

AES MINISTRIES

Augustana/East Sveadahl Lutheran Church

2026 JANUARY NEWSLETTER



Happy New Year, Church!

I pray you had a wonderful holiday season and found time to truly dwell in the miracle of Christmas. Every January, I choose a word for myself to focus on for the upcoming year. It is a method I use to derive focus and intention for the upcoming year. Some of the words I have chosen in years past include joy, peace, family etc. As I sat down to think of my word for 2026, I thought wouldn't it be neat for the church to have a word too? A word that points us in an intentional direction, offers guidance, and promotes community? As I thought about what that might look like, a word kept coming to my mind and that word is - DISCIPLESHIP.

Discipleship is different from church membership. When we talk about discipleship, the primary relationship is not the congregation. The primary relationship is with Jesus. The congregation plays a large piece in this though. The congregation is the community of people with whom the relationship is lived out and nurtured. It is in the congregation that we grow in faith and proclaim the Good News to others. The congregation is an extremely vital piece for discipleship to be lived out. The role of the disciple, then, is to grow deeper in its Jesus and to tell others about Jesus.

Disciples do ministry. They view ministry as a partnership between congregation, pastor, and community. Disciples believe and understand that ministry belongs to all God's people. They view giving of their time, talents and possessions as a part of a growing relationship with Jesus. Disciples want to share the love of Jesus with others.

As mainline protestants, we don't talk enough about discipleship, in my opinion. As Lutherans especially, we get very anxious of slipping into "works righteousness" when we even dare to say that Christ does in fact demand something of us, but He does. Jesus wants more than just one hour on Sunday morning. Discipleship is a way of life. It is a deep sense of calling to something bigger than ourselves. It is our baptism in action. It is our prayers in action. It is our faith in action.

As we look to 2026, how might the idea of discipleship shape you? Where is God calling you to live out your baptismal promise? Let us pray... Holy God... On this day, like each day of our lives, we are called to live out our baptism as disciples of Jesus Christ. Holy Spirit, be our guide, inspiration, and encourager. Expand our commitment to live faithfully. Stir us to boldly share love, forgiveness, and support.

Holy Spirit, encourage in us a willingness to share each other's joys and sorrows. Help us to claim the promises of the good news of God in Christ for our own lives. Holy Spirit, empower us to witness boldly to God's grace, love, and hope. In Your Holy Name...

Amen.

Pastor Mandy France

We as your council leaders would like to remind our congregations of the following information. Pastors are CALLED 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.

AUGUSTANA

CIRCLES

January 6: 9:30 am Rebecca Circle
 7: 9:00 am Martha Circle @ Carol Zarn's
 January 20: 9:00 am Sewing Circle

USHERS

John Miest, Lyle Anderson, Dennis Johnson,
 Doug Nibbe, Bryan Nelson, Rich Olsen,
 Greg Thulien, Eugene Zarn, Les Zellmann

LECTORS

January 4: Terry Engel
 11: Jodi Coleman
 18: Lisa Carlson
 25: Jaydyn Moll

COMMUNION SERVERS

January 4: Darrick Miest & John Coleman
 11: Bob Moll & Sandy Berg

ALTAR GUILD

Jayne Anderson, Linda Connell, Joyce Nelson,
 Louise Olsen, Deb Style, Deanna Hoffman,
 Cecelia Kulseth

MEMORIALS

None to report

NOISY OFFERING

January 25th:

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY

Property Committee

MISSIONARY SPONSORS

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

The month of January: Available

The Church Office will be closed
 January 1st – 12th, 19th

AUGUSTANA

TRANSISTIONS

None to Report

RADIO INFORMATION - 1370 AM

Sponsor a half hour broadcast for \$40.00.
 East sponsors the 2nd Sunday of the month,
 and two of the four 5th Sundays of 2026.
 Augustana sponsors the 4th Sunday of the month,
 and two of the four 5th Sundays of 2026.
 To sponsor an Augustana broadcast, call 375-4792.

January 25th: 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
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.



Augustana Church Envelopes

The 2026 offering envelopes will be delayed due to a couple corrections we needed to have done. The company has told us we won't receive until January. Please use your 2025 ones or a regular envelope for the offering plate. Thank you, Deanna.

GREETERS

January 4: Stan & Nancy Kunkel
 11: Ashley Johnson
 18: Lisa Carlson
 25: Jaydyn Moll

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.

