

Augustana/East Sveadahl Lutheran Churches November Newsletter

PASTOR'S COLUMN

The HEART of AES Ministries

Who are we? It's an important question to ponder during this interim time. Certainly, it is important for self-awareness. But we are also in transition between pastors. "Who are we?" is even more important for understanding the kind of leadership AES Ministries will need.

A team of us are working on answering the question "Who Are We?". The **Mission Assessment Process (MAP) Team** has been working hard over these last months to find the heart of AES Ministries. With an eye for discovering God's future, we have been researching the past, the present, and the future. And "My, Oh my!" we sure stepped into a chaotic present. Covid19 is a turmoil in itself.

It has been ten years since AES Ministries has done a coordinated visioning process. What do you remember about that time? It was at the beginning, before the launch of this ministry partnership. Ten years – a lot has happened in the past decade. First of all, AES Ministries is no longer a theory. The sharing and pairing between two congregations is reality. It is a living, healthy, vibrant marriage of two entities. Both have learned to cooperate and work with each other. It is a two congregation pairing that now looks forward into the future.

This is an important time. Who are we today? Where is God in all of this? The MAP Team is moving forward with an important job to do. And now - We need your HELP. We need every one of you to help us identify the heart of this ministry. Your ideas, your "brainstorming", will give and provide insights to carry us beyond first impressions. We are asking for your openness to the Holy Spirit's promptings. It is called serendipity, openness to the unexpected. We need your responses to our questions. It is in the collective perceptions of many replies that we want to find ways God is leading us today. We will be alert for surprises that bubble up as hopes. And we ask with confidence that God has a plan for our future

Survey Monkey – we will be using an online program. It will come via your email. This month (November), we will be sending you the link and inviting you to respond. **Survey Monkey** will have a series of 12 open ended questions for you to respond to. We're asking for short, simple, single sentence replies – your first impressions/responses. And YES, **Your answers will be confidential.** We hope our questions will open the doors of your imagination. Ideas are always rooted in the past, but a vision for the future is captured with the imagination. Possibilities are born from dreams. We hope you will tell us your dreams for your church! The MAP team will then gather the answers and listen for where God is guiding AES Ministries. Watch for your opportunity to be part of this important process!

Pastor Gene

October Pastor's Report

Appreciations & Review's!

- Positives! Working w/in Protocols... One Day @ time-staying healthy
 - Face masks & social distancing
 - Keeping worship to 35 minutes
 - Keeping space cleaned – TY to our providers
 - Indoor @ Augustana & Outdoor at East Sveadahl
- Campfire Church (Wed September 30th) good weather – TY God
- Funerals – caught up... Outdoor venue worked well
 - Jeff Nelson 8/26
- Imagination & Ideas... encouraging ideas for navigating a Pandemic
- **Fall Planning & Programing...** Kids/Confirmation/Bible Studies
 - Picnic Tables & ~~Tent~~ on Weston Ave
 - Kids-Youth: Combination - In Person Events/Activity Based & Virtual/Digital
 - Adult bible Studies... Faith Ventures w/Lyla ... Wednesdays @ 12:30



Discussion Topics

- **Interim Realities:**
 - **Interim Purpose: Prepare congregations for the FUTURE...** new pastor
 - **Imperative to let go of the past...** to be open/welcome new leadership
 - Introduce/Reintroduce GOD into the conversation about who's Future
 - Define ourselves – beauty and blemishes
 - Define what God has to say about our need for leadership
 - **Synod Outline: 7 Steps in the Congregation's Call Porcess**
 - **Irony:** If NOT do good job of letting go/prepare... Painful next time
- **Mission Assessment Process (MAP)**
 - Good Progress... Team Familiarity & Opening Imagination
 - Met (3x) in September... Next Tuesday... good momentum
 - Growing Awareness of Change: 8-10 years since last congregation self study
 - Plus - Pandemic: redefinition of world/routines/church in 21st Century
 - Pandemic: Change ... New Purpose & Outreach for church
 - Pandemic: Major cultural shift... Information Technology is here!
 - **Survey Monkey** request
- **Planning Events:**
 - Baptisms (x5)
 - Campfire Church – October 28th – All Hallowed's Eve Theme
 - Confirmation Sunday/All Saints Day – Nov 1st Note: Worship Reservations
 - Christ the King Sunday – November 22nd
 - Thanksgiving Eve/Harvest Celebration – November 25th @ 7:00 PM – East Sveadahl
 - Advent/Christmas - Children's Program (December 13th)
- **Vacation Time...**
 - **November:** Deer Hunting week: Oct 9-14
 - **December:** Last Days → Dec 26-31
- **Weeks Off:** November 16-22 & Dec 7-13

AUGUSTANA – NOVEMBER

Circles

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



**Worship Services in the sanctuaries
with protocols
9:00 am Augustana
10:45 am East Sveadah**

**The Facebook service will continue.
Until further notice, the Worship Crews
will be leading the services.**



Blood Pressure Screening

No blood pressure screening in November.

Radio Broadcasts

Sponsor a month for \$65.00. September through
February broadcasts are from Augustana.

Radio Sponsor

The November 22nd radio broadcast sponsor from
Augustana is Jayne Anderson, in memory of
Warren, Adeline and Rusty.

Missionary Sponsors

Please call church office for dates available if you
wish to sponsor our Missionary.



Altar Flowers

Please call the church office if you wish to provide altar
flowers for a particular Sunday, and it will be placed on
the calendar.

AUGUSTANA – NOVEMBER

**Transitions
Baptisms**

We welcomed into God’s Family, Augustana’s
family, and AES Ministries:

Maizy Lou Connell

Daughter of Tyler and Arica Connell,
on October 6, 2020.

Jett Leo Altenburg

Son of Joshua and Molly Altenburg,
on October 25, 2020.

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

Funerals

A family Graveside Service and Burial was held
for **Bernice Leona Olson** on Saturday,
October 17, 2020 at Mt. Hope Cemetery.
Bernice was born on February 4, 1925 and passed
away on October 10, 2020.
May God’s peace comfort her family and friends.

Memorials

In Memory of Shirley Laabs
\$50.00 – Undesignated

In Memory of Jeff Nelson
\$25.00 – Undesignated
\$60.00 – Stained Glass Window Fund

In Memory of Bob Swanson
\$20.00 – Stained Glass Window Fund

In Memory of Kevin Radenbaugh
Son of LaVonne (Radenbaugh) Wachlin
and Roland Radenbaugh
Kevin was born July 10, 1955 and passed away
on August 23, 2019, with funeral service on
September 7, 2019.
\$100.00 – Youth Education

EAST - November

TRANSITIONS:

PRAYER CONCERNS:

Charles, Don, Mary Ann, Orval, Chloe

ADDRESS CHANGES:

STEWARDSHIP REPORTS:

Needed through September	\$48,654.00
Received through September	45,383.52
Behind through September	- \$ 3,270.48
Received in September	\$11,922.04

WELCA NEWS

There will be no Christmas Party this year.

Happy Birthday Happy Baptismal Birthday

- 3 Jarah Hagen 12-8
- 11 Michael Suarez 4-14
- 12 Rebecca Christenson 1-27
- 14 Nathan Ewert 12-1
- 15 Ron Fast 12-12
- 16 Gloria Thulien 12-19
- 19 Burton Wolner 12-
- 28 Cheryl Wolle 2-6
- 29 Don Menssen 2-5
- 30 Hannah Huelsenbeck 12-28

MEMORIALS

Memorials received since All Saints' 2019:
Given in memory of

**Joan Alde, Kermit Johnson, Harold Noren
Alice and Raymond Noren,
Vernon and Evelyn Johnson, LaMae Hippen**

He who laughs -- lasts!

EAST - November

RADIO BROADCASTS

- Nov. 1: First Lutheran, St. James
- 8: Albion
- 15: First Lutheran, St. James
- 22: Augustana
- 29: Augustana with East sponsors

**Worship Services are TENTATIVELY
scheduled to continue in the
sanctuaries during November.**

**The Worship Crews will lead the
services until further notice.**

ALTAR COMMITTEE

Lisa Shellum and Lori Urevig

VISITING COMMITTEE

Deb Anderson and Charlotte Johnson

LECTORS

- Nov. 1: Janet Bloomquist
- 8: Evonne Moll
- 15: Wayne Jurgens
- 22: Wes Beck
- 29: Kris Sues

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

WELCA HOSTESSES

USHERS

SNOW REMOVAL

RADIO SPONSORS

November 29: Teresa and Rich Andrews
Thank you for being sponsors.

I can't do everything,
but I can do something,
and what I can do, I ought to do,
and that by the grace of God I will do.

Dear AES Ministry Family,

The day in March that we had to close the doors to both Churches will be a day that none of us will ever forget. COVID19 turned from something we just heard about way far away to a new reality in all of our lives. I want to ask each and every one of you a question if I may. The day we took the keys and we locked up our Churches, was that the day that the AES Ministries stopped? Hmm, before you answer that question, I want you to read a few things that I have listed for you.

THE DAY WE CLOSED THE DOORS THIS HAPPENED

- Learned, reach out to members and committees via zoom for the first time
- Started to come into people’s homes for worship via Facebook each Sunday
- TLC reached out to young people who were at home yearning to hear the word
- We saw a Pastor wheeling carts of stuff outside to a tent so he could connect for Confirmation
- We saw a Pastor and a Deacon reach out on Facebook giving and talking to our young
- We saw a Pastor and a Deacon give some of the best sermons during this time to an empty Church, but a packed Facebook audience.
- A formation of very diverse and hardworking transition team building the foundation of what is needed in our next Pastor for our Congregation.
- Treasury people working hard to make sure we do everything we can to be financially secure during these times.
- Persons in Charge of giving’s making sure that every envelope, every box is checked so the money could keep coming in for our operations
- Secretaries taking more and new responsibilities each and every day, changing as needed
- The first time that all council Presidents starting meeting on a weekly basis
- People reaching out to those in need with phone call, letters, notes
- Participating in monthly synod meetings to learn and let them know we are here
- Custodians making sure our building are safe as they possibly can be for COVID19
- People started to cherish little things that we as congregation took for granted
- Parking Lot, Campfire and finally in person worships by awesome worship teams
- Protocols in place to make sure we offer the safest place for our members
- Showed compassion to members of high risk of COVID19

I think when you look at what has all happened in our AES Ministries in eight months that you can agree that we have done things that would have taken us years to do. The day we locked the doors our ministry became even stronger than ever before. Some did not want to do some of these things, but we are learning to listen to WHAT GOD WANTS US TO DO. The same words that we are hearing as we learn again about our congregations thru our transition and eventually to our call of a new Pastor.

Let us be patient and leave this to God.

Dominique Berg
Augustana Lutheran Church President

Mission Assessment Process

Greetings from the MAP (Mission Assessment Process) Team,

We wanted to give you an update of our journey and mission and to also let you know we are listening. To be honest, at first our mission was unclear, however throughout this process the inspiration, our objectives, and clarity are coming together. We are now ready to move forward with your help and with the guidance of God.

The MAP team has put together a questionnaire (required by our Synod) dealing with many aspects of AES Ministries. You will be receiving this questionnaire the first week of November and your feedback is very important! We can't complete our journey without your input! We need you to reach out and encourage all AES Members to complete this questionnaire in a timely manner since there will be a two-week deadline.

While we are all completing our questionnaire, our team's task is to call on several leaders who have been identified within our community, they will assist us in understanding our demographics and future goals of the place we call home. Once both of these tasks are completed, we can then successfully prepare our assessment, build our new profile, and start our call process.

Due to all the unknowns we are facing, it is important for you to let us know if you or your family's contact information has changed. Also, if you know of anyone who are interested in our ministry, please ask them if we can reach out to them. We would like their feedback as well; we don't want to leave anyone out. The questionnaire will be available in a number of ways, and the information you provide is confidential. The goal is for everyone's voice, not just our core group's, to be heard in order to understand our ministry. The work that we do now will lead us to an incredible future.

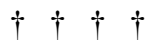
We have come a long way these past nine years. We need to remember that this did not happen overnight. What has become very clear is that everyone plays a part, and we need everyone to do their part for the continued success of AES ministries!

We all know transition is hard and challenging, however, we need to let go of the past, look to the future, be humble, and embrace our Christianity. If we listen to God and have patience, we will be prepared! This journey we are on to find a new pastor will not be sidetracked, nor fail. The MAP team has come so far in a relatively short amount of time -- we cannot afford to lose ground.

We have been blessed in so many ways! Together let's share our gifts, grow in our faith, and successfully lead AES Ministry into the future!

We want to thank our leaders for giving us this opportunity and most importantly thank you, AES Ministry members, for your continued support. The MAP Team

Information additions and corrections can be sent to the church office - lutheran@embarqmail.com, 507-375-4792; or Susan Anderson - seanderson0103@gmail.com, 507-317-5293



Annual Augustana Churchmen's Pancake Supper

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation, the Augustana Church Council has voted to cancel the Annual Churchmen's Pancake supper in November for this year.

St. Lucia Festival 2020

It is with great sadness that we are unable to provide our St. Lucia Festival this year. Our kitchen is “off limits”, as is our ability to serve our welcoming breakfast. With this in mind, we must also cancel the Bake Shoppe, so we will not provide lefse, cookies and all our ethnic goodies that members so generously donate...

This decision was made at a “tent” meeting on Friday, October 9th with Judy Anderson, Ray Berg, Sally Engel, Ruth Haler, Jeanne Miest and Deanna Hoffman present.

Please mark your calendars for December 11, 2021 and hopefully we will be able to provide a great Festival for our members and the community to welcome in the Christmas season next year.

Deanna Hoffman

All Saints’ Day – November 1

The custom of commemorating all of the saints of the church on a single day goes back at least to the third century. The readings and liturgy on All Saints’ Sunday on November 1st call us to rejoice in all the saints: those who have died and now rest in Christ, those who live now, and those yet to come. We will remember the saints whose funerals have been here since the last All Saints’ Day.

From East:

Brian LeRoy Thulien February 20, 1964 – November 20, 2019
Funeral and Burial at East November 29, 2019

Todd Andrew Anderson January 2, 1964 – January 18, 2020
Celebration of Life on January 26, 2020 and Burial at East Cemetery on August 8, 2020

Kermit Richard Johnson February 24, 1923 – March 22, 2020
Celebration of Life and Burial at East Cemetery July 25, 2020

Jeannette Ardis (Paulson) Nasman July 31, 1925 – April 4, 2020
Burial at East on April 10, 2020 and Celebration of Life on August 1, 2020

Darlene Ann (Thulien) Harris August 29, 1938 – May 27, 2020
Graveside Service and Burial at East Cemetery on June 13, 2020

Gerald Raymond Anderson August 20, 1940 – September 3, 2020
Celebration of Life and Burial at East Cemetery on September 12, 2020

Pastor David J. Webster September 14, 1941 -- December 21, 2019
A Celebration of Life at Augustana on March 8, 2020

From Augustana:

Marlys LaVonne (Roiland) Gilbertson November 11, 1935 - October 27, 2019
Funeral at Augustana and Burial at Mt. Hope Cemetery on October 31, 2019

Lois Jean (Krueger) Engel March 20, 1944 - January 28, 2020
Funeral at Augustana on February 4, 2020

(All Saints' Day – cont.)

Leo Heinrichs July 31, 1933 - March 13, 2020
Interment at Fort Snelling Cemetery

Beverly Joan (Bishop) Fredin May 29, 1945 - April 4, 2020
Celebration of Life and Burial at Mt. Hope Cemetery on August 22, 2020

Evelyn Grace (Willemssen) Newman March 27, 1927 - April 15, 2020
Family Service at Sturm Funeral and Burial at Mt. Hope Cemetery on April 25, 2020

Marjorie Lee (Kaus) Jenkins February 14, 1931 - April 24, 2020
Graveside Service and Burial at Mt. Hope Cemetery on August 15, 2020

Jeffrey Lester Nelson April 28, 1955 - July 16, 2020
Graveside Service and Burial at West Sveadahl Cemetery on September 26, 2020

Robert Eugene Swanson April 29, 1940 - September 13, 2020
Graveside Service and Burial at Mt. Hope Cemetery on September 16, 2020

Bernice Leona (Bertilson) Olson February 4, 1925 – October 10, 2020
Family Graveside Service and Burial at Mt. Hope Cemetery on October 17, 2020

Confirmation – November 1

Confirmation will be held on Sunday, November 1, 2020 at 9:00 am at Augustana. The following students have completed confirmation classes and are ready to make public affirmation of their baptism.

Dawson Gertsema (Kristen Gertsema and late Brad Gertsema)
Kristiana Knaack (James & Kami Joosten, Russell Knaack)
William Knaack (James & Kami Joosten, Russell Knaack)
Lizabeth Lothert (Karla Lothert and late Jay Lothert)

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

There will be a Joint Thanksgiving Eve worship service on Wednesday, November 25th at 7:00 pm. This service will be held at East Sveadahl and on Facebook.

WELCA: What have the Women from Augustana been doing?

They have been busy with mission projects, along with Thrivent, we made care packages for Residents and Gift Certificates & snacks for staff at Brandt Ridge Assisted Living.

Wrote notes to Residents at Luverne Veterans Home.

Also wrote notes to our shut ins.

We donated money to several organizations to help them carry out their missions.

We are also having our third annual Bakeless Bake Sale. Money from this project will be used to help carry out many of our mission projects.

As we move forward, we hope to carry out many more projects.

If you would like to join our group of women, please contact one of our Circle Presidents, Nancy Kunkel or Jeanne Meist.

We would like to thank all that have supported us. Blessings, Judy Berg - Augustana WELCA President

Bibles, Bibles, Bibles at AES Ministries!

We really miss seeing our youth at church and we hope their school studies are going well while staying safe! Wanting our youth to continue in their Faith Formation, we will be passing out Story Bibles to our 3rd and 4th graders on Sunday, November 8th in both churches. The 7th graders will be getting a study Bible at their next confirmation class.

3rd Graders:

Knoxyn Barrett Alexis Oanes Evan Flohrs Brody Overson Lexi Hatfield
Tristan Shores Makya Keosaksith Marshall Smith Jaydyn Moll Thomas Wolner

4th Grader:

Halle Reid

7th Graders:

Lydia Overson Erick Avila Sophie Solheid Jenavieve Knaack
Ava Spitzner Vivian Leach Peyton Wolner Hayleigh Lingbeek

Guided by the Light- Summer 2021 Green Lake Bible Camp

After careful consideration, the Green Lake Bible Camp Staff feels that they will be able to run summer camp in 2021 at Shores of St. Andrew and Green Lake Bible Camp. They will start camp one week later than usual, June 20, 2021. We'll keep you informed when our congregation will block a week for the summer of 2021. Jesus spoke to them saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." *John 8:17*

As always, please feel free to reach out with any questions you might have. God is with you, and we have no doubt your lights are shining brightly!

Sincerely, Cindy Torkelson - Education Chair, 507-380-4713

Noisy Offering – November 29th

Whenever there are five Sundays in a month, a special "Noisy" offering for a mission outside our congregations has typically been taken. If you choose to make a "Noisy Offering" donation, it can be made by check, paper money or coins contained in a plastic bag. Donations may be sent to Augustana or East, placed in the outside payment box at Augustana, or in offering plate if you attend church; please note on the check or envelope "Noisy Offering" and the organization it should be given to. If you choose not to designate an organization, the offerings will be collected and then distributed by your church council. Thank you.

Prayers and Praises

We appreciate your care and concern 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 the list, please let us know when to remove their name if the need is no longer there. Thank you.

Visits

Our Interim Pastor and Deacon are limited at the current time to personally visit members, due to the COVID-19 situation. If you would like a phone visit, please contact them:

Pr. Gene at 507-995-9838 or Deacon Klee at 507-439-6940 or 507-227-9250.

Facebook and Website

“Like” the Augustana/East Sveadahl Ministries Facebook page for pictures, updates, and inspiration. Visit the AES Ministries website – www.augustananchurch.org.

Lisa Carlson is sharing AES information on our Face Book page. Please text her information and pictures (just three or four) at 507-317-1893.

If you have information to be put on the website, please contact the church secretaries.

Thank You’s

To Augustana WELCA - Thank you so much for the nice appreciation gift bag I was given.

Jim Leopold

To Augustana WELCA -Thank you very much for the gift certificate for my birthday and for the great appreciation gift bag I received.

Sue Melheim

Dear Augustana Lutheran Church – Thank you for your gracious gift of \$100 to Lutheran Disaster Response. Your Spirit-filled generosity is helping families and communities reeling from disasters here in the U.S. and around the world.....The glory of God is shining through you.

In Christ, Rev. Robin Brown, ELCA Mission Funding Director, Congregations

Dear East Sveadahl, Thank you for the card and money for using my data to film Facebook live. It has been fun working with you.

Lisa Carlson

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the “Bakeless Bake Sale”, your donations were greatly appreciated!

Augustana WELCA

Hi to everyone at Augustana and East Sveadahl:

As some of you know, I am currently in Balaton serving as the vicar for 2 churches. So far, I think everything is going well. But that is enough about me. This is about all of you.

I have wanted to do this for a long time but there was never the right opportunity. Is there ever? Then COVID hit and I end up in Balaton. So while I wish I could do this in person, this will have to do.

I want you all to know how grateful and blessed I have been to know all of you. You have been there for me through so many different phases of my life. My journey into ministry has taken many twists and turns. Through it all, my 2 churches have been there. You picked me up when I was struggling, you gave me confidence when I had my doubts, and I can’t even begin to count the number of times you put a smile on my face and made me laugh.

People would sometimes say to me, “Thank you for everything you do for our churches.” While I appreciated the comment, I always felt a little guilty because I knew that whatever I gave, I was given back so much more. It has been my pleasure to worship with you, work with you, and just spend time chatting. You know I am really good at that.

If you have ever heard the song, “Angels among us” by Alabama, you will know how I see all of you. I have always felt loved and protected by my 2 churches. God used you to watch over me and I am so grateful.

Only God knows where I will end up, but you will always hold a special place in my heart that will never be replaced. I wish there was a glorious word that I could use to express exactly how blessed I feel to have had you all in my life for such a long time. But since I can’t come up with one word, I will just use two. Thank you.

Rick Carlson

Electronic Giving – Augustana - 4 Ways

1. Electronically: visit church website and click 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, d designs@mchsi.com.

Daylight Saving Time - November 1st

DST ends. Remember to turn your clocks back before going to bed!

Weather Announcements

AES MINISTRIES -- East and Augustana: Listen to 101.5 FM (KRRW), 8:60 AM (KNUJ), Channel 12 KEYC-TV, check our website at www.augustanachurch.org, or our Facebook page for any snow emergency information. If school is closed early, confirmation will be cancelled.

Address Changes

Please get your address changes to Sue at the Augustana office or Susan at 507-317-5293.

Partner Ministry/Community Events

Energy Assistance

If you or someone you know has difficulty paying their **monthly energy bills**, please request an application by calling MVAC (Minnesota Valley Action Council) at (507) 345-6822 or (800) 767-7139 or downloading the application from MVAC’s website at mnavac.org. Applications will be available on October 1, 2020, and the deadline to apply is May 31, 2021. More information will be posted as it is received in Augustana’s social hall and on the bulletin board in East.

Albion Church Bazaar

The Albion Women are holding an online bazaar from November 1st - 15th at this site 32auctions.com/AlbionBazaar2020. To participate in the auction, you will need to sign up for an account with 32auctions prior to placing a bid. Payments will be made directly through 32auctions – debit or credit card, or a Pay Pal account. (There is a 3% convenience fee with the payment.) We hope you will find something that is just what you need or want, and help us raise money for the valuable missions we support.

Coffee and Conversation

Monday, November 2nd at 10:00 am, Watonwan County Human Services will present “Wellness/Mental Health” at the Madelia Amberfield Sr. + Dining Room. Masks and social distancing required. Call WELLSRING to register – 507-375-1276.

Winter Apparel Distribution

On Friday, November 6 from 3-7 pm, there will be a Winter Apparel Distribution at the Watonwan County Fairgrounds of new or gently used adult/youth Coats, Hats, Mittens, Boots & Snowpants

SUNDAY MORNING IN-CHURCH PROTOCOLS

1. 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.
2. Use the hand sanitizer as you enter and when you leave.
3. All members need to wear a mask; please bring your own.
4. All members are asked to be mindful of social distancing when entering, sitting in the pews and exiting the churches
5. 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.
6. If you don't feel comfortable coming into the sanctuary yet, please listen to the service on Facebook.
7. 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.



AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – October 14, 2020

This meeting was held via Zoom video conferencing.

Present: Pastor Gene Alms, Dean Swenstad, Greg Thulien, Judy Thulien, Lisa Carlson, Dominique Berg, Steph Reid, Paul Missling, Andy Freitag, Terry Engel, John Coleman, Kyla Schломann, Kari Miest, Deanna Hoffman. Meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm and opened with devotions from Pastor Gene.

Pastor's Report: We did have the tent to use for outdoor activities, but we lost that to the wind. Lyla is holding Faith Ventures on Wednesdays at 12:30 pm. The MAP team is making good progress. There will be another Campfire Worship on October 28th. Confirmation and All Saints' Day will be Nov. 1. We will have a Thanksgiving Eve service November 25th at 7:00 pm at East Sveadahl. Pastor will be on vacation Oct 9-14 and December 26-31.

Motion by Thulien, seconded by Reid to approve the minutes from the September meeting. Motion approved.

New Business – There will be a survey sent out to members to see what they would like to see in a new pastor. East Sveadahl will pay for ½ of this.

Deanna Hoffman presented the giving report.

Treasurer's Report: Judy Thulien presented the Treasurer's Report. Motion by Carlson, seconded by Reid to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

AES Report: WiFi is upgraded. They extended Pastor Gene's contract until the end of the year. We are not yet ready for a Call Committee. It was discussed that some wanted to still do a pancake supper with take-out orders only. It was decided it was too dangerous. Motion by Thulien, seconded by Coleman to cancel for this year. Motion carried with one opposed.

Education Committee: TLC will have an outdoor Christmas program with live animals.

Evangelism & Social Ministry/Worship & Music Committees: Still working on a better radio option. Looking at KSUM. The service would be recorded, downloaded, and shared at a later time. Sharing of the Peace is back by waving to each other. The Music Designated Memorial Fund will roll over to a new name called the Music, Worship & Technology Fund. Motion by Reid, seconded by Carlson to make this change. Motion carried.

Finance, Memorials, and Stewardship Committee: Looking at the new budget. Committees please look into your individual budgets.

Property and Cemetery: The tent was very damaged by the wind. The poles were bent and the canvas ripped.

(Augustana Council minutes-cont.)

Youth Committee: Did not meet.

Motion by Reid, seconded by Thulien to adjourn at 8:00 pm. Motion carried.

Closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Next Council meeting will be Nov. 11th with Steph leading devotions.

