

# AES MINISTRIES

## Augustana/East Sveadahl Lutheran Churches

### JULY 2024 NEWSLETTER

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**As Pastor Mandy returns from Medical Leave, we as your council leaders would like to remind our congregations that pastors are CALLED to a congregation and its ministry, not simply hired. The role of a called pastor is defined in the church constitution:**

#### **Constitutional Role of the Pastor:**

Consistent with the faith and practice of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,

a. Every minister of Word and Sacrament shall:

- 1) preach the Word.
- 2) administer the Sacraments.
- 3) conduct public worship.
- 4) provide pastoral care.
- 5) seek out and encourage qualified persons to prepare for the ministry of the Gospel.
- 6) impart knowledge of this church and its wider ministry through available channels of effective communication.
- 7) witness to the Kingdom of God in the community, in the nation, and abroad; and
- 8) speak publicly to the world in solidarity with the poor and oppressed, advocating dignity, justice, and equity for all people, working for peace and reconciliation among the nations, caring for the marginalized, and embracing and welcoming racially and ethnically diverse populations.

b. Each pastor with a congregational call shall, within the congregation:

- 1) offer instruction, confirm, marry, visit the sick and distressed, and bury the dead.
- 2) relate to all schools and organizations of this Congregation.
- 3) install regularly elected members of the Congregation Council.
- 4) with the council, administer discipline.
- 5) endeavor to increase the support given by the congregation to the work of the churchwide organization and of the Southwest Minnesota ELCA; and
- 6) endeavor adherence to covenantal relationship with this church as expressed in the Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

The specific duties of the pastor, compensation, and other matters pertaining to the service of the pastor shall be included in a Letter of Call, which shall be attested by the Bishop of the Synod.

## **AES Ministries Communication Guidelines**

### **Guideline for appropriate communication within our parish, including to the council, the pastor, employees, and congregational members.**

- AES Ministries encourages positive communication with each other.
- AES Ministries will no longer accept improper communications.
- Congregations need to be courteous and respectful in all communications and focus on the positive. We encourage all to be open in making your life and others better. While we can all agree to disagree, we will continue to move forward looking to strengthening our partnership.
- If a situation arises that a parish member needs to communicate, the steps to follow will be to seek out a trusted Church Board Member on their own Church Council or a member of the AES Council. Meeting with the Pastor will be at the Pastor's discretion.
- For all meetings, the information will be kept confidential or shared with the Council or Pastor as agreed upon by the participants at the meeting.
- At the parishioner/Pastor meeting, the opportunity to include another adult, if deemed necessary by either participant, will be allowed and encouraged.
- Letters needing attention addressed to an employee, council member, or Pastor should be put into the church or secretary mailbox at each church.
- Written or typed letters will be opened by both secretaries.
  - If they are signed and appropriate, they will be logged in and passed on.
  - If they are not signed or contain derogatory, defaming, or negative comments, they will be logged in as received, not read, and then shredded.
  - Emails to council members, employees, and the Pastor will be handled and forwarded, at their discretion, to other council members, employees, and the Pastor.

**In any of the above scenarios, if a resolution cannot be reached there are possible disciplinary measures in the constitution for actions when deemed necessary.**

**\*\*\*These guidelines need to be approved by the councils of both congregations.**

## **AUGUSTANA - July**

### **CIRCLES**

Circles don't meet in July or August.

### **USHERS**

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

### **LECTORS**

July 7: Ruth Haler  
14: Leora Ask  
21: Terry Engel  
28: Jodi Coleman

### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

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

### **ALTAR GUILD**

Nancy Kunkel, Deanna Hoffman, Bonnie Reid,  
LeeAnn Nibbe, Barb Price, Marilyn Hedlund

### **MEMORIALS**

In memory of **Ellie Kulseth**  
\$25.00 – Green Lake Ministries  
\$20.00 – Radio Broadcast  
\$20.00 – Stained Glass Window Fund

In memory of **Logan Sizer**  
\$10.00 – Green Lake Ministries  
\$60.00 – Stained Glass Window Fund

In memory of **Bert Swenson**  
\$10,000 – General Fund  
\$10,000 – Stained Glass Windows Fund

### **MISSIONARY SPONSORS**

Please call the church office to sponsor our Missionary. The cost is \$20.00 per week.  
July: Available

