

AES MINISTRIES

Augustana/East Sveadahl Lutheran Churches

March Newsletter

From the Pastor

“I am confident of this, the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ” (Philippians 1:6)

The work of the church is an ongoing process of the Holy Spirit. God is at work in each one of us, prompting, moving, nudging us to see and do God’s work. It begins at birth and is empowered at our baptisms. The Holy Spirit doesn’t reside in buildings, the Spirit resides in us and in the work that we do. The Spirit is visible in the ways we buildup and proclaim the love, grace, and mercy of God. It will continue until the day Jesus comes again.

These are exciting days! The transition team has finished its work on the Mission Site Profile (MSP). As I write this, the document is being reviewed by the congregation committees and will be accepted and approved by the AES Joint Council. From here, it will get forwarded to the Bishop’s office and then published in the ELCA pastoral search database.

Did I mention that the Holy Spirit is a part of this process?

There is always a lot of excitement and anticipation when the MSP profile is approved and forwarded. A lot of congregations believe that once the MSP is posted, there will be a whole flood of candidates immediately standing in line wanting to be interviewed. It can happen that way – but more often this becomes Spirit time. The profile is circulated and visible online. Pastors who sense a nudge for doing something different go to the computer and check out the listings. Sometimes it pops... more often the MSP is read, thought about, ruminated on, and then inquired into. It’s a Spirit process. Something in the reading or the inquiry compels a second glance. Interest is piqued, a request for information is submitted, and the next step begins.

Did I mention the Holy Spirit is in this process?

We live in rural Minnesota. There are pastors who will thrive in our setting. But, they may not know that yet. Learning – pondering – discovering is a dance of imagination. Possibilities can only grow when there is a vision. We have talked about AES Ministries being in transition. Fact is, we are not the only ones navigating our way. Pastors do too. We will be someone’s next step in a career journey. Finding “someone” requires hope and our willingness to listen for Holy Spirit movement. Spirit movement needs patience for the right candidate(s) to emerge. I hope you will join me in praying that God’s Spirit will touch and work on that someone’s heart to create a passion for being AES’s next pastor. And, I hope you will join me in praying that our Call Committee will be attentive and attuned to surprises. It will be important for us too, to have passion for recognizing who the Holy Spirit will send us.

Pr. Gene

February Pastor's Report



Appreciations & Review's!

- Phone calls w/Members – cautious/NO out/wait vaccines
 - Appreciate radio worship
 - Local channel TV
 - Facebook
- Christmas Decor → Early Epiphany
- Confirmation on Saturday AM
- Ugly Sweatshirt – Sunday... ways of engaging Online congregation
- Souper Bowl Sunday – February 7th

Discussion Topics

Funerals & Deaths – Vickie Janzen

- Kathae Morgan

Baptisms: 2/21 Madelynn Berg

- 2/28 Lucy Christenson
- 3/14 Daniel Bakke

- **Transitional Task Force** (MAP Team)
 - **MSP** – Final Draft Done
 - HUGE Thank You to MAP Transition Team... Paul Missling (recorder)
 - Review by Synod: 2/16 (Joint Meeting with Call Committee)
 - Approval by AES Council on 2/21/2021
 - MSP goes to synod... steps to activate
- **Call Process:** Install/Recognize – Sunday: February 14th
 - Meet with Synod & launch process 2/16/2021
- **Planning Events:**
 - Protocols: Open for Limited Sanctuary Worship... Regular Meetings → w/10 or fewer
 - Lent Planning
 - Ash Wednesday – NO ashes... refrigerator magnets...
 - noon drive by bless & communion – evening worship-East Sveadahl w/communion
 - 6:30 PM Midweek worships
 - Theme:
 - Feb 14th - Call Committee Installation –
 - Transfiguration Sunday
 - Valentine's Day
 - Ash Wednesday – February 17th
 - New Member Sunday – East Sveadahl - February 28th
 - Funeral Status – protocols - not in church
 - Green Lake Annual Meeting Delegates
 - Lyla Wednesdays pausing for Lent:
- **January Week Off... 4th Week:** February 22-28th

AUGUSTANA

RADIO BROADCASTS

Sponsor a week for \$40. AES Ministries sponsors the 2nd, 4th and 5th (when applicable) Sundays at 11:30 am on KSUM 1370 AM Call the church office for available Sundays.