EAST**RADIO BROADCASTS**

January 4: First Lutheran, St. James
 11: East Sveadahl
 18: First Lutheran, St. James
 25: Augustana

ALTAR COMMITTEE

Debbie Anderson and Susie Carlson

VISITING COMMITTEE

Cindy Torkelson and Lorita Nasman

USHERS**LECTORS**

January 4: Tom Anderson
 11: Torkelsons
 18: Evonne Moll
 25: Dale Anderson

EAST RADIO BROADCASTS in 2026**Sponsors are needed for these broadcasts:**

March 8, April 12, May 10 & 31, June 14, July 12,
 August 9, September 13, October 11,
 November 8 & 29, December 13
 Call Susan to sponsor any of these broadcasts.
 Cost is \$40.00.

POINSETTIAS

Thank you for the poinsettias:
 Lori Urevig & Lisa Shellum and families; Paul &
 Cindy Torkelson and family; Ray & Leola
 Anderson's family; Julene Hoffman & Jim Anderson;
 Herbert & Karen Noren's family; Angie and Lynette
 Noren and families; Lowell Bloomquist's family;
 Dale & Deb Anderson and family; Bryon Christenson
 and family; Steve & Charlotte Johnson and family;
 Kris & Tom Suess and family; Nick Griffith; Diane
 Hage and family; Lee & Susie Carlson; Ken &
 Evonne Moll

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

EAST**TRANSITIONS:**

PRAYER CONCERNS: Brenda, Mike, Jamie,
 Marie, Darryl, Phyllis, Bruce, Sam, Tom,
 Chloe, Orval

STEWARDSHIP REPORTS:

Needed through November	\$84,415.87
Received through November	62,723.25
Behind through November	- \$ 21,692.62
Received in November	\$ 7,206.67

*Happy January Birthday
 Happy Baptismal Birthday*

3 Kris Suess [2-8]
 Nellie Schmidt [4-23]
 Susan Anderson [5-29]
 5 Emily Christenson [3-14]
 7 Erick Avila [4-14]
 Nathan Jurgens [2-19]
 8 Miriam France [3-13]
 9 Brent Coleman [2-28]
 11 Phyllis Jurgens [3-3]
 Makya Keosaksith [4-15]
 14 James Nasman [3-15]
 15 David Anderson [2-28]
 Myles Garza [4-14]
 17 Pat Buse [3-6]
 Dakota Menssen [9-3]
 18 Dacen Anderson [3-17]
 Terrance Bridges [5-2]
 Nicole Johnson [4-15]
 19 Jennifer Anderson [3-11]
 23 Don Rathman
 24 Madison Dougherty [4-00]
 28 Jennifer Schmidt [2-26]
 Marshall Smith [9-30]
 29 Dale Anderson [3-15]
 Brayden Fast [2-09]
 Thomas Johnson [4-3]
 Kaystyn Keosaksith [7-11]

The Nominating Committee is asking our members to kindly **consider and contact** them to discuss the open positions on the 2026 ballot. Please reach out to Bernie Jurgens or Lorita Nasman, if there is a spot you would be able to help with. Come and make a difference!



AES JANUARY NEWS

~ ~ OFFICE CLOSING – January 1st – 12th & 19th

Lauren will be gone Thursday, January 1st – Monday, January 12th. Sue Melheim will sit in the office Monday, January 5th – Thursday, January 8th from 9 – 11 am. Susan is also available. The office is closed Monday, January 19th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

~ ~ BABY SHOWER FOR JESUS – January 11th

Augustana WELCA is hosting a Baby Shower for Jesus on January 11th after the worship service. A Brunch will be served with a free will offering. Proceeds will go to purchasing more baby items. For those attending, we ask if you could donate newborn clothing, diapers, etc. and Monetary gifts are welcome. All donations will go to Human Services to give out to families in need. Items can also be dropped off in the basket by the church office anytime.

~ ~ ANNUAL REPORTS and ANNUAL MEETINGS

Financial Reports:

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

East Financial Reports turned into auditors by **Tuesday, January 13, 2026**

East Audited Reports turned in by **Friday, January 16, 2026**

East Auditors: Wes Beck, Dale Anderson, George Nasman

Written Reports:

Please send Augustana reports to the church secretary by **Wednesday, January 14, 2026**.

Please send East reports to the church secretary by **Monday, January 12, 2026**.

Reports for both congregations: Pastor's, 2025 Annual Meeting, AES Ministries, WELCAs, Worship and Music, Education, Youth, Property, and Resolutions

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

Annual Meetings:

- **Augustana Annual Meeting** – Sunday, January 25, following the 9:00 am worship service.
- **East Annual Meeting** – Sunday, February 8, following worship and potluck meal.

~ ~ 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, check the AES website at aeglutheran.org, or our Facebook page for any snow emergency information.

If school is cancelled or closed early, confirmation classes will also be cancelled.

~ ~ YOUTH SNOW TUBING – GRADES 6-12 – JANUARY 18TH

AES Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to go snow tubing on January 18th from 1:00 - 5:30 PM at Mt Kato. You will meet at Augustana Church. The Cost is \$10. RSVP by January 4th to Sandy Berg at (507) 381-8903. Once you have registered to go, Permission/Emergency slips will be sent to you to fill out. Feel free to register a friend to come with you!

~~ THANK YOU

Thank you to Augustana WELCA for the lovely fruit and goodie basket you gave me for Christmas! Thank you to the East Sveadahl WELCA for the generous gift card and to East Sveadahl for the very kind Christmas bonus. I deeply appreciate the kindness and generosity of all of you! - Pastor Mandy

Thank you to everyone who helped make our Christmas Eve services so beautiful and special! It truly takes a village to make these services so wonderful and your dedication to the church does not go unnoticed by me - thank you! - Pastor Mandy

A special thank you to Deacon Lyla Klee for all the visits you assisted with during the Christmas season. I am thankful to serve alongside you every day! You are a gift! - Pastor Mandy