### **COMMUNION SERVERS**

July 7: Doug Erdal & Darrick Miest  
14: Lyle Anderson & Jim Harrington

### **NOISY OFFERING**

Noisy Offering will be on Sunday, July 28<sup>th</sup>.  
Donations will go to CADA

## **AUGUSTANA - July**

### **TRANSITIONS**

Mariah Kelly & Penelope Schmidt – East Sveadahl

### **RADIO INFORMATION - 1370 AM**

Sponsor a half hour broadcast for \$40.00.  
East sponsors the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, and the last two of the four 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of 2024.  
Augustana sponsors the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, and the first two of the four 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of 2024.  
To sponsor an Augustana broadcast, call 375-4792.

July 28<sup>th</sup>: Available

### **ELECTRONIC GIVING**

1. Electronically: visit church website and click on the "Secure Contributions" tab, or scanning our QR Code
2. Secure Contributions: visit church Website [www.augustanachurch.org](http://www.augustanachurch.org)
3. Give+Text: from your phone, text number 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.

### **MISSIONARY SPONSORS**

Please call the church office to sponsor our Missionary. The cost is \$20.00 per week.  
July: Available

### **GREETERS**

June 7: Lisa Carlson  
14: Eugene Zarn  
21: John & Jeanne Miest  
28: Deanna Hoffman

### **AUGUSTANA CHURCH LADIES**

#### **WOMEN'S NIGHT OUT**

Save the Date! July 24, 2024  
5:30 PM

River's Edge Grill Golf Course – St. James

### **LITTLE FOOD PANTRY**

Churchmen's Group

## EAST

### TRANSITIONS

### ADDRESS CHANGE

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Pr. Mandy, Penny, Brianna, Mike, Jamie, Marie, Joann, Darryl, Phyllis, Tim, Kathy, Erma, Bruce, Jana, Sam, Tom, Chloe, Orval

### STEWARDSHIP REPORT:

Needed through May	\$39,745.85
Received through May	31,706.37
Behind through May	- \$ 8,039.48
Received in May	\$10,064.37

### USHERS

July 7: Paul and Cindy Torkelson  
 14: Dale and Deb Anderson  
 21: Wayne and Bernie Jurgens  
 28: Wayne and Bernie Jurgens

### ALTAR COMMITTEE

Pat Buse, Evonne Moll

### VISITING COMMITTEE

Evonne Moll, Pat Buse

East Sveadahl Women of ELCA held a short meeting on May 18, 2024 at 1 pm at the church. A few officers and members were present. The meeting was to decide where to distribute donations from the WELCA account.

The following was decided upon:

ELCA Good Gifts	\$ 500.00
Bless A Camper	200.00
Green Lake-2day-staff	180.00
Watsonwan Co. Food Shelf	100.00
CADA	100.00
So. Mn. Initiative Program (Backpack)	100.00
Wellspring	100.00
Meals on Wheels	100.00
Crescent Cove	<u>100.00</u>
<b>Total Donations Given.</b>	<b>\$ 1,480.00</b>

Sonja Coleman, Secretary

## EAST

### LECTORS

July 7: Tom Anderson  
 14: Janet Bloomquist  
 21: Tricia Anderson  
 28: Kris Suess

### RADIO BROADCASTS

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

### RADIO SPONSORS

Broadcasts sponsored by East:

July 14: Teresa Andrews  
 August 11: Francey Anderson and family  
 September 8:  
 October 13:  
 November 10:  
 December 8:

If you would like to sponsor any of these broadcasts for 2024, please contact Susan. Cost is \$40.00.

## Happy Birthday Happy Baptism

- 1 Michael Forsyth 10-10
- Andrea Rubishko 9-29
- 2 Lyla Klee
- 3 Jana Falk 8-6
- 10 Steven Noren 9-11
- 12 Paul Torkelson 9-07
- 13 Richard Andrews 10-28
- 18 Keegan Hodgden 8-11
- 19 Lynette Noren
- 20 Preston Anderson 8-10
- 21 Brianna Kilmer 8-20
- 22 Lori Newberg 8-28
- 24 Quinn Anderson 10-01
- Erma Griffith 8-17
- 28 Simon Beck 8-20
- Adam Johnson 8-19

Additions or corrections? Please contact Susan.



