

# AES MINISTRIES

Augustana/East Sveadahl Lutheran Churches

## SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER



### ROAR

**Join us on September 28th for an FBI party  
at Augustana to kick off our ROAR classes!**

Between 9 and 10 am children will become  
Faithful Bible Investigators, searching for clues and having fun as they learn  
about the 10 plagues of Egypt and celebrate the start of a great new year of ROAR.



**Register for ROAR for this school year between August 30th-September 14th.**  
All children eligible for 3-year-old preschool thru high school are welcome to join us!  
Classes will be Wednesdays at Augustana from 6-7pm starting October 1st.

A meal will be provided for ROAR children and families from 5:30-6 pm  
each 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesday.

Scan this QR Code to Register your Children



## SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE

- September 7: *GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS. and BLESSING OF BACKPACKS*  
9:00 am Communion Worship Service at East  
10:30 am Communion Worship Service at Augustana
- September 14: 9:00 am Communion Worship Service at East, Baptism at East  
10:30 am Communion Worship Service, Baptism at Augustana
- September 21: 9:00 am Worship Service at East  
10:30 am Worship Service at Augustana
- September 28: 10:00 am Joint Worship Service at Augustana – Noisy Offering  
*Rally Sunday with Games before worship*

## **AUGUSTANA**

### **CIRCLES**

September 2: 9:30 am Rebecca Circle  
 September 10: 9:00 am Martha Circle – Fireside Rm  
 Shirley Moody is Hostess  
 September 16: 9:30 am Sewing Circle

### **USHERS**

Lynn Watson, Jayne Anderson,  
 Kristen Gertsema, Jim Harrington

### **LECTORS**

September 7: Thomas Berg  
 14: Lisa Carlson  
 21: Jim Moody  
 Joint @ A 29: 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.

### **MEMORIALS**

None to report

### **CONTEMPORTY SERVICES**

Sept. 28, October 12, November 30, December 28

### **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 2025.  
 Augustana sponsors the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, and the first two of the four 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of 2025.  
 To sponsor an Augustana broadcast, call 375-4792.

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

### **NOISY OFFERING**

Sun., September 28<sup>th</sup> – Goes to St. James Fire Dept.

### **ALTAR GUILD**

Nancy Kunkel, Bonnie Reid, Leann Nibbe,  
 Barb Price, Marilyn Hedlund

### **Save the Date! St. Lucia**

St. Lucia will be held on Sat., December 13, 2025

## **AUGUSTANA**

### **TRANSITIONS**

#### **BAPTISM**

We welcomed **Rosie Lynn Peiffer**, daughter of Alex Peiffer & Alyssa Style, into God's Family and AES Ministries on August 31, 2025.

Please continue to keep Rosie and her family in your prayers as she grows in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

#### **FUNERAL**

**Andrea Sandberg** passed away July 30, 2025. Her funeral was August 11, 2025. May God's peace comfort her family and friends.

### **MISSIONARY SPONSORS**

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

The month of September is 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.

### **GREETERS**

September 7: Darrick & Kari Miest  
 14: Les & Kristi Zellmann  
 21: Eugene Zarn  
 Joint @ A 29: Greg & Judy Thulien

### **COMMUNION SERVERS**

September 7: Andrew Freitag & Jill Beckius  
 14: Sandy Berg & John Coleman

### **LITTLE FOOD PANTRY**

Martha Circle

## EAST

### TRANSITIONS:

Joining East Sveadahl and AES Ministries on August 3<sup>rd</sup> were **Edward Knickrehm** and **Morgan Bohlin**. Morgan transferred from Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Bird Island. Welcome!

**Richard William Andrews** passed away Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. He was born July 13, 1956. Rich will be buried in the Union Cemetery, Atwater, MN. May God's peace comfort his family and friends.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Jimmy, Deb, Cub,  
Mike, Jamie, Marie, Darryl, Phyllis, Tim, Bruce,  
Sam, Tom, Chloe, Orval

### STEWARDSHIP REPORTS:

Needed through July	\$ 53,719.19
Received through July	36,873.79
Behind through July	- \$ 16,845.40
Received in July	\$ 7,681.20

