

# *Steeple News*

## **Bible Studies**

### **Ladies Bible Study 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month**

June 5, 6:30 p.m. - Potluck by participants.

*Receiving the Spirit's Flame*

*"We have been given spiritual gifts. And we are also gifts, precious and important to God."*

### **Bible Study with Rev. Hans Lillejord**

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday – June 10 & June 24, 10:00 a.m.

## **Game Days at New Sweden Church**

2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays each month at 12:30 p.m.

Ping Pong at 7:00 pm

All are welcome to join in the fun and fellowship.

## **Father's Day Breakfast**

### **You Are Invited:**

To breakfast on Sunday, June 15, 2025, at 9:00 am to honor your father, and all fathers. Women of the church will provide a great spread, so come hungry. To all, bring a photo of your father to display.

## **Swedish Interest**

Mon., June 2, 11:30 am is our monthly luncheon. We will have a delicious PICNIC lunch inside the New Sweden Church parish hall. Bring your favorite PICNIC DISH (salads, sandwiches, chips/dips, fried chicken, desserts) and please bring a friend or two! If you have never been to our Swedish Interest Luncheons, please be our guest! Guests do not need to bring food! See you there! Debbie Tucker 512-971-6738

## **Swedish Midsummer**

The 78<sup>th</sup> Swedish Midsummer/Reunion is planned for Thurs., June 19, at the SPJST Hall in Elgin. The evening features music, maypole, country store, Swedish bakery and international humorist, Dennis Swanberg. Doors open at 5:00, chicken fried steak dinner at 6:30. Make reservations or purchase tickets, \$17.00 Adults, \$10.00 Children, from Gayle Anderson, Yvonne Creppon or Carolyn Balkum. Tickets purchased at the door will be \$2.00 extra

## **God & Country**

Reminder: God & Country celebration is moving to November 9<sup>th</sup> this year for cooler weather.

## **Congratulations Grads!**

**Makina Mabry** graduated from Hendrickson High School. She will be attending UTSA in the fall, majoring in Environmental Science. Makina is the daughter of Janet & Chris Mabry.

**Jaden Strong** graduated with a Master of Science in Biological & Agricultural Engineering from Texas A&M University. He also passed the Fundamentals of Engineering Exam which is the first step to obtaining his professional engineering license. Jaden is the son of Kim & JJ Strong.

## **Thank You**

Thank you, Pastor Hans, for the beautiful orchid corsages on Mother's Day to all the women. A wonderful gift from a wonderful person. We so appreciate you.

## **WOW**

WELCA changed names to **WOW**, "Women of the Word". All the women are members of this group.

## **150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

Our 150<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of New Sweden Church will take place on April 26, 2026. It will be here before we know it! Beginning on June 29, after our Sunday morning service, we will have the first meeting and each 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday thereafter. We look forward to planning this event with input from all.

## **Kitchen Kapers**

Mike & Debra Akard are currently trying to keep up with supplies for the kitchen. Please let them know of any concerns or suggestions you may have by leaving a note in the church office. Thank you.

## **Ronald McDonald House**



Save can pull tabs and bring them to church. Place them in the Ronald McDonald House on bookshelves in the parish hall.



## **HEB Cards**

For all those unfamiliar with the HEB cards program, the church purchases cards in amounts of \$50 and \$100. When you purchase one of these prepaid cards from church, New Sweden Lutheran Church benefits 4% from the sale and there is no extra expense to you. You receive the full \$50 or \$100. Every time you purchase groceries you can help benefit the church. Purchase your cards each Sunday from Kim Strong.

## **Homesteading & Everyday Living Needs** **Open for church members and friends to exchange and share!**

We are planning to have monthly classes on different categories of projects you may have an interest in or would like to learn about. We want to share our knowledge and/or talents with each other. All the classes will be listed on the website and exact dates/times announced each Sunday. Look for the sign-up sheets! Invite a friend & join us!

The Evangelism Team  
Gayle Anderson 512-670-6945

## **Here are the upcoming events to be held at the parish hall unless otherwise noted:**

### **Food Making**

**June 25<sup>th</sup>** – Swedish Bread Making  
With Yvonne Creppon

### **Auto Repair Servicing & Safety**

**July** with Aaron Lively

### **Entertaining**

**Aug 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Dancing at Coupland Dance Hall  
With Nancy Sutton

### **Health**

**September 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am** – CPR Class  
Taught by Manor Fire Department

### **Raising Animals & Pet Care**

**October** – Dogs  
With Jack Atterstrom

### **Hobbies**

**November** – Coin Collecting  
With Hans Lillejord

## **News from the Council President**

At the annual meeting in January, I brought up two important issues for the congregation to understand. The first issue was the significant increase in property insurance and the second was necessary repairs that needed to be made on flashings, soffits and fascia at the church. I'm writing to provide an update on the status of both issues.