Thank you Augustana WELCA for the yummy fruit basket! I appreciate the generous gift! - Lauren

~~~ EPIPHANY

January 6 The Epiphany of our Lord

January 6 is known in Christian tradition as Epiphany. It is the 12th day of Christmas that we sing about, and sometimes is called the Twelfth Night.

Many Christian denominations celebrate Epiphany each year on or near January 6. “Epiphany”, which means “Showing forth”, celebrates the visit of the magi, or wise men, to the baby Jesus. These men, also known as kings, saw the star that led them to Bethlehem.

The fact that these wise men were Gentiles, not Jews, teaches us an important theological lesson: Their search for the Savior shows that Jesus came for all people.

In 1875, Philip Bliss wrote the hymn, “The Light of the World Is Jesus”. The first stanza captures the meaning of Epiphany, a season of light:

The whole world was lost in the darkness of sin, The Light of the world is Jesus!
Like sunshine at noonday, His glory shone in. The Light of the world is Jesus!

FINANCIAL FACTS FOR NOVEMBER 2025

	November	YTD
Total Giving	\$11,895.45	\$ 137,175.52
Total Expenses	- \$16,751.48	\$ 178,192.66
	- \$ 4,856.03	- \$ 41,017.14

Respectfully Submitted – Lauren Moll - Treasurer

AES JOINT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – December 4, 2025

Members present: Tom Anderson, Sandy Berg, Janet Bloomquist, Lisa Carlson, Heidi Engel, Pr. Mandy, and Susan Anderson

Members absent: Pete Christenson, Nicole Meyer, Lori Urevig

Visitors present: None

Heidi Engel, in the absence of Lori Urevig, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at Sandy’s home. Heidi welcomed everyone. Thank you, Sandy, for the meal and hosting the meeting.

No member concerns were presented.

Prayer concerns were shared, and Pr. Mandy led us in prayer.

Janet Bloomquist made a motion to accept the September minutes. Tom Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PASTOR'S REPORT

- ~ She's very thankful for Deacon Lyla Klee and her visitation ministry. Their visitation team-work enables them to visit many AES members.
- ~ She is very thankful to all who generously contributed to the Operation Concern Noisy Offering. It was one of the largest Noisy Offering's ever taken. This fund will help many in need.
- ~ Confirmation classes and meetings are going well.
- ~ The Study Group continues to meet Mondays at East. The group explores a variety of topics.
- ~ Brewed Theology will meet in December at the VFW.
- ~ She has received positive feedback on the *All Creation Sings* hymnal. We will continue to use it in worship.
- ~ She is working on youth involvement in worship and plans to work along side committees to get a time and talent sheet for youth
- ~ Pastors, lay persons, and members of the Synod staff will be visiting our sister African synod this December.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- ~ Thank you to Lori Urevig and Lisa Carlson for your dedicated service on this Council.
- ~ Lisa thanked the Council for the work it's done, and Lori Urevig, via text, thanked everyone for a great year.
- ~ The terms of Lori, Janet, Lisa, and Nicole will end. In 2026 two new members from each congregation (one from the council, one from the congregation) will be needed. The vice-chairman will be from East.
- ~ Stewardship was discussed. With the financial situation in both churches, stewardship is a year-round necessity. Ways to increase giving were addressed. Ideas discussed were fundraisers, volunteering for jobs that are now paid jobs, increased individual giving, etc. Personal contact and invitations are the most effective ways to increase our attendance numbers.
- ~ Deacon Lyla will be asked to lead worship at East on January 25, 2026, so that Pr. Mandy can attend the Augustana Annual Meeting.
- ~ A motion was made by Sandy Berg, seconded by Lisa Carlson, and carried to approve the following 2026 schedule as presented:

Sunday, January 25	Augustana Annual Meeting
Sunday, February 8	East Annual Meeting
Wednesday, February 18	Ash Wednesday, East – 6:30 pm
Wednesday, February 25	Meal, Worship, Augustana – 5:30 and 6:30 pm
Wednesday, March 4	Meal, Worship, East – 5:30 and 6:30 pm
Wednesday, March 11	Meal, Worship, Augustana – 5:30 and 6:30 pm
Wednesday, March 18	Meal, Worship, East – 5:30 and 6:30 pm
Wednesday, March 25	Meal, Worship, Augustana – 5:30 and 6:30 pm
Sunday, March 29	Palm Sunday, Augustana – 10:00 am
Thursday, April 2	Maundy Thursday, Augustana – 6:30 pm
Friday, April 3	Good Friday, East – 6:30
Sunday, April 6	Easter, Augustana – 8:00 am East 10:00 am
Sunday, August 9	Church Picnic, East – 10:00 am
Thursday, December 24	Christmas Eve, Augustana – 3:00 pm East 5:00 pm
Sunday, May 31	Fifth Sunday, East – 10:00 am
Sunday, August 30	Fifth Sunday, Augustana – 10:00 am
Sunday, November 29	Fifth Sunday, East – 10:00 am

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm by Janet, seconded by Tom. Motion carried.

The next meeting is March 5, 2026 at 7:00 pm at East. The meetings in 2026 will be held in March, June, September, and December unless a meeting is called by the Chairman.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Anderson

SPECIAL AES JOINT COUNCIL MINUTES – December 16, 2025

A special AES Council meeting was held via text messaging on Tuesday, December 16, 2025. Those involved were: Tom Anderson, Sandy Berg, Janet Bloomquist, Pete Christenson, Lisa Carlson, Heidi Engel, Nicole Meyer, Lori Urevig, Pr. Mandy, and Susan Anderson

Shetek Bible Camp Early Bird registration opens January 2nd. Tricia Anderson is wondering if AES Ministries will help with camperships as they have in the past. She needs this information before she can start registering the children.

The money will come from each church's campership account and will be based on CCC numbers.

After discussion, the AES Board approved, via text messages, to recommend to each Church Council that they pay 50% of the registration fee for the children attending Shetek Bible Camp.

Discussion was tabled until the next meeting to discuss the possibility of youth who choose to attend Water's Edge (Green Lake) Bible Camp.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Anderson

EAST SVEADAH LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES – December 11, 2025

