

# SVERDRUP LUTHERAN CHURCH

## August 2025 Newsletter



VBS 2025 was a roaring success! The theme was “Wildlife Park.” Nineteen young people participated! More photos on Page 13.



The older youth went to the North Shore in June! There was whitewater rafting, zip-lining, volunteering, and good fellowship. More photos on Page 12.





My earliest childhood memory is singing at VBS (Vacation Bible School). I would soon be starting first grade and we had just moved to Minot, ND. My mom along with my four-year-old sister, Sonja, were there too, as we got to know the folks of Christ Lutheran Church. I don't remember the songs we sang, the crafts we did, the games we play, nor the food we ate, but I do remember the joy I felt being there and learning about the love Jesus has for each one of us.

This was the beginning of my faith journey and many meaningful faith experiences at VBS, camps, mission trips, youth trips, youth gatherings, women's retreats, seminary, and becoming a pastor. The seeds that are planted and nurtured during these experiences are priceless.

As I write this, we are in the midst of VBS at Sverdrup -- "Wildlife Park." And seeds are being planted and nurtured. Stories of Jesus and God's love for us are once again blended with fun, song, laughter, activities, and food. Jesus' love and joy is being spread.

I would especially like to thank Else Andersen, Michelle Eberhardt, and Irene Lundby as VBS wouldn't have happened if it wasn't for you. Thank you to Betsy Miller, Delores Peterson, and Laurie Bauck who helped decorate, lead music, organize, and teach. Thank you to all the other leaders, snack providers, helpers, and cooks: Dianne Beckman, Karen Thompson, Myrna Martinson, Sue Jensen, Sharon Heifert, Sharon Kline, Glenda Thompson, Michelle Jevne, Karen Reams, Laranda Drechsel, and Maggie Torgusson, along with youth helpers Sophie, Stella, Katrina, Greta, Aubrey, and Aiden.

May you too be experiencing the joy and love of Jesus on your journey, Tammy

Photos of many of the teachers and helpers from this year's VBS:





Sverdrup Lutheran Church Council Minutes  
May 13, 2025. 7:00 pm

In attendance: Else Andersen, Bruce Leitch, Dianne Beckman, Tereasa Link, Michelle Jevne, Dale Jacobson, Stephany Wold, Sharon Kline, Daryl Eberhardt, Dick Mattfeld, Tina Frigaard, Nicole Woodman, Thea Rothman, Pastor Tammy Jacobson, Anne Stenoien and visitor, Paul Shol. The meeting was called to order by Council President Else Andersen at 7:05. Dianne Beckman made a motion to accept the agenda, and Michelle Jevne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dianne led us in a devotion about “finding myself in the Bible story.”

The secretary report from the April 2025 was reviewed. Tereasa Link made a motion to approve the minutes, and Nicole Woodman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Tereasa Link shared the Financial Secretary’s report. In April the monthly general fund income for the church was above our goal, but typically it decreases with lower attendance in the summer months. Dianne Beckman reviewed the Treasurer’s report. The Ledger Balance on 4/30/25 was \$81079.02 and the Cleared Balance was \$81182.23. We try to have enough in our accounts to cover 2-3 months of expenses. Michelle Jevne made a motion to approve the financial reports. The motion was seconded by Tina Frigaard and the motion carried.

Paul Shol shared information on Fergus Falls Area Habitat for Humanity. Their mission is to put God’s love into action by bringing people together to build affordable homes that give hope to families in our local communities. Since 1991, they have provided 66 homes in West Otter Tail County. We learned about a building partnership and the tax credit for individual donations. We are still looking for a lot in Underwood to build hope and stability for a family.

Else Andersen gave a report on information from the executive committee. We will not host “a meet the bishop candidates” since Bishop Tesch is the only candidate. The Rural Revival program is progressing with Pastor Melissa Pickering interviewing members, neighbors, businesses, and school personnel. We will hear from her again after this part of the process. The quality of the sound of the grand piano in the sanctuary seems to carry better on the live stream/ recorded service when the cover is closed. Our pianist, Val, has helped by selecting music for the service and agrees to the need to keep the top open only for large crowds at church. The power point slides have been difficult for some to see with the colored background. Our church secretary, Karen Terry, has adjusted to white background with black print. We also discussed the problem of the sunlight glaring in through the windows as the seasonal light has changed. The projection people will check the shades to block the sunlight when necessary. The youth fundraisers were successful with the Easter breakfast raising \$899 and the pie auction provided \$3591. These funds will be used for their trip this summer. The committee working with the Global Refugee program will share information after they meet again.