I reported in January that the company that had provided the insurance for the church for years, Church Mutual, notified us early last year that they would not be renewing our policy. Our church was not alone. More than 600 churches in Texas and Louisiana were also notified their policies would not be renewed. This was due to Church Mutual characterizing our area as a "catastrophic area", due to various weather impacts. Needless to say, this created a mad scramble for churches to replace their insurance provider. Those who were able to obtain coverage saw significant increases in their premiums. Our church was able to obtain coverage for our property, but the cost was over \$32,000.00, more than double what we had been paying.

Good news to report is that effective June 1, 2025, the church policy will switch to another company. Our annual premium cost will decrease by more than \$14,000.00. The new policy will be through Germania Insurance Company.

The second issue to discuss is the ongoing repairs being made to flashings, soffits and fascia boards around the church exterior. These repairs involved replacing some of the original metal flashings which had corroded, allowing water to seep behind the wood trim at the eave line. This caused damage to wooden soffits and fascia boards. The repairs and replacement of flashing and wood trim are more than 60% complete. We are awaiting delivery of a 60-foot, articulated boom lift to enable us to complete repairs at the upper eaves. Work should be completed by the end of June. Thanks for your patience as we complete these essential repairs.

Jack Atterstrom, President, Church Council



*Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. Mark 13:28*

*Church Services*

Sunday School ----- 9:30 a.m. each Sunday

Worship Service ----- 10:30 a.m. each Sunday

Holy Communion -----First and Third Sundays

*As the church that serves the countryside,  
we commit ourselves to share in Christ's love in action  
through our congregation, community,  
and the world.*

New Sweden Evangelical Lutheran Church  
 12809 New Sweden Church Road  
 Manor, Texas 78653  
 Pastor Rev. Hans Lillejord, Cell 512-947-9044  
 Office Hours: Tuesday & Friday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm 512-281-0056  
 Office Secretary: Susan Rountree

# JUNE 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service <i>Holy Communion</i> Flowers: Ray & Sharon Robbins in honor of Kim Strong Happy Birthday	2 11:30 am Swedish Interest – Picnic Lunch	3	4	5 5:00 pm Music & Worship  6:30 pm Ladies Bible Study... potluck	6	7
8 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service Flowers:	9	10 10:00 am Bible Study  7:00 pm Evangelism	11	12 12:30 pm Game Day  7:00 pm Ping Pong	13	14
15 <b>FATHER'S DAY</b> 9:00 am Breakfast 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service <i>Holy Communion</i> Flowers: Diane Moellenberg & Vera Gebert	16	17 7:00 pm Council Meeting	18	19 12:30 pm Game Day  7:00 pm Ping Pong  5:00 pm Swedish Midsummer - SPJST	20	21
22 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service Flowers: 11:45 am Fellowship/Potluck	23	24 10:00 am Bible Study  Deadline for July newsletter	25 Swedish Bread Making Class	26 12:30 pm Game Day  7:00 pm Ping Pong	27	28
29 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service Flowers: 11:30 am Anniv. Meeting	30					

**Acolytes:** 1<sup>st</sup> Jack Sutton, 8<sup>th</sup> Makina Mabry, 15<sup>th</sup> Josh Ojeda, 22<sup>nd</sup> Paloma Ortiz, 29<sup>th</sup> Riley Mabry

**Altar Guild:** Yvonne Carroll, Susan Rountree

**Communion Assistants:** Ronnie Creppon, Mark Dubec

**Pastor's Communion Assistants:** 1<sup>st</sup> Geoff Zimmerman, 15<sup>th</sup> Terry Johnson

**Greeters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Gayle Anderson, 8<sup>th</sup> Janet Mabry, 15<sup>th</sup> Carolyn Balkum, 22<sup>nd</sup> Karen McManus, 29<sup>th</sup> Makina & Riley Mabry

**Lectors:** 1<sup>st</sup> Geoff Zimmerman, 8<sup>th</sup> Nancy Sutton, 15<sup>th</sup> Michelle Wenzel, 22<sup>nd</sup> Aaron Lively, 29<sup>th</sup> Youth

**Ushers:** Doug Arnhamn, David Ramm, Joey Stearns