Radio sponsor for March 28th is the Augustana Churchmen

MISSIONARY SPONSORS

Please call the church office to sponsor our Missionary. The cost is \$20.00 for a week. **The month of March is available.**

MARCH CIRCLES

Martha Circle, Sewing Circle
Members will be contacted when meetings can be scheduled.

Rebecca Circle is meeting via Zoom on their regular monthly schedule: First Tuesday morning of the month at 9:30 am.

MEMORIALS

In memory of Gertrude Coleman
\$40.00 – TLC Fund
\$765.00 – Stained Glass Window Fund

In memory of Kaethe Morgan
\$30.00 – Stained Glass Window Fund

In memory of Colleen Nessler
\$385.00 – Stained Glass Window Fund
\$100.00 – Music/Technology Fund

In memory of Edna Freitag
\$150.00 – Stained Glass Window Fund

In memory of Bernice Olson
\$20.00 – Stained Glass Window

In memory of Earl Reed
\$10.00 – Stained Glass Window Fund

AUGUSTANA

ALTAR FLOWERS

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

TRANSITIONS **BAPTISMS**

We welcomed into God’s Family, Augustana’s family, and AES Ministries on February 21, 2021, **Madelynn Ann Berg**, daughter of Taylor and Dawn Berg. Please continue to keep Madelynn and her family in your prayers as she grows in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

FUNERALS

A private family graveside service was held for **Marilyn Hager** at Mt. Hope Cemetery. Marilyn was born on May 27, 1940 and passed away on December 18, 2020.

A private service was held for **Gertrude Coleman** at Sturm Funeral Home with burial at Mt. Hope Cemetery on December 31, 2020. Gertrude was born on October 21, 1927 and passed away on December 25, 2020.

A private funeral was held for **Sharon Malott** at Sturm Funeral Home with burial at Long Lake Cemetery, rural St. James on January 2, 2021. Sharon was born on July 19, 1936 and passed away on December 26, 2020.

A private graveside service was held for **Colleen Nessler** at Mt. Hope Cemetery, St. James on January 9, 2021. Colleen was born on June 14, 1937 and passed away on January 3, 2021.

Kaethe Morgan was born in 1924 and passed away on January 31, 2021. Services are pending due to COVID restrictions.

May God’s peace comfort their family and friends.

EAST MARCH WORSHIP

In the sanctuaries following protocols
9:00 am East Sveadahl
10:30 am Augustana
(Note changes!)
Facebook: March 7 & 21 – Augustana
March 14 & 28 – East

LECTORS

March 7: Dale Anderson
14: Mike Menssen
21: Dale Anderson
28: Kris Suess

RADIO BROADCASTS

March 7: First Lutheran, St. James
14: East Sveadahl
21: First Lutheran, St. James
28: Augustana

EAST RADIO SPONSORS

March 14: Noren Family
April 11:
If you would like to sponsor any of the 2021 second Sundays of the month, please contact Susan. Cost is \$40.00. Thank you.

EASTER LILIES

This year the WELCA will be ordering the Easter lilies for Easter Sunday.
Call or email **Janet [507-327-0318]** or **Susan [507-317-5293]** to place your order and to let them know who you are giving your plant in memory of or in honor of by **Sunday, March 21st**.
The cost of a lily is \$18.00. Please send your payment to Erma Griffith (106 Tiell Drive, St. James).

The next time you're feeling down, think about all the terrible things that didn't happen to you.
-Barbara Johnson

EAST

TRANSITIONS:

A memorial service was held for **Victoria Arlene (Wolle) Janzen** on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at the Sturm Funeral Home. Vickie was born January 1, 1945 and passed away on January 31, 2021. A Celebration of Life and burial will be at a later date.

May God's peace comfort her family and friends.

A private memorial service and Celebration of Life for **Merlin Arnold "Sonny" Reinke** was held Saturday, February 20, 2021 with burial in Calvary Cemetery. Sonny was born February 10, 1935 and passed away on February 11, 2021.

May God's peace comfort his family and friends.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Chloe, Orval, Tom, Ray, Charles, Don, Mary Ann

STEWARDSHIP REPORTS:

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Needed through January | \$ 5,964.00 |
| Received through January | \$ 9,293.13 |
| Behind through January | + \$ 3,329.13 |

ALTAR COMMITTEE

Lori and Evonne

VISITING COMMITTEE

Teresa

HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAPPY BAPTISM DATE

- 2 Camron Fast [10-15]
- 3 Darryl Jensen [1-2]
- 5 Lisa Shellum [4-4]
- 6 Joyce Sizer [4-14]
- 13 Clinton Berlin [4-8]
- Lloyd Ostberg [4-11]
- Aleisha Weiss [5-7]
- 14 Mason Lenning [6-29]
- 17 Terry Bloomquist [4-16]
- 20 Tom Anderson [4-5]
- 24 Ashley Keosaksith [4-15]
- 28 Janet Bloomquist [5-2]

Annual Meetings

The Annual Meetings of Augustana Lutheran Church and East Sveadahl Lutheran Church and Cemetery Association have not been scheduled yet at this time.

Worship Schedule Switch

As agreed upon in the AES Partnership, worship times will once again switch in March. Beginning on:

Sunday, March 7, 2021

9:00 am worship will be at East Sveadahl

10:30 am worship will be at Augustana (Additional time change)

TLC/Youth

Green Lake Bible Camp Families

Please let Erica Garza (507-621-4040) or Cindy Torkelson (507-380-4713) know if your child is going to camp. We would like to help out financially. We'd like to help if you have any questions registering for camp.

9th Graders

Please save Sunday, March 28th - Palm Sunday at 10:30 am at Augustana. The Education Committee would love to give you your Bible Bags on that Sunday.

Volunteers Spread Sunshine!!

Know that your kindness has a ripple effect in the universe!!

We need a volunteer to organize the Mentor Program for our 7th, 8th and 9th graders. We want to get that up and going again!! The Education Committee would help you with the project. Please let Erica Garza or Cindy Torkelson know if you are interested.

Adult Education - Weekly Prayer Meeting!

Becky Cobb and Jo Howe are hosting an old-fashioned weekly prayer meeting every week on Monday morning at 10:00 am. Please join them 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=NTdkeXB6TUlrazliSzVKZkhwTjg1UT09>

Pastoral Visits

Our Interim Pastor and Deacon are limited at this time in how they can visit members due to COVID-19. If you would like a phone visit, please contact them: Pr. Gene at 375-4792 (office) or 507-995-9838 (cell) or Lyla Klee at 507-439-6940 (home) or 507-227-9250 (cell).

Website/Facebook

“Like” us on Facebook at Augustana/East Sveadahl Ministries Facebook page for pictures, updates, and inspiration. Please text information and pictures to Lisa Carlson.

The AES Ministries website is www.augustanachurch.org. Send information to the church secretaries.

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 860 AM (KNUJ), Channel 12 KEYC-TV, or visit our Facebook page for any snow emergency information. If school is cancelled or closed early, confirmation classes will also be cancelled.

Electronic Giving—Augustana 4 Ways

Electronically: visit church web site and click on the “Secure Contributions” tab

Secure Contributions: visit the church website www.augustanachurch.org

Give+Text: from your phone, text number is 844-686-4439 (unique to Augustana)

Offering envelopes: through the mail or into the drop box.

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



Financial Facts - Augustana

January 2021 Summary

Here is the Financial Summary for this past December, 2020

| | Current Month | YTD |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Total Giving - | \$ 21,525.48 | \$ 21,525.48 |
| Total Expenses – Paid from | - \$ 6,795.08 | \$ 6,795.08 |
| General Fund | | |
| PLUS | + \$ 14,730.40 | + \$ 14,730.40 |

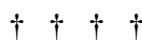
Brrrrrrrr! It’s Cold There!!! But - my heart is warmed by your very generous giving. Many have contributed their annual support during this month, this gets us off to a great start. Of course, it will not carry us through the year – we will continue to rely on all members (as we always have) to support our church and our outreach missions.