# AES JULY NEWS



## Vacation Bible School – July 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>

VBS will be held July 8<sup>th</sup> – July 11<sup>th</sup> at First Lutheran Church from 8:30 am – 11:30 am. At 11:30 am, a sack lunch will be available for the kids to take or eat at the church. Children need to be picked up no later than noon. There will be an ending program on Thursday the 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at First Lutheran.

**All are welcome to attend!**

## ~ Augustana Nursery

Starting in July, Augustana will have a nursery available during the service for parents who would like to use it. In order to offer this wonderful service for families, we need one volunteer to staff it each week. This can be an adult who wants to help, a parent with their kids, or a responsible teenager who wants babysitting practice. If you can volunteer, even occasionally, please contact Katie Zezulka by text or phone at (612) 987 -1679.

## ~ New Orleans – July 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>

We will be in New Orleans July 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>. Please keep the youth and chaperones in your prayers. We pray that our young people will experience God in amazing ways and make strong connections with other ELCA youth. Those attending are: Erick Avila, Maren Bluedorn, Allison Bluedorn, Parker Joosten, Kaystyn Keosaksith, Jena Knaack, Ehrich Knaack, Maya Kulseth, Ally Larson, Vivian Leach, Noa Malore, Lydia Overson, Adrian Rodriguez-Farr, and Kaitlyn Schlomann. Deacon Lyla will lead worship on Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup>.

## ~ Brewed Theology – July 24<sup>th</sup>

Brewed Theology is back ---Wednesday, July 24<sup>th</sup> from 7-8:30 pm at the Eagles Club.

**"What is this?"** Brewed Theology (BT) is a conversation-based curriculum offering guided discussions on topics where faith and culture intersect. Developed with Christian contexts in-mind, and written by pastors, BT is a way to start, revamp, or refresh group conversation and study.

**"Who is this for?"** Anyone! This is for anyone who isn't interested in a traditional Bible study, but is seeking a place to talk about their faith and how it informs current topics in our culture.

**"Why do it in a bar setting?"** Many young people (and people of all ages) find a bar setting to be more inviting, less formal, and an enjoyable space to gather. You do not have to drink an alcoholic beverage either! Soda, water, and food are available! Martin Luther, whose theology we follow, often gathered around beer and food to not only work on writings, but to engage in deep conversations with others.

**"What if this makes me uncomfortable or even upset?"** This is not a mandatory event to attend. I would encourage you to not attend if you have strong feelings of disagreement or discomfort. Not every event or group is a right fit for everyone. The idea behind this particular gathering is to bring church to people and to spread the message that God shows up everywhere – not just in our church buildings.

All are welcome!

## ~ Bible Study – July 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>

Bible study will resume on these Mondays in July - 15, 22, 29 from 3-4 pm at East. All are welcome!

## ~ Rare Disease Fund Raiser – July 14<sup>th</sup>

There will be a Fundraiser for Rare Diseases in Children in honor of Cassian Graham Torkelson on Sunday July 14<sup>th</sup> from 9 am – 1 pm at the American Legion. There will be a brunch and bake sale. Free will donations.

Funds raised will be given to Crescent Cove in Brooklyn Center, a hospice for families and their children going through their last days of life; and Krabbe Connect which helps families who have children with Krabbe and helps research being done into rare diseases.

If you have questions, contact Cindy Torkelson at 507-380-4713 or Paul Torkelson at 507-380-5424.

## ~ Ladies Night Out – July 24<sup>th</sup>

Save the Date! Women of Augustana (all ages) are invited to a women's night out on Wednesday, July 24<sup>th</sup> at River's Edge Grill at 5:30 pm. Mark your calendars!

## ~ Joint Worship Service and Annual Picnic – August 11<sup>th</sup>

The annual joint worship service and picnic at East Sveadahl is at **10:00 AM on Sunday, August 11**. The Wendinger Band will entertain. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

## ~ Prayer Meetings

The weekly Prayer Meeting is Monday morning at 10:00 am! Type in the link to join (or click on the link on the website). All are welcome!