Lisa Carlson, Council Secretary

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AES JOINT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – October 7, 2020

The AES Joint Council met on Wednesday, October 7, 2020, via ZOOM. Those present were Greg Thulien, Wayne Jurgens, Janet Bloomquist, Teresa Andrews, Judy Berg, Steph Reid, Tom Anderson, Dominique Berg, Susan Anderson, and Pr. Gene.

Absent: Leora Ask, Mike Menssen

Pr. Gene led us in devotions.

A motion (Steph) was made, seconded (Janet), and carried to approve the September 2, 2020 minutes as printed in the newsletter. Copies of the minutes were sent to the council members.

OLD BUSINESS:

Pr. Gene presented his report which is included in this newsletter.

Pr. Gene and Lyla are working on Faith Ventures which are presented on Facebook on Wednesdays at 12:30 pm.

Pr. Gene reiterated that there are steps outlined by the Synod that must be followed in the correct order before AES Ministries is ready to call a pastor. The MAP committee continues to meet and work through these steps.

The MAP committee is readying a questionnaire that will be sent to all members of AES Ministries. Because of covid19, we can't meet in small groups to share our wants and wishes as we have in the past. The questionnaire will be your way of providing input into the selection of a pastor. They ask that you return the questionnaire in a timely manner.

There are five baptisms coming up. Baptisms will be private due to the need to do them safely, following protocols. At some time in the future another no-water baptism will be held for the child with the congregation present.

Confirmation and All Saints' will be celebrated on November 1. If you are lighting a candle for your loved one, you will light it as you come into church before you sit down.

Thanksgiving Worship will be a service on November 25th at 7:00 pm at East. It will also be on Facebook.

Advent and Christmas were tabled until November.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion was held on how to deal with the negativity that is being expressed and felt. It is disheartening to everyone. Showing and expressing support for those in leadership positions and on boards and committees would help.

The MAP committee has worked hard, is on task, and is moving in the right direction. Finding a new pastor in the past has taken a year or more.

Discussion was held on the contract extension for Pr. Gene. A motion was made (Steph), seconded (Wayne), and carried to extend the contract to December 31, 2020.

A motion was made (Janet), seconded (Wayne), and carried to adjourn the meeting.

The next meeting will be November 4, 2020 via ZOOM.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Anderson, Secretary

EAST SVEADAHL COUNCIL MINUTES -- OCTOBER 8, 2020

The East Sveadahl Church Council met on Thursday, October 8, 2020 at 7 p.m. at church following all the COVID protocol. Those present were Tom Anderson, Janet Bloomquist, Erma Griffith, Lori Urevig, Evonne Moll, Susan Anderson, Sonja Coleman, and Pastor Gene.

Tom called the meeting to order and Pastor Gene led us in prayer.

The September secretary meeting minutes were read and accepted.

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

Tom presented the outstanding bills. A motion by Lori, seconded by Evonne, and passed to approve paying of bills.

Pastor Gene presented his report. The campfire service on September 30 went very well and there are plans to do a second campfire service on October 28, weather permitting. Pastor Gene then went through the Mission Assessment progress. It was mentioned that looking back at the process of finding a minister we are right on schedule. See full report in newsletter.

Secretary, Susan reported on the radio update. A motion by Erma, seconded by Evonne, and passed that we move forward with changing the radio station for Sunday services to 1370 or 97.1 which is out of Fairmont.

Janet presented the AES report from October 7. See full report in newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS:

- In the future, East Sveadahl will be looking at purchasing a laptop and obtaining internet service to broadcast services. More discussion to follow.
- The new furnace is waiting for a bearing.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A motion by Janet, seconded Erma and passed to approve paying ½ of the cost, not to exceed \$150.00, in order to use what is called a Survey Monkey in order to send a questionnaire to all AES members. If a member of AES does not have a computer or does not wish to answer via computer, they will receive a hard copy.
- East Sveadahl's 150th Anniversary celebration has been tentatively rescheduled for Sunday, August 1, 2021. The next church council meeting will be November 12, 2020 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Janet Bloomquist, Council Secretary

“There is always something to be thankful for”