The church office computer needs replacing. Three bids were secured for the computer, keyboard, and mouse. Tereasa Link made a motion to accept the bid by Affordable Solutions for a Dell. The price of \$1,109 includes set-up and the recycling of the old computer. Dick Mattfeld seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Sharon Kline reported for the Property and Management Committee. The roofing project caused damage to the paver walkway at the main entrance. Outdoor Renovations have been contacted for repairs. A metal fascia will also be repaired. There was discussion on the organ fund requirements.

Michelle Jevne reported for the Worship and Stewardship Committee. They updated the worship bags for kids and have reserve materials to share when needed. The pew cards have been updated. Summer outdoor services will be held the “last Sunday” of June, July, and August 2025. Substitutes for Pastor Tammy’s absences on Sundays for synod assembly and trips have been secured. Members have signed up to assist as Communion servers. It was decided to use the communion rail for the first Sunday and use the standing style on the third Sunday. We will work with Tingvold to have an outdoor service together in August.

Thea Rothman reported for the Education Committee. Sunday School is over for this school year. She thanked those who assisted as teachers. Vacation Bible School plans have not been finalized.

Tina Frigaard and Nicole Woodman reported for the Life and Fellowship Committee. The scholarships were announced in church. The new picture directories have been distributed. Senior Sunday with special quilts for all the students was held on Mother’s Day. This may be held earlier next year. Sverdrup hosted the Baccalaureate service for the Underwood School class of 2025. Tina sent invitations to the students and gave them each a cross keychain.

Pastor Tammy Jacobson thanked all the people who have helped with the many activities at Sverdrup Lutheran. She is looking forward to the NW MN Assembly and Bishop Installation in June and she was selected to attend the church-wide assembly in Phoenix in July. She will go with the youth to Duluth and the North Shore in June. The funds raised by the youth will pay for most of the trip and each family is responsible for the fee. She shared an itinerary and an expense sheet for the trip. Eleven students and four chaperones are going. She reported that the confirmation classes will have their final class in May.

We discussed old business items of goals, Baccalaureate, and the Global Refuge during the committee reports.

There were three New Business items on the agenda. An “In-Kind Giving” form was developed by Tereasa Link to use to document items from donations. We already practice this information, but did not have a form to use. The form will be put on the church website for use by members.





Volunteers are needed to help with mowing and trimming at the Sverdrup cemetery. We will announce the need at the worship service and through the newsletter.

A new member is needed for the Life and Fellowship Committee as Logan Frigaard is resigning. The term is for 2 ½ years and the council will need to elect a successor to fulfill his term.

Our next meeting will be held on June 11, 2025. Tina Frigaard volunteered to lead the devotions in June. Tereasa Link made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Sharon Kline. We adjourned at 8:48 and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Anne Stenoien  
Sverdrup Council Secretary

Thank you to the Sverdrup volunteers who showed up on July 23 to finish the siding on the Habitat house at the Underwood School. Unfortunately, rain prevented them from getting it done. Hopefully an alternate date can be found. Thanks, too, to everyone who made lunch for all the workers!



**SLC Council Meeting Updates for August Newsletter****Executive Committee:**

- Pastor Melissa Pickering will update us on “Rural Revival” findings on 8/03/25 during our worship and during Fellowship Coffee that day.
- 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Plans discussed. SLC will have a float in the Harvest Festival this year announcing it, and Delores Peterson has agreed to chair that float committee. The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee will be formed at our August meeting. One member from each council committee will be on this. Our SLC 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will be Saturday and Sunday August 1 & 2, 2026.

**Property and Management Committee:**

- Carpet cleaning will be completed after our Bazaar. Sharon has met with a cleaning service for a bid.

**Worship Committee:**

- Summer outdoor services will be July 7/27 and August 8/31/25.
- A joint outdoor service with Tingvold and picnic will be Sunday 8/10/25 at 10:30 am with a picnic to follow.
- GWOH 9/07/25 – planning for joint service, projects, and fellowship meal.

**Education Committee:**

- Vacation Bible School was held Monday – Wednesday 7/21, 7/22, 7/23 5-7pm. The WELCA ladies accepted the challenge and got VBS set-up and implemented it. It was highly successful! Thanks to all who helped with lessons, music, crafts, projects, and provided meals/snacks. It takes a village to pull this off! See Pastor Tammy’s report and pictures included in this newsletter.

**Life and Fellowship Committee:**

- Planning the picnic after the outdoor service at TLC 8/10/25.
- Planning for GWOH fellowship meal 9/07/25.

Submitted respectfully, Else M. Andersen, SLC Council President

**Sunday Worship Service: 9 am (Online viewing begins at 8:55 am)**  
**Sunday School: 10:15 am (September—May)**



## **Sverdrup WELCA News**



Dear SLC WELCA Members,

Hope your summer is going well.

- Evening Circle meeting for August will go back to 2pm. (Afternoon remains at 1:30pm). The Bazaar Co-chairs, Tereasa Link and Michelle Eberhardt, would like to update us on plans for our October Bazaar. Sub-committees' chairs and/or co-chairs have been formed. Thanks to all the women who have answered the call to help. More info from Tereasa and Michelle at the August circle meetings.
- Luther Crest Women's Week, Sunday to Friday June 22-27, 2025 at Luther Crest Bible Camp, was enjoyed by Kathy Kaercher, Donna Wold, Michelle Jevne, and Michelle Eberhardt. Such a nice turnout from Sverdrup. The programming and music were wonderful.
- Luther Crest Summer Fest and Auction was Saturday July 26, 2025, with live auction again this year. Thanks to Karen and Jenna Thompson, Sharon Kline, and Else Andersen for attending. An update on our quilt that Sverdrup submitted next month. It is great to have the live auction format again!
- Harvest Festival Dinner – Saturday August 30, 2025, Tri Chairs: Sharon Kline, Karen Thompson, & Vicki Severson. Sign-up sheets for shift workers, food, and cash donations will be posted in the narthex and on-line soon.
- NW MN SWO Convention – Friday & Saturday September 19, 2025, 12 noon – 8pm and September 20, 8:00 – 3:30pm at First Lutheran in Alexandria. Theme: “How To Be Authentic Woman of God Today.” Karen Thompson will be our WELCA delegate.
- Sverdrup Bazaar — Saturday October 4, 2025, Co-Chairs, Tereasa Link & Michelle Eberhardt. The Food Safety Practices that we heard and voted on at our June meeting will be reviewed at our August circle meetings too.
- The Altar Parament Committee was formed at our June meeting, and we will hear more about that later.
- GWOH will be Sunday September 7<sup>th</sup>. We are busy collecting School Kit items for LWR kits. Plans for joint worship service, projects, and fellowship lunch for participants. If you have project ideas, please contact Else Andersen.
- Thankoffering Service will be Sunday November 23, 2025, during 9:00am worship.

Yours in Christ,

Else M. Andersen, WELCA President

## WELCA CIRCLES

**Afternoon: August 5, 1:30pm**

**Evening: August 5, 2pm**



We are gathering school supplies for Lutheran World Relief School Kits, which will be packed during God's Work Our Hands, September 7.

Please bring items to the church:

- (4) 8/10" 70-sheet notebooks
- (1) box of 16 or 24 count crayons
- (1) 30cm ruler
- (1) pencil sharpener
- (1) pair of blunt scissors
- (5) unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- (5) black or blue ball-point pens (no gel)
- (1) 2.5" eraser





## WELCA SALAD SUPPER

The WELCA Salad Supper was served Wednesday 6/04/25 with 56 men and women in attendance. They enjoyed a variety of 12 salads, three breads, and three desserts. Our guest speaker was Karen Terry on her birding and scenery trip to Costa Rica. Her program was excellent with such beautiful pictures. A business meeting followed. A special thank you to all who donated salads, breads, and desserts. It was a wonderful meal and program. And thanks to Betsy Miller for painting the adorable bird houses to give away as door prizes!