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

## ~ Keeping In Touch

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

**AES Ministries website:** [www.aeslutheran.org](http://www.aeslutheran.org).

**Address Change:** Augustana office – 375-4792 or Susan at East 507-317-5293

**Weekly Bulletins:** Sunday bulletins are posted weekly on the AES Ministries website home page.

## ~ 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.

## ~ Pastoral Visits

Pastor Mandy and Deacon Lyla Klee would like to visit with you – via the phone or when possible in person! If you would like to be visited wherever for whatever reason, please contact Pr. Mandy at 651-800-6672, 375-4792, or [aesministriespastor@gmail.com](mailto:aesministriespastor@gmail.com), or Lyla at 507-439-6940 or 507-227-9250.

## ~ Thank You

Thank you to the many people who sent cards, flowers and gifts in honor of Ellie. Also, to everyone who donated to charities on Ellie’s behalf.

Thank you to the Augustana Church men and women, Sturm Funeral Home, St. James Electric customers, friends and family. The show of compassion was amazing. Thank you.

- Mike, Lindsey, Lucas, Sarah, Lily and Family

Thank you Augustana WELCA for the very kind and generous birthday gift that was sent to me. It was very nice of you and appreciated!

- Pastor Mandy

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped me during my leave. Thank you to everyone who helped with pulpit supply. I am especially grateful for Terry Engel and Deacon Lyla. Thank you to those who took on extra responsibility with our youth, especially Sandy Berg, Emily Christenson, Katie Zezulka, Dana Avila, and Kyla Schlomann. Thank you to Deacon Lyla for taking on extra visits, presiding at funerals, and always being a great support system. To the councils, I am grateful for your leadership and support. Stan and Tom, your leadership is admirable. Lauren and Susan, thank you for everything you did to help out. Thank you to my mutual ministry team for being a constant support system to me. To my local colleagues, thank you for your support. Thank you for the many generous cards, gifts, and prayers from members. To the Southwest MN Synod, your guidance has been extremely helpful. To anyone I forgot to name, know that everything everyone did to help out meant a lot to me.

- With deep gratitude, Pastor Mandy

Thank you to Pastor Mandy for being in Rochester on short notice for our family in Rochester and the very nice service in memory of Logan. Thank you to all involved serving the great lunch, music, and audio tasks. Very much appreciated!

- Joyce, Ty, Levi Sizer and Family

Dear East Sveadahl Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$500 to ministries of the ELCA through ELCA Good Gifts. The gift purchased: mosquito net, vaccinations for a child, water filter, honeybees, school fees and uniform for a girl, share of a fish farm. . . . The glory of God shines through you.

With gratitude, Rachel Wind, Executive for Development

### Augustana Financial Facts

May 2024

	May	YTD
<b>Total Giving</b>	<b>\$ 14,110.51</b>	<b>\$ 74,011.22</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>- \$ 13,034.38</b>	<b>\$ 67,355.65</b>
	<b>+ \$ 1,076.13</b>	<b>+ \$ 6,655.57</b>

This will be my last Financial Facts Report, I will be retiring from this job at the end of June. Please welcome Lauren Moll as the new Treasurer for Augustana. I will be working with Lauren through June and into July as needed. Then I will be on Grandma Duty and helping with the finances of my 98 (almost 99) year old dad! You’ll also find me tending my flowers and garden, sewing quilts, and making cards. Thank you for your continued support these last 20 years. And as always, Thank you for your on-going Financial Support of Augustana.

Respectfully Submitted, Judy Thulien - Treasurer

## COMMUNITY EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ~ Watonwan County Relay for Life – August 24<sup>th</sup>

This year's event will be held Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. Save the date!

### ~ Green Lake's 40<sup>th</sup> Quilt Auction – July 27<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>

Proceeds from this event support Green Lake's Annual Fund which allows them to provide fun, safe, quality, Christ-centered camping and retreating opportunities for people of all ages.

Enjoy the Quilt Review and Makers Market, Silent Auction, Quilt Trunk Show, Paint-Your-Own Barn Quilt, hotdish supper, and Beachfront Concert on Friday; and the Quilt Review and Makers Market, Paint-Your-Own Barn Quilt, Live Auction, and pulled pork lunch on Saturday. Fresh doughnuts and concessions available throughout the weekend. Online bidding is available as well.

Learn more at [www.gllm.org/quilt-auction](http://www.gllm.org/quilt-auction).