There have been many discussions as to when there will be an “annual meeting” and what will our budget look like for 2021. As the call committee begins its work, we have had to estimate how much we can afford for a new pastor. The councils have now set a maximum amount. That gives the finance committee a guide to proceed with a proposed budget. This budget will be presented at the March council meeting. If approved, it will then be added to the “Annual Report” and will be ready whenever we can safely hold our annual meeting.

The second stimulus package from the federal government included an opportunity to apply for additional PPP (Payroll Protection Plan) funds. However, certain qualifications needed to be met. In order to obtain these funds, we needed to show at least a 25% loss in gross revenue (giving) compared to the same quarter of 2019. In comparing each financial quarter of 2020 to 2019 we did NOT qualify. Also, I have not received any additional information regarding the 1st stimulus money which we did receive and if the requirements for forgiveness have changed.

On behalf of the financial committee, I would like to Thank each of you for your ongoing support of our Augustana (AES) Ministry. We are all hopeful that we will be able to worship and SEE each other again very soon.

Respectfully Submitted, Judy Thulien, Treasurer



Prayer Concerns

We appreciate your care and concern for family members and friends by adding them to our Prayer Concern list in Sunday's bulletin. We believe in the power of prayer! If you have added someone to our prayer concerns, please let us know when to remove their name if the need is no longer there.

Weekly Bulletins and Updates

Sunday bulletins and weekly office updates have been sent out via emails to keep congregation members in touch with schedules and activities. If you are unable to receive them by that means, they will now be posted weekly on the AES Ministries website home page. Our website address is www.augustanachurg.org

Easter Lilies – Augustana

Easter Lilies have been ordered to adorn our church for Easter. If you would like to help defray the cost of the Easter Lilies in memory of or honor of loved ones with a \$10.00 donation, please call or email the church office by **Tuesday, March 23rd**. Identify your donation as Easter Lily Fund and mail it or place it in the payment box outside the back door of Augustana.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation, we will be keeping the plants in church for as long as they last and not distributing them to donors.

Thank You's

Dear Members of AES Ministries,

I thank my God every time I remember you. It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart... Philippians 1:3,7a.

When I was thinking about writing this note to thank you for organizing such an appropriate send-off during this crazy COVID year in mind-numbingly cold weather, I couldn't help but borrow the Apostle Paul's opening greeting from Philippians.

I loved the signs and references to TLC. It has always been my passion to pass on the faith to our young people. It gave me such joy to be at the ground level in establishing this program. I shall hold all of you in my heart, remembering all of the ways each of you helped me grow in my faith. The love extended to me when I lost both Joe and Ja'Mason will never be forgotten. We are truly a family at AES, one that I will hope to visit often. You will be in my prayers. (I wrap the prayer shawl my circle gave me around my shoulders every night.) I shall miss all of you so much!!

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Your sister in Christ, Kathy Eiden

East Sveadahl Church - Thank you so much for your support of the Food Shelf. Your donations of \$325 in March 2020 and \$150 in August 2020 allows us to purchase items and restock our shelves. We are grateful for your continued donations and willingness to help others in need.

Louise M. Paulson, Watonwan County Food Shelf Treasurer

Thank you so much to WELCA for the fun Valentine's treat bag! Sue Melheim

To my Augustana Church Family – Thank you for the greeting cards sent to me this past year of 2020 and for thinking of me. Viola Sandberg

To Augustana WELCA – Thank you for the stamps and magnets you sent me. Very much appreciated!