**A very warm *Thank You* to ...**

... Pastor Kate Bruns for serving our congregation on July 13

... Else Andersen, Irene Lundby, and Michelle Eberhardt for organizing and leading Vacation Bible School

... Kasey and Aaron Lindstrom, Lindsey Kugler, and Pastor Tammy for leading our Youth Trip

... Dale Jacobson, Dick Mattfeld, and Steve Beckman for mowing and tending our grounds this summer



**Petersen Family BENEFIT**

**SUNDAY AUGUST 17**  
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
**UNDERWOOD FIRE HALL**

-  **Underwood Lions Pork Chop Meal**  
Free Will Offering
-  **Kids Zone: Bounce Houses, Activities, & More**
-  **Silent Auction Items**  
Bidding: 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
-  **Baked Goods Sale**  
Free Will Offering

Follow the event page for more information!

TY IT TOGETHER forever

All proceeds will go directly to Sophie, Axel, & Diesel

Tyler James Petersen tragically passed away as a result of an injury sustained at his worksite on May 29, 2025. Tyler was a hard working, humble, funny, and kind husband, daddy, son, brother, in-law, & friend. Tyler leaves behind his wife, Sophie, & 2 boys Axel, 5 and Diesel, 4. Tyler will always be in our hearts.

Seeking volunteers to make goodies for the Petersen Family Benefit bake sale on August 17<sup>th</sup>. Sign up at the church.

### ***Meals on Wheels Available***

The Battle Lake Senior Center has openings in the Underwood area for people to receive Meals on Wheels.



Age 60+: \$5/meal  
Less than 60: \$9/meal

Call 218-864-8768 for more info.

## **HARVEST FEST DINNER**

**SATURDAY,  
AUGUST 30  
11am—12:30pm**

### **Pastoral Visits**



Please call Pastor Tammy and let her know if you or someone you know desires a pastoral visit, especially if you are going to be hospitalized or are having health issues.

Due to HIPPA Privacy Regulations, hospitals can not notify pastors so they need to rely on individuals, family, and friends to share.

**Maine Presbyterian Gospel Sing Along**  
***"Those Favorite Old Hymns"***  
**August 6th at 6:30pm**  
**Dessert served afterward**



**SHARED WORSHIP SERVICE AT TINGVOLD  
LUTHERAN CHURCH AUGUST 10TH AT  
10:30AM, FOLLOWED BY LUNCH.**

**THERE WILL BE NO WORSHIP SERVICE AT SVERDRUP  
THAT DAY. BRING A LAWN CHAIR AND HAT/SUNGLASSES.**

*Sverdrup's last outdoor worship  
service of the year will be the  
last Sunday in August: 8/31*

**Woman's Study Book Club  
Monday, 8/11 @ 9:30am  
SLC Library**



***Save these Dates!***

- ◆ August 3: continuation of Rural Revival with Pastor Melissa Pickering at the 9am worship service
- ◆ August 10: Shared Tingvold/Sverdrup worship service at Tingvold, 10:30am, outdoors
- ◆ August 17: Tyler Petersen Family Benefit, 11-3pm @ Fire Hall
- ◆ August 30: Harvest Fest Dinner, 11am-12:30pm
- ◆ August 31: Outdoor worship service
- ◆ September 3: Confirmation parent/student meeting
- ◆ September 7: God's Work Our Hands
- ◆ October 4: Fall Lefse Bazaar
- ◆ November 23: WELCA Thankoffering Service

**Sverdrup Lutheran Church Mission Statement**

The mission of Sverdrup Lutheran Church is to be a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) in which believers minister to the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of the congregation, community, and world.



# YOUTH TRIP 2025 — NORTH SHORE

Amazing youth and chaperones

Non-stop fun

Whitewater rafting

Hiking

Swimming

Biking

Worship at 1st Lutheran Duluth

Rope/Zipline course

Campfires

Skits and devotion time

Lutsen gondola and alpine slide

Glensheen Mansion

Fears overcome

Good food

Many laughs

Meaningful memories





# VBS 2025



VBS was held July 21-23, 5-7pm. Nineteen children attended, plus many young helpers!