#### AES JOINT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Meets June 27, 2024

#### EAST SVEADAHN COUNCIL MINUTES -- JUNE 13, 2024

The East Sveadahh Church Council met on Thursday, June 14, 2024 at 7 pm at East Sveadahh. Those present were Tom Anderson, Wayne Jurgens, Janet Bloomquist, Kris Suess, Dana Avila, Lori Urevig, Sonja Coleman, and Susan Anderson.

Absent: Cindy Torkelson

Tom Anderson, Council Chairman, called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

The May 9, 2024 minutes were approved as written in the newsletter.

Sonja Coleman, Financial Secretary and Treasurer, Kris Suess presented their reports. A motion by Janet, seconded by Dana, and passed to approve the reports as presented.

Tom presented the bills.

Tom reported on the Synod Convention at St. Peter which he and Erick Avila attended.

Susan reported the following:

- Communion services will be June 23 with Lyla Klee presiding and in July we will return to the first and second Sundays of the month.
- On July 24 Pastor Mandy is planning on having "Brewed Theology" again at the Eagles.
- The National Youth Conference is asking for freewill offerings to be given at the conference for World Hunger. It was decided to send \$50.00 as a donation and the July noisy offering will go towards this donation.

Lori presented the AES Ministries Communication Guidelines along with the Constitutional Role of the Pastor. The council approved both of these as amended, and they are printed in the newsletter.

A discussion on the church phone took place. Since our alarm for the church is attached to the phone, Lori will check on the cost of hooking the alarm to a cellular connection.

**Old Business:** Saturday, June 15 is the church work day.

**New Business:** A discussion on painting the outside of church took place. It was tabled until a later date.

Motion by Janet, seconded by Wayne, and passed to adjourn.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next Church Council meeting will be July 11, 2024.

Respectfully submitted, Janet Bloomquist, Council Secretary



## AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES – JUNE 12, 2024

**Present:** Lyle Anderson, Sandy Berg, Doug Erdal, Kirsten Freitag, Jim Harrington, Stan Kunkel, Darrick Miest, Jeff Price, Dean Swenstad, Lynn Watson, Jill Beckius

**Absent:** Pastor Mandy, Margo Spang

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm. Kirsten opened with a prayer. Doug shared devotion from the Bible.

Motion to approve the minutes from last month by Jim, seconded by Lynn.

**Treasurer's report** - Judy pointed out some of the activity from the general fund-Pulpit supply, office supplies for Church Windows program, Worship & music for copyright license and Student Education for VBS supplies. The Utility bill is looking good. Consolidated Fund activity-camperships were paid. The Mission Investment fund that matures on 6/13/24 would have a renewal rate of 4.96% if we let it roll over for another year and penalty for early withdrawal is minimal. Motion by Jeff to renew this fund and seconded by Lynn. MN Department of Health invoice. Motion by Lynn to pay the \$40 invoice and Jeff seconded.

Deanna presented the giving report. Next month's giving report will show a very nice memorial gift with \$10,000 going to the general fund and \$10,000 to the stained-glass fund. Stan will connect with John Coleman to request a bid for the stained-glass project. There is file shortage available for Lauren in the Finance office.

**AES Ministries** - did not meet

### **Committee Reports**

**Education** - VBS 94 students are signed up and AES has been working on decorations

Railroad Days Parade-3 students, 2 younger kids and 2 adults will be walking and handing out candy, bubbles, and glow sticks. Plan for next year would be to work with another group. Nursery-working on getting this set up, hopefully, by June 30th. Katie has a few students signed up to help and has been working on organizing the cupboard. We're planning on making adjustments along the way as needed.

ROAR Wednesday evening from 6 to 7 pm and starting out with 1 supper a month to be served at 5:30 pm. Planning Rally Sunday on Sept. 29, '24 and Oct 2, '24 will be the first ROAR starting at 5:30 pm supper and class time from 6 to 7 pm. Judy Berg will use a Thrivent card for this supper. Also will set up an online registration form.

MoonDogs Baseball game Faith Night June 30, '24. There are 6 tickets left out of the 30 purchased. Lauren will put a notification in the bulletin for anyone interested in the remaining tickets. Looking at next year, we're hoping to purchase more tickets and invite all of AES.