Gladys MacMaster

Thank You's – (continued)

Thank you to the wonderful prayer warriors who come together every Monday morning at 10. Every time we pray, we are aware of the sincere privilege it is to come before our Lord and lift the names of our brothers and sisters in Christ who need prayers. We also pray for our churches, congregations, community, and our world. We honor those lifted up and give thanks for what the Lord will do in each situation. Currently, this is an ongoing ministry via Zoom. In time we will be back together and will be in the Fireside room. You may attend anytime. If you are interested in the liturgy we use, please email mcornrus1@msn.com

Twenty minutes, once a week-we believe it is life-giving and heartfelt. Please come and join us. The Zoom link is below-tap it and you will be connected.

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77502081644?pwd=NTdkeXB6TUirazliSzVKZkhwTjg1UT09>

Thanks again, Becky & Jo

Daylight Savings time begins – Sunday, March 14th!

Remember to turn your clocks AHEAD ONE HOUR before going to bed.

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, 2021.

March is FoodShare month

As the largest grassroots food and fund drive in the state, the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign brings together various community organizations, businesses, and faith communities to help stock nearly 300 food shelves statewide. This year marks the 40th campaign!

The 2020 March campaign raised more than \$21.5 million dollars and over 7.4 million pounds of food shelf items! To date, over \$18 million dollars has been distributed to March Campaign participating Food Shelves. 100% of donations received by Minnesota Foodshare during the March Campaign go into the FoodFund and are distributed to March Campaign participating food shelves.

This year's campaign runs from March 1 – April 11. Your donations may be dropped off at the local food shelf on Wednesdays from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm, and monetary donations may be sent to Watonwan County Food Shelf, P.O. Box 123, St. James. Thank you for your support of the Watonwan County Food Shelf.

“Minnesota FoodShare envisions a future where all Minnesotans have access to healthy food and no one struggles with food insecurity. The March Campaign addresses these issues directly and we invite you to join our efforts and advocate for long-term solutions to food insecurity and poverty in our communities.”

Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign

Watonwan County Food Shelf

Save the Date for our next food 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>

AES MINISTRIES JOINT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – February 3, 2021

The AES Ministries Joint Council met on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at Augustana following all COVID protocol. The following members were present: Greg Thulien, Wayne Jurgens, Teresa Andrews, Terry Engel, Dominique Berg, Janet Bloomquist, and Pastor Gene along with Leora Ask and Becky Cobb via Facetime.

Wayne Jurgens, Chairperson, called the meeting to order and Janet Bloomquist opened with devotions.

Motion by Greg, seconded by Teresa, and passed to accept the January minutes as printed in newsletter.

AES Officers for 2021 are as follows:

Wayne Jurgens – Chairman

Becky Cobb – Vice Chairman

Susan Anderson – Secretary

A discussion on time for church services took place. A motion by Terry, seconded by Janet, and passed to move the late service from 10:45 am to 10:30 am to accommodate the radio station as 10:45 am doesn't give them enough time to edit the service and broadcast it beginning in March. AES Parish has the 5th Sunday on the radio usually from Augustana. If anyone else wishes to sponsor this service from East, arrangements can be made to change the service to East.

Pastor Gene highlighted his report which is printed in the newsletter. One highlight is that the Call Committee will be installed during the worship service on Sunday, February 14. Members may be in church or via some other means.

Cross magnets will be distributed on Ash Wednesday to all AES members along with TLC and confirmation youth. They will be available at either church at any time during Lent.

Protocol was discussed as to the number of people in a group meeting. If a group is more than 10 people, you should meet in the church sanctuary. Also, a discussion on opening our churches for funerals took place. It was decided to keep it as is for now, but we will address the issue at each meeting.

The Green Lake Annual Meeting will be via zoom and delegates are needed. If interested, please call the church secretaries.

Due to some conflicts with scheduling, Pastor Gene will be off the 4th week of each month instead of the 3rd, and Lyla will be available that week and preach the 4th Sunday of the month.

The MAPS Profile needs to be approved by the church (AES Council). A motion by Leora, seconded by Janet, and passed to have a special council meeting via zoom to approve the profile on Sunday, February 21 at 1 p.m. This will be the only item on the agenda.

Sunday, February 28 is the Watonwan River Conference at First Lutheran in St. James and each church needs representatives to attend. Each council will discuss at their next meeting.