### USHERS

Bryon Christenson and Family

### Happy Birthday Happy Baptismal Day

- 3 Laura Sense 9-20
- 7 Charles Noren 11-21
- 8 Lyla Avila  
Susie Carlson 12-18  
Wilmar Tietz 9-24
- 9 Zane Eineke 3-4
- 13 Brogan Eineke 5-27
- 15 Michael Menssen 10-11
- 16 Steven Johnson 11-2  
James Krogstad 12-10  
Terry Thulien 10-10
- 17 Lee Carlson 10-22
- 19 Tammy Stevens-Rathman 10-27
- 20 Riley Husby 11-24
- 21 Britta Torkelson 10-23
- 22 Nick Griffith 8-6
- 25 Keagan Jurgens 12-10
- 26 Londyn Anderson 2-23
- 30 Lowlla Lenz 11-3

## EAST

### SEPTEMBER RADIO BROADCASTS

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

### ALTAR COMMITTEE

Evonne Moll and Cathy Anderson

### LECTORS

September 7: Tom Anderson  
14: Evonne Moll  
21: Janet Bloomquist  
28: Torkelsons

### VISITING COMMITTEE

Sonja Coleman and Julene Hoffman

### RADIO SPONSORS

September 14:  
October 12:  
November 9:  
December 14:

We need sponsors for the above broadcasts!

If you would like to be a sponsor,  
please contact Susan. Cost is \$40.00.

### *Be Inspired 7 Days a Week*

Start each day with inspiring tips like these:

1. Happy is a decision you can make.
2. More blessings are on their way.
3. You are braver than you know.
4. One smile sparks another.
5. Fun is still the best stress cure there is.
6. Hope helps, hope heals.
7. **A prayer is a wish with wings.**  
From Francy Anderson

### Ongoing -- Stewardship



# AES SEPTEMBER NEWS



**The REGULAR SUNDAY FALL SCHEDULE for AES Ministries  
begins on October 5<sup>th</sup> continuing through February:**

**9:00 am service at Augustana**

**10:00 am Augustana Coffee Hour**

**10:30 am service at East**

**Communion Services: 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month – East & Augustana**

## **“GOD’S WORK. OUR HANDS.” – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7**

Our congregation has many hands that are busy in our community doing God's Work in many ways. Here are just a few: Relay For Life, Chamber, Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, 4-H, Watonwan Food Shelf, Veterans driver, Meals on Wheels, and Sewing quilts that are given to Human Services, MVAC and Lutheran World Relief. We also provide books in our Little Free Library and food in our Little Free Pantry.

Remember to use the hands God gave you to do His work in our community however you are able.

*Be sure to wear your “God’s Work. Our Hands” shirts to worship that day.*

## **BREWED THEOLOGY – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

Come join us at the VFW on Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. You do not need to drink an alcoholic beverage to be part of this. This event is completely optional for anyone who would like to attend!

## **WELCA’S BAKELESS BAKESALE – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12**

The Augustana WELCA is hosting a “**Bakeless Bake Sale**” and serving coffee hour at Augustana on Sunday, October 12, 2025, during coffee hour.

Donations can be given at worship and coffee hour that day or dropped off at the church office.

### The Bakeless Bake Sale Fundraising Poem

Many is the time I heard you say  
I would rather give a “Dollar” than bake today  
And so, we are asking you to help more or less  
To make our Bakeless Bake Sale a big success.

Just send us the money that it would take  
To bake a loaf of bread or a beautiful cake  
Or send in the amount of money it takes to buy  
A dozen rolls or maybe a pie.  
We know you can help us if you will but try.



## **THANK YOU’S**

Thank You WELCA ladies from Augustana for inviting East to your Ladies Luncheon. It was great fun and fellowship. I was lucky enough to win the creative door prize which was a bottle of catsup and relish with the caption “Catch Up With JESUS, lettuce praise & relish Him cuz He loves me from my head to-ma-toes”.

Janet Bloomquist & East Ladies

Dear East Sveadahl Lutheran Church, Thank you for your gift of \$100.00 you shared for this year’s Synod Assembly offering. ... your offering this year helped us invest in equipping faith formation leaders to cultivate faith growth with their youth through our Synod Minister Pr. Seyward Ask ... . Know that we are grateful for the gifts you share and highly value your partnership in this vital ministry! Thank you!  
In Christ, Rev. Dee Pederson – Bishop, SW MN synod

Dear Augustana Lutheran Church, Thank you for your gift of \$200.00 you shared for this year’s Synod Assembly offering. ... your offering this year helped us invest in equipping faith formation leaders to cultivate faith growth with their youth through our Synod Minister Pr. Seyward Ask ... . Know that we are grateful for the gifts you share and highly value your partnership in this vital ministry! Thank you!  
In Christ, Rev. Dee Pederson – Bishop, SW MN synod