**Evangelism/Social Ministry** - planning Father's Day gifts this Sunday.

**Worship, Music & Technology** - worked on hymn selections. Discussed different music programs using the sound system with Cec's retirement on July 7th. Bully Pulpit-Darrick will check with them and find out their schedule. Margo Spang decided to resign from the church council.

**Finance** - Judy outlined the list of accounts, what the purpose and the source of income for each account. Reminder that all receipts should be signed and turned in ASAP.

**Property/Cemetery** - carpet on the front steps is now done. Lloyd Sandberg will no longer be able to mow the lawn out at the cemetery.

**Youth** - getting ready for the National Youth Gathering July 16th. There are 14 youth and 4 adults attending. Serving July 7th coffee hour. Started planning youth activities for this Fall. Requested pulpit supply for July 21.

**Old Business:** Building security-checking on cost of key fob entry system for one door.

*(continued)*

**New Business**

**Staff positions:** Lauren Moll has agreed to take the treasurer's position. Discussion regarding church windows program and how it is saved. Lauren's start date will be June 16th. Motion to approve made by Sandy, seconded by Lynn.

Janitor's position- Karen Heller has just been cleared to return to work.

Motion to approve Karen returning made by Jim and seconded by Kirsten.

Congregation Guidelines-discussion regarding communication guidelines.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Lynn and seconded by Dean.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer and meeting was adjourned at 9:07pm

Respectfully submitted, Jill Beckius

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# **COME HELP CELEBRATE CECELIA KULSETH'S RETIREMENT!**

*Come help Celebrate Cec's Retirement  
from being Organist for 50 Years on Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup>!  
There will be cake to enjoy during coffee hour  
and Build-A-Burger after worship service.*

*Happy Retirement!*

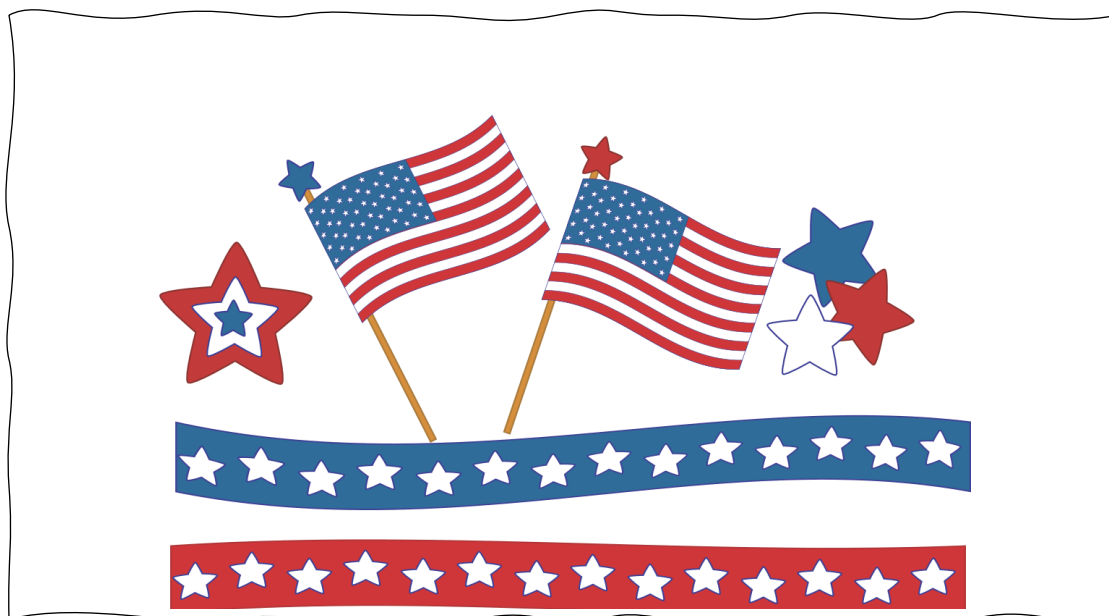
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## JULY 2024 NEWSLETTER



**AES MINISTRIES**  
**AUGUSTANA & EAST SVEADAHN LUTHERAN CHURCHES**  
MANDY FRANCE, PASTOR      Lyla Klee, VISITATION DEACON