The Ministry Site Profile regarding compensation for a new pastor was presented and it will be given to the Call Committee.

As there was no further business, motion by Janet, seconded by Teresa, and passed to adjourn.

Closed with a silent Lord's Prayer.

Secretary Pro-Tem, Janet Bloomquist

THE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF THE AES COUNCIL – February 21, 2021

The AES Ministries held a special Council meeting via Zoom on Sunday, February 21, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. The following members were present: Greg Thulien, Wayne Jurgens, Teresa Andrews, Terry Engel, Janet Bloomquist, Michael Menssen, Leora Ask, Becky Cobb and Pastor Gene.

Wayne Jurgens, Chairperson, called the meeting to order.

The only item on the agenda was to accept the AES Ministry Site Profile. After some highlights were given a motion by Janet, seconded by Becky, and passed unanimously to accept the AES Ministry Site Profile. Wayne also gave the MAPS committee our gratitude for all the many hours they have put in on this profile.

Leora closed with a devotional centered on patience and positivity. We closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

As there was no further business a motion was made by Leora, seconded by Michael and passed to adjourn. Our next regular meeting will be Wednesday, March 1 at East following the Lenten Service.

Secretary Pro-Tem, Janet Bloomquist



EAST SVEADAH LUTHERAN CHURCH MEETING MINUTES -- February 11, 2021

The East Sveadahl Church Council met on Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 7 p.m. at church following all the COVID protocols. Those present were Tom Anderson, James Nasman, Janet Bloomquist, Evonne Moll, Lori Urevig, Erma Griffith, Pastor Gene, Susan Anderson, and Sonja Coleman.

Tom opened the meeting, and Pastor Gene led us in prayer.

The January 2021 Secretary’s report was read and accepted.

Sonja Coleman, Financial Secretary, and Treasurer, Evonne Moll, presented their reports. A motion by Janet, seconded by Erma, and passed to accept the reports as given.

The outstanding bills were presented by Tom. A motion by Erma, seconded by James, and passed to approve paying of bills.

Pastor Gene highlighted his report which can be read in full in this newsletter.

The AES report was highlighted by Janet. See full report in newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The Mission Assessment was presented.
- The sound on Facebook is much better. Thanks to Lisa and Lori for your continued work on this project.

NEW BUSINESS

- Easter Lilies for Easter Sunday were discussed. Janet will call members who have given before and place an order with Creative Touch.
- Options for the Annual Meeting were discussed. One idea would be to have an outside service when the weather is warmer followed by an annual meeting. We’ll keep you posted.
- The 150th Anniversary was discussed. It was tabled until the next meeting in hopes of everyone receiving the COVID vaccine enabling us to be back together again.

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

The next church council meeting will be March 11, 2021 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Janet Bloomquist, Council Secretary

AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES - February 10, 2021

This meeting was held via Zoom video conferencing.

Present: Pastor Gene Alms, Dean Swenstad, Greg Thulien, Judy Thulien, Lisa Carlson, Dominique Berg, Paul Missling, Andy Freitag, Terry Engel, John Coleman, Kari Miest, Deanna Hoffman Lyle Anderson, and Kyla Schломann.

Meeting was called to order at 6:33p.m. and opened with devotions from Lyle.

Pastor's Report: Phone calls with members is letting him know that many don't want to go out and are anxious for vaccines but do appreciate the radio broadcasts, Facebook Live and the cable TV broadcasts. There was a confirmation Zoom meeting with 2 of 5 attending. There were 2 deaths. Three baptisms are planned. The MAP Team is finishing up and the Call Committee will be starting. There will be a Drive-up Communion Blessing at noon at Augustana on Ash Wednesday and Communion Service at East Sveadahl at 6:30. New member Sunday is at East on February 28th. Lyla will not do her Wednesday Devotions during Lent.

New Business: We are looking at ways to have an Annual Meeting. We must have a quorum. Maybe we could have a hybrid meeting with some in the sanctuary and some participating via Zoom.