## FINANCIAL FACTS

	July	YTD
<b>Total Giving</b>	<b>\$14,421.95</b>	<b>\$ 95,640.17</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>- \$17,126.29</b>	<b>\$ 118,414.16</b>
	<b>- \$ 2,704.34</b>	<b>- \$ 22,773.99</b>
Respectfully Submitted – Lauren Moll - Treasurer		

### AES JOINT COUNCIL MINUTES – Did not meet in August

### EAST SVEADAHN COUNCIL MINUTES -- August 14, 2025

The East Sveadahl Church Council met on Thursday, August 14 at 7 pm. Those present were Dale Anderson, Wayne Jurgens, Janet Bloomquist, Cindy Torkelson, Kris Suess, Pastor Mandy, and Susan Anderson.

Absent: Tom Anderson, Lori Urevig, and Sonja Coleman

In the absence of Tom Anderson, Council Chairman, Wayne called the meeting to order.

Pastor Mandy opened with prayers brought forth by the council.

The July 10 minutes were approved as written in the newsletter.

In the absence of Sonja Coleman, Financial Secretary, Wayne presented her written report. Kris Suess, Treasurer, presented her report. A motion by Dale, seconded by Cindy, and passed to approve the reports as presented.

Wayne asked for outstanding bills. There were none. A motion by Dale, seconded by Cindy, and passed to approve the Noisy Offering for July be increased from \$62.15 (the amount given) to \$100.00 to be sent to the Texas Flood victims.

#### **PASTOR MANDY’S REPORT:**

- VBS had an average of 80 children every day and was a very positive experience. It is being planned again for next year with First Presbyterian hosting.
- Forty-five people attended the pool party.
- The AES campout was great fun with 11 kids and counselors.
- Looking ahead:

Sunday, August 17 no service at East but all are welcome to attend the Butterfield Threshing Bee outdoor service or Augustana.

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Sunday, August 24 Deacon Lyla will conduct both services.

Wednesday, August 27 is the rescheduled Ecumenical Youth Gathering at East.

Sunday, August 31 we will be visited by Asha and Jamie Bost who are working with the Mission Aviation Fellowship. Since this is Noisy Offering Sunday, it was decided to give the offering to Asha and Jamie.

Sunday, September 7 will be the Blessing of the Backpacks.

Sunday, September 14 there is baptism at both churches.

Wednesday, October 1 confirmation and ROAR begin.

Sunday - Tuesday, October 5-7 Pastor Mandy will be attending the Fall Theology Conference.

Sunday, October 26 is Confirmation at both churches.

A big THANK YOU to all the AES members who contributed to the Campout and AES Annual picnic with food or helped with serving and for those who came to enjoy. It was a rainy, but great day.

**AES REPORT:** No meeting since last report.

**OLD BUSINESS:** NONE

**NEW BUSINESS:** NONE

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

The next church council meeting will be September 11, 2025.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Janet Bloomquist, Council Secretary

### AUGUSTANA CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES – AUGUST 13, 2025

**Present:** Sandy Berg, Jodi Coleman, John Coleman, Pastor Mandy, Darrick Miest, Bob Moll, Jeff Price, Lynn Watson, Andy Freitag, Deanna Hoffmann, & Lauren

**Absent:** Jill Beckius, Dean Swenstad, Stan Kunkel, Nicole Meyer

#### **Member Concerns:**

Heidi Engel thanked the committee for all they do. She brought up concerns regarding the organist vacancy and the lack of trained members for technology that supports our church services, funerals and weddings. If we use the new computer-generated music, it still requires someone to run it. Have we pursued any other possible organist or pianist who could cover the weekends that Heidi doesn't? Ultimately, we need additional help with music and technology.

#### **Reports:**

July 9<sup>th</sup> minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Sandy and seconded by John, motion carried.

**Treasurer:** Lauren presented the treasurer's report. Motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Jodi and seconded by Darrick, motion carried.

**Giving:** Deanna presented the giving report. She also shared possible envelopes or mailing booklets we can use to send to members. It was agreed that we would try the booklets mailed out twice a year to members, motion was made by Darrick and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jodi, motion carried to do a 1-year trial of the booklets. It was also discussed that we should work on getting updated addresses for all members and that adult children, regardless if living at home, should receive their own booklets. Our QR code will also be included on the booklets to encourage online giving if it is preferred.