## VBS Volunteers

Else Andersen, Dianne Beckman, Michelle Eberhardt, Aubrey Hexum, Pastor Tammy Jacobson, Michelle Jevne, Sharon Kline, Greta Larsen, Katrina Lindstrom, Irene Lundby, Myrna Martinson, Betsy Miller, Delores Peterson, Anne Stenoien, Glenda Thompson, Karen Thompson, Darlene Trainor, Karen Reams, Sue Jensen, Sharon Heifort, and Sophie Engelstad.

**THANK YOU** to our volunteers and helpers!  
We couldn't do this without you!

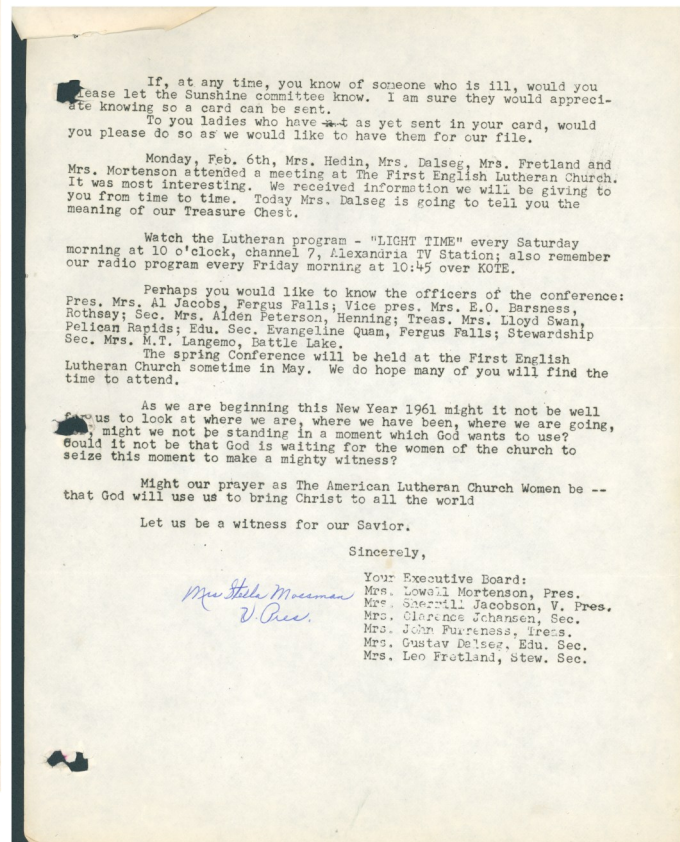
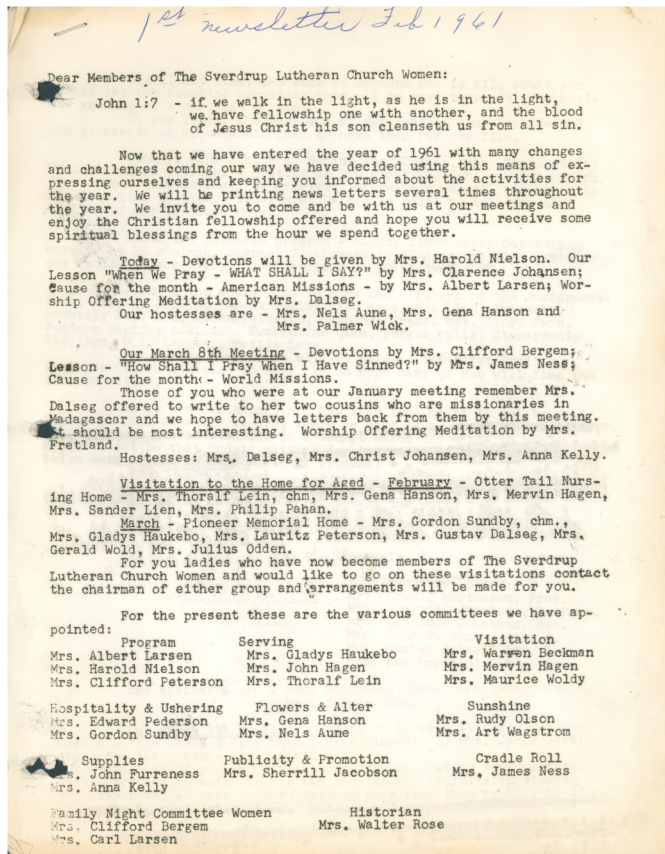