The East Sveadahl Church Council was set to meet on Thursday, December 11, 2025. Due to weather the meeting was cancelled. The next regular meeting will be January 8, 2026 at 7 p.m.

Janet Bloomquist, Council Secretary

December 16, 2025

Addendum: Via phone text messaging, acting on the recommendation of the AES Joint Council, East Sveadahl Church Council unanimously approved to pay 50% of the registration fee for the children attending Shetek Bible Camp. The money will come from the church's campership account and is based on CCC numbers.

Respectfully submitted, Janet Bloomquist, Secretary

AUGUSTANA CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES - December 10, 2025

Present: Sandy Berg, Jodi Coleman, John Coleman, Andy Freitag, Stan Kunkel, Pastor Mandy, Darrick Miest, Bob Moll, Jeff Price, Dean Swenstad, Lynn Watson, Jill Beckius

Absent: Nicole Meyer

Stan called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM. Pastor Mandy opened the meeting with a prayer. Lynn made a motion to approve minutes from last month, seconded by Bob. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report: Lauren presented the treasurer's report. Motion to approve that treasurer's report was made by Sandy and seconded by Lynn. Motion carried.

Lauren received an invoice for the St. James chamber membership of \$135. John Coleman offered to pay this expense. Council members then went over the proposed 2026 budget.

Giving report: Deanna presented the giving report for November. Motion was made by Lynn for Lauren and Deanna to go through and obtain an accurate member count. This was seconded by Bob.

Pastor Mandy's report: Pastor Mandy created a time and talent sheet for Youtherns group and would like this included in the annual meeting packet. ROAR students will sing at Augustana on January 25 and at East Sveadahl on February 8. Blue Christmas will be December 21 at 4 pm at Sturm funeral home. The first council meeting in 2026 will be Saturday, February 7 from 9 AM to 11 AM to set goals for council and for each committee.

AES Ministries: AES council set services for the 2026 calendar year. Christmas Eve services for 2026 were set at 3 PM and 5 PM.

Committee reports:

Education: Christmas program is scheduled for December 14. ROAR Christmas party will be December 17 with a potluck meal.

Evangelism/social ministry: They would like to go through the activity bags and update as needed.

(continued)

Worship music and technology: They continued with planning and selecting hymns. Also, they're planning "Praise in the Pub" at the Eagles in January and February.

Finance: building insurance-Jeff presented the different premium amounts for 2026. A motion was made by Andy to accept the \$13,738 premium with enhanced property extensions. This was seconded by Darrick, motion carried.

Property: Andy is working on a proposal for an A-frame roof for the education wing. Jeff will also check with Laraway Roofing company regarding inspection and maintenance cost for the roof. We will compare the two proposals and make a decision from there.

Youth/ministry: turkey dinner – The youth served 174 people and raised \$1807.72. A huge thank you to Mark K, Lynn W, and John C for prepping food. Junior high youth gathering-Taylor Berg chaperone and two youth attended. Youth will be serving lunch after the Christmas program on December 14. Snow tubing has been scheduled on January 18 for grades 6-12. The cost is \$10 and the sign-up deadline is January 4. Youth will be serving the ROAR meal, pasta bar, on January 21. Youth will be serving breakfast for the annual meeting on January 25 and bingo at Pleasant View later on.

Old Business:

Stewardship: Pastor Mandy presented a list of stewardship ideas. More information to follow.

MN paid leave: churches are not exempt from this. Lauren has set up an account.

Pianist position: The position was not accepted. We will continue with the recorded music at this time.

New Business:

Council positions: There will be four open council positions and two open on AES joint council. We would like to again consider updating the constitution to a minimum of 7 council members. This will need to be presented at the annual meeting.

Annual meeting: January 25 we would like to include in the booklet the list of council members and which committee they serve.

Other: There will be the peanut treat bags for the ROAR students after the Christmas program.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Lynn and seconded by Andy.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 PM. We closed with the Lord's prayer.

Respectively submitted, Jill Beckius

EAST SVEADAH L WELCA MINUTES – December 3, 2025

East Sveadahl WELCA held its annual Christmas party on December 3, 2025 at 6:30 pm.

Evonne Moll welcomed all guests and members. She shared a Christmas message entitled "Where is God". Pastor Mandy shared a Christmas devotion.

The table prayer was then sung to the tune of "Away in a Manger".

A delicious Swedish Meatball meal was served by the men of East, Charlie Bornhoft, and the AES youth boys. We thank them so much for their help.

Evonne led us in a candlelight service in memory of Joann Jensen.

A song "Mary Did You Know?" was sung by Emery Anderson. Thank you, Emery, for your wonderful gift of singing.

The program was led by Evonne, Deb Anderson, Dale Anderson, and James Nasman. A video was shown on "The Christmas Dilemma". The five characters from our Christmas story were shown with their dilemmas. Dilemma of Doubt by Joseph, Dilemma of Saying "Yes" by Mary, Dilemma of Belief by Innkeeper, Dilemma of Joy by Shepherd, and Dilemma of Obedience by the Wisemen. Christmas songs were sung also. The video was inspiring and enjoyed by all

Special music was provided by four ROAR girls, Ava Huelsenbeck, Emery Anderson, Miriam France, and Bailey Moll, led by Lisa Shellum. Thank you, girls. They did a wonderful job.

Offering was taken and will be given to the Watonwan Food Shelf. Evonne followed with an offering prayer.

Closing hymn "Silent Night" was then sung as lights were dimmed.

Evonne thanked everyone for joining us and to have safe travels home.

Merry Christmas to All!

Secretary, Sonja Coleman