**Pr. Mandy's report:** 2 baptisms planned for Aug 31 & Sep 14, 1 funeral for a member and one funeral for nonmember at the funeral home (they had attended a funeral at Augustana and reached out to have Pastor Mandy do this funeral), Wedding planned for September 20. VBS was a great success with average of 80 children attending throughout the week and the total cost to AES was \$88.67 which will be split between the 2 churches, thanks given to those who used their Thrivent dollars to offset these costs, it much appreciated. The ROAR pool party on August 7<sup>th</sup> was well attended with 45 people attending, plans being made to partner with other local congregations on this next year. Activities and programs are being planned for next year, including confirmation, ROAR & Youtherans. Pastor Heather from the synod office will be doing

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services on August 17<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Mandy will be doing services at the Ecumenical Butterfield Threshing Bee. Lyla will be conducting services and support August 21-25<sup>th</sup> so Pastor Mandy can take some time off.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Education:** \*See Pastor Mandy's report. Rally Sunday will be on September 28<sup>th</sup> at our Joint Service @ 10 AM at Augustana. Blessing of the Back Packs is planned for Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. New member Katie Vogt has agreed to join the education committee and assist with teaching.

**Evangelism/Social Ministry:** Did not meet this month. Gift packets were given to the new members we received in August.

**Worship, Music & Technology:** Feedback has been very positive on the All Creation Sings worship and music. More help is needed for both music and technology. The council will look at ways to recruit members as well as possibly non-members to assist with this. Looking for possibly creating a stand-alone Technology group with sign-ups for all year to cover church services and resource people to cover funerals. Funerals are particularly difficult as they are shorter notice and most often during the week. Brewed Theology will take place on August 26<sup>th</sup>. Plans are being made to do a Christmas Music sing along at Praise at the Pub (Eagles Club) to coincide with the Winter Carnival or another date in December.

**Finance:** Jeff Price reported on our unsuccessful search for cost effective property insurance. Jeff thanked Jodi C. for assistance. Both did a great deal of work. We are looking at having our current agent report to the council on our current coverage and possible ways to save money.

**Property/Cemetery:** Andy Freitag updated the council on building projects including some water issues; mold was removed from a closet, and other measures have been taken to prevent future issues. He suggested the need for gutters at the cost of \$500, Sandy moved to approve this cost with Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, motion was carried.

**Youth/Ministry:** Annual camp out was on August 9<sup>th</sup> at East. Car wash created \$365 in funds. Food shelf volunteer project was a great learning experience. 500 plus families are served by our local food shelf. We will be assisting at the Threshing Bee again this year. August 24<sup>th</sup>, we have Bingo at the nursing home planned, this is a big hit with both the nursing home residents and the youth. We are in the process of planning a Root Beer float stand at Relay for Life, if this doesn't work out, we will try to find another way to raise funds for Relay for Life. October a Confirmation Banquet will be on the 22<sup>nd</sup> with Confirmation scheduled for October 26<sup>th</sup>. We have 2 confirmands. Additional plans are in the works for November and beyond.

### **Old Business:**

Stewardship: Discussion about a possible Fall meal.

Membership List/Directory: Mackenzie Miest will be asked to present at the next AES Joint Meeting. We appreciate Mackenzie's assistance in getting a photo directory created.

### **New Business:**

Funerals – Discussion on technology and assistance with organizing funerals.

The meeting was adjourned, and we closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Jodi Coleman

## **AUGUSTANA WELCA BOARD MINUTES 7-10-25**

Those present: Pr. Mandy, LeeAnn Nibbe, Nancy Kunkel, and Jeanne Miest

LeeAnn presented the treasurer's report for April and May, and they were approved. We have a \$2,000 CD due and will renew it at the same interest rate of 3.94%.

We discussed how to proceed with WELCA without a president. We will ask circle members to help decide which projects to continue with their help and which to eliminate.

Most of the meeting was spent planning for serving VBS kid's snacks. We are planning on 100 kids including the helpers. We will ask circle members to come help serve Monday-Thursday, July 21-24. We checked on paper products needed and made lists to purchase items.

The meeting was adjourned.

Jeanne Miest, temporary secretary

AES MINISTRIES  
P.O. Box 151  
St. James, MN 56081  
Telephone: 507-375-4792

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U.S. Postage  
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Address correction requested.



## SEPTEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> – God's Work. Our Hands. Blessing of Backpacks  
Communion Worship ~ 9:00 am      East Sveadahl 10:30 am Augustana

SEPTEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup> – Rally Sunday for ROAR  
Joint Worship ~ 10:00 am Augustana  
Games from 9:00 am – 10:00 am for Youth

### AES MINISTRIES

Augustana & East Sveadahl Lutheran Churches  
Pastor Mandy France      Visitation Deacon Lyla Klee