## Sverdrup Ladies Aid History Tidbits

Dear Members of The Sverdrup Lutheran Church Women: Now that we have entered the year 1961 with many changes and challenges coming our way, we have decided using this means of expressing ourselves and keeping you informed about the activities for the year. (This was the beginning of the Sverdrup Newsletter printed several times throughout the year.) Closing paragraph stated: As we are beginning a New Year 1961 might it not be well for us to look at where we are, where we have been, where we are going for, might we not be standing in a moment which God wants to use: Could it not be that God is waiting for the women of the church to seize this moment to make a mighty witness: Might our prayer as The American Lutheran Church women be that God will use us to bring Christ to all the world? Let us be a witness for our Savior.

Click on each image to see a larger version.



Thank you to Delores Peterson for compiling this Ladies Aid historical series, and to Patsi Kugler for scanning in the photos and graphics. This is the 11th in the series of 22 articles.



Our 8th graders will be starting Confirmation soon!

The initial student/parent meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 3, 6:30-7:30. Families should have received an invitation in the mail; anyone with an 8th grader who did not receive one should contact the church office.



## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Ardy Johansen	8/1
Taylor Jevne	8/1
Barry Johnson	8/2
Jax Gronner	8/2
Phil Bauck	8/6
Winston Heifort	8/7
Bentley Samuelson	8/8
Irene Lundby	8/9
Al Pedersen	8/10


Kaleb Hammes	8/11
Daxton Olson	8/14
Karen Thompson	8/15
Greta Larsen	8/18
Aaron Lindstrom	8/25
Dean Woodman	8/29

Sverdrup Lutheran Church  
 209 Southern Ave. E, P. O. Box 70, Underwood, MN 56586  
 Pastor Tammy Jacobson  
 Pastor's Cell Phone and Email: 701-680-8125, pastor@sverdruplutheran.org  
 Church Office Phone and Email: 218-826-6919, office@sverdruplutheran.org  
 Office Hours: Tues: 8:45am-4:45pm, Wed. 8am — noon (remote), Fri 8 am—noon

SVERDRUP LUTHERAN CHURCH — AUGUST CALENDAR

August 2025 **SVERDRUP LUTHERAN CHURCH**

SVERDRUP LUTHERAN CHURCH  
209 Southern Ave. E., PO Box 70, Underwood, MN 56586

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 Pastor Tammy Jacobson <a href="mailto:pastor@sverdruplutheran.org">pastor@sverdruplutheran.org</a> 701-680-8125			Church Office Hours: Tues: 8:45am — 4:45pm Wed: 8am — 12pm (remotely) Fri: 8am — 12pm		1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b> 9am Sverdrup Worship 10:30am Tingvold Worship		1:30pm WELCA Afternoon Circle 2pm WELCA Evening Circle	8:45am Morning Watch, Pastor Tammy, KBRF 1250AM 11am Yoga	7pm AA Mtg	10am Yoga	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10:30am SHARED WORSHIP SERVICE AT TINGVOLD, OUTDOORS, lunch served afterward	9:30am Woman's Study Book Club 1:30pm Communion @ Tamarack Manor	1pm Exec Council Mtg	11am Yoga  7pm Full Council Mtg	7pm AA Mtg	10am Yoga	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b> 9am Sverdrup Worship 10:30am Tingvold Worship			11am Yoga	7pm AA Mtg	10am Yoga	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9am Sverdrup Worship — Noisy Offering 10:30am Tingvold Worship			11am Yoga			11 am — 12:30 pm HARVEST FEST DINNER
31				7pm AA Mtg	10am Yoga	
9am Sverdrup Worship — OUTDOORS 10:30am Tingvold Worship	Thank you to Service Team #1 for providing assistance this month.		Find us on Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/SverdrupLutheranChurch">www.facebook.com/SverdrupLutheranChurch</a> <a href="http://www.SverdrupLutheran.org">www.SverdrupLutheran.org</a> Email: <a href="mailto:office@sverdruplutheran.org">office@sverdruplutheran.org</a>			