Deanna Hoffman presented the Giving Report. Offerings are currently up from last year but that also includes some one-time yearly gifts.

Treasurer's Report: Judy Thulien presented the Treasurer's Report. Motion by Carlson to approve. Second by Swenstad. Motion carried.

Finance, Memorials, and Stewardship Committee: A guideline for the Call Committee was needed to determine what experience level we can afford for a new Pastor. It was decided to go up to 14 years' experience.

AES Report: The radio station needs more time to prepare for playing back our service when the second service is what is broadcasted. Starting in March, the second service will start at 10:30 to accommodate this. March is also when we switch which church has the early service so East Sveadahl will be at 9:00 and Augustana will be at 10:30.

Education Committee: VBS is tentatively a go, but they may have to look at an alternate location. There will be no TLC in March. They are looking for a Mentor Coordinator. Twenty kids have signed up for Bible Camp. They will do things differently this year with 1 counselor/6 kids pod groups.

Evangelism & Social Ministry/Worship & Music Committees: There have already been 5-6 radio Sundays sponsored.

Property and Cemetery: The double doors to the education wing were having trouble locking. That has been fixed. We are getting close to the goal needed to repair the stained-glass windows so we should check to see if the costs have gone up since we got the estimate.

Youth Committee: Nothing to report.

Unfinished Business: Nothing.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 was made by Thulien. Second by Coleman. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be March 10, 2021 at 6:30.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Lisa Carlson, Council Secretary

EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – February 9, 2021

Old Business:

- Spark Family Quarterly Magazine will be sent to families this month. The first issue will be mailed the 3rd week of February so the families will get the magazine before Lent. A team will put them together to get the issues mailed out.
- A couple teams will put together the March activities with a flat palm branch folded into a cross in the envelope.
- VBS is still being planned with the Presbyterians for the first week after school is out. Pastor Lick and his team are very excited to be with us again. We're hoping they may have teachers to help us.
- TLC - We hope to try outdoor activities in April on our Wednesdays. Transportation with the bus company because of COVID seems to be a problem. We are working it out. We discussed many different scenarios for a safe TLC. One idea was to have a shortened TLC outdoors.
- Mentor information was found. We are looking for a volunteer to take over being in charge of mentors and their activities. The job would be to find mentors for the confirmands, and during COVID, send out the activity sheets to the students and their mentors so they may discuss on the phone or facetime the questions. During non-COVID times we get the mentors and their students together at the meal time on Wednesdays a few times a year.

New Business:

- Discussion about the April activity letter and what to put in it. The postage is high when we put thick things in the envelope. TLC teachers will send out Easter cards to their students. Debbie was going to find something that would be fun to send.
- An Easter idea was found from Bishop Jon's education ideas to have the ABC's of Easter. We'll need families to volunteer to be on ZOOM to do it. Sounds exciting!
- Dana came up with an idea of a type of Easter egg hunt out at East Sveadahl. More to come on that idea!
- GLBC - We need to touch base with families. They need to be registering this month for the \$50 off for early registering. Then we will know how much our churches need to help.

Next meeting March 9, 2021 6 pm

Sincerely, Cindy Torkelson - Education Chairperson

AES MINISTRIES

March 2021 Newsletter

Wednesday Worship & Facebook Schedule for Lent

March 3 – East Sveadahl 6:30 pm

March 10 – Augustana 6:30 pm

March 17 – East Sveadahl 6:30 pm

March 24 – Augustana 6:30 pm

Holy Week and Easter Services

*Maundy Thursday – April 1st 12:00 pm Communion Worship at Augustana
6:30 pm Communion Worship at Augustana*

*Good Friday – April 2nd 12:00 pm Worship at Augustana
6:30 pm Worship at East Sveadahl*

*Easter Sunday – April 4th 6:30 am Easter Communion Worship at Augustana
8:00 am Easter Communion Worship at East Sveadahl
10:00 am Easter Communion Worship at Augustana*

All times are subject to change



Augustana and East Sveadahl Lutheran Churches
Gene Alms, Interim Pastor
Lyla Klee, Visitation Deacon