family Faith especially since we are in the thick of Covid again. We discussed how we could do more devotions for families on it. Dana had purchased some that we could use. We do need two people to handle the videoing and reading of the devotions. It's okay! It's a good challenge for the Education Committee!

- Discussed Service projects - We thought helping the college students would be good, but Augustana WELCA is taking care of that. So we decided that we would have the families collect food for the Food Shelf. The Food Shelf is in dire need of food!

- Trish Anderson has notified us that she needs to step down as a teacher. She needs to work her regular job on Wednesdays now. We will miss you, Trish! But, we understand your situation.

Old Business:

- It was decided we are not sending mailings except the quarterly Faith Family magazine.

- Confirmation and the Mentor program are going well.

- Green Lake Bible Camp has a date saved for our K-9 students. There will be a mailing coming soon to the families. Thank you, Erica, for taking care of that!!

- If the 10th-12th graders are signed up for the National Youth Conference in Minneapolis next year they can attend FREE! :) What an awesome deal! We don't want to have our kids missing this opportunity! We are in great need of a Youth director! We had Youth Directors years ago. We can do it again. We don't want our kids slipping through the cracks! We told Pastor Mandy at the Call Committee we would get a Youth Director. It's amazing how both our churches step up to the plate when there is a financial need. So we should not worry about finances! We can do this!! We need your help, Youth Committee!

- Becky continues with her ZOOM prayer group on Mondays at 10:00 am. If you haven't been to it, I highly recommend it! During these busy times it's so nice to relax with her short devotions and then prayers for our members and others. You do not need to sign up, you just join on the link at a couple minutes before 10:00 am on Mondays. Our next AES Education is via ZOOM on January 4th at 6:00 pm

We concluded with the Lord's Prayer. Have a most Blessed Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

Sincerely, Cindy Torkelson - AES Education Chair



AES MINISTRIES

P. O. BOX 151

ST. JAMES, MINNESOTA

TELEPHONE: 507-375-4792

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AES MINISTRIES January 2022 Newsletter

REGULAR SUNDAY WINTER SCHEDULE FOR AES MINISTRIES

Through February 2022:

9:00 am service at Augustana

10:45 am service at East Sveadah

Communion Services: 1st Sunday of the month – East & Augustana

2nd Sunday of the month – Augustana



Augustana and East Sveadah Lutheran Churches

Mandy France, Pastor

Lyla Klee, Visitation Deacon