

Swea City Days Gone By

5 Years Ago
December 16, 2020
North Union High School senior wrestler Trevor Kruse hit a milestone with his 100th career victory at the Shelby Invitational. Trevor is the first to reach 100 wins in the school history. During the invitational, Kruse improved 18-0 on the year with five more wins at 195 pounds...Advanced North Union High School artists Becca Heinen and Libby Stevens are pictured showing off their cake. The art class spent three days watching cake decorating shows while learning techniques. Practiced these tips on Thursday and completed on Friday. Over 30 cakes and 70 students battled for the "cake boss" awards which will be announced later.

10 Years Ago
December 9, 2015
Santa Claus gets a close look at one and half month old Teague Sobolik, great grandson of Ellen Larson, who was holding him during Santa Day at the Main Street Manor. Santa and

Mrs. Claus arrived safely the event by the way of the Swea City Fireman who brought the man in the red suit by fire truck...Hair Hut owner Carol Slifka, along with Carolyn Paulson and Laura Schuelke, are pictured together by the shop sign. The three ladies have a combined 100 plus years of experience. Carol lives in Swea City, Carolyn in Armstrong and Laura in Ringsted. The Hair Hut celebrated its tenth anniversary...Emma Kirkegaard gets a tree painted on her face by Nina Harbaugh. Face painting was one of the several activities taking place at Main Street Manor for Santa Day.

25 Years Ago
December 6, 2000
ProAdvantage Insurance of Swea City held a Christmas open house. Pictured were employees Phil Albers of Swea City, Beth Olson of Fenton and Robin Tokheim of Swea City. Phil and Robin work in the Swea City office and Beth works in Algona... Lyndon Johnson gives his son Logan a pep talk before his first match

at the Little Mustangs Wrestling Tournament at Armstrong...President Charles J. Gaffey announces that Michael D. Clancy has been named vice president and Branch Manager of Bank Plus in Armstrong...Popcorn was the theme for poems written by North Kossuth sixth graders on November 30. The class, along with their teachers, dressed up as Orville Redenbacher. Pictured were sixth grade Amy Looft and her teacher Mrs. Doughan...The Newman children sit on Santa's lap during his recent visit to Swea City on Saturday afternoon. Pictured with Santa were Ben, Spencer and Bailee Jo Newman. They are the children of Rob and Jean Newman of Swea City...Arlyn Valvick of Swea City received a Kossuth County Farm Bureau recognition award at the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting in Des Moines.

50 Years Ago
December 11, 1975
Homecoming festivities will be held Friday night at the Ledyard Community School. King and queen candidates are Cindy Hagedorn, Ginny Smith, Carol Smith, Curt Peterson, Bryon York and Brad Loucks. They will be crowned during the home basketball game... Swea City Cub Scouts made Pilgrim hat favors for Valley Vue rest home recently. Members of Pack 1 are Mark Blair, Aaron Cordes, Kevin Dontje,

Richard Inman, Todd Peterson, Tim Wegener, Mike Schweiger and Wade Wegener. Den Mother is Mrs. Phil Inman...Swea City employees busied themselves last week at the task of putting the Christmas decorations.. Merry Christmas Specials at Van Norman Drug this week included Everyready batteries 2 pack of "C" or "D" size 2 for 39 cents, men and women's Timex watches \$12.95 and up, Colgate Dental Cream - 7 oz size for 89 cents.

70 Years Ago
December 1, 1955
The annual school carnival will be held this Friday night with games and prizes at the Swea City Community School. Candidates for the carnival queen are Mary Kay Dolan, senior; Phyllis Engholm, junior; Mary Helen Bauer, sophomore; and Judy Johnson, freshman. The queen will be crowned prior the drawing of prizes donated by the businessmen...Because of the school carnival, the move, "Soldier of Fortune" starring Clark Gable and Susan Hayward will be shown Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week. This show is reported to be one of the year's best and is in color and cinemascope...Six Kossuth 4-H club

leaders and Robert Johnson, county extension youth assistant, attended a State 4-H Tractor Maintenance Training School at Iowa State College. The 4-H club leaders, Earl Crouch, Fenton; Scream DeGeeter, Bancroft; Bill Fritz, Titonka; Leander Vaske, Bancroft; Lloyd Thorson, Armstrong; Cecil Thoreson, Swea City and Robert Johnson were pictured in the Herald looking at tractor...The Central Iowa Telephone Co. completed purchase of the Swea City Rural Telephone Co. on Friday. Stockholders decided to Central Iowa firm for a sum of \$21,600. Central Iowa Co. plans to go to the dial system here as soon as it is feasible. Work is underway at the present time on construction of the new building in Swea City to house the dial equipment. It is projected to be finished in May but maybe later due to materials not arriving on time.



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... Proceedings of the

North Kossuth School Board

Organizational Board Meeting
Conference Room
Swea City, Iowa
5:27 PM
November 17, 2025
(All votes are unanimous unless otherwise noted)
The meeting of the 2025-26 Board of Education was called to order by Secretary Larsen. Roll Call was answered by Hardt, Albers, Heetland, Deim, Morpew, and Gorackowski. Secretary Larsen administered the oath of office. Morpew then nominated Justin Deim for Vice President. Motion by Morpew for a unanimous ballot, seconded by Gorackowski. Motion carried to elect Justin Deim as Vice President for the 2025-26 school year. Secretary Larsen administered the

oath of office.
Motion by Deim, seconded by Gorackowski was made to approve the continuation of procedures as outlined in Board Policy Code No. 210.2 Dates, Times, and Place for Regular Meetings of the Board. Motion carried.
Motion by Gorackowski, seconded by Deim was made to approve the continuation of the rules outlined in Board Policy Code No. 210.7, Rules of Order. Motion carried.
Motion by Gorackowski, seconded by Albers was made to approve the continued use of the procedures on Code No. 705.3, Payment for Goods and Services. Motion carried.
Motion by Deim was made to appoint Phil Albers to serve on the Kossuth County Conference board. Motion carried.
Next meeting is tentatively set for December 8th at 5:00 PM.
Adjournment: Motion by Deim, seconded by Gorackowski was made to adjourn the meeting at 5:33 pm. Motion carried.

Chris Hardt, Board President

Jennie Larsen, Board Secretary
(Published December 10, 2025)

Area Church Services



These weekly church messages and schedules are contributed by these concerned and responsible citizens and businesses from this area!

DIVINE MERCY CATHOLIC PARISH
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST BANCROFT
ST. JOSEPH WESLEY
ST. CECILIA ALGONA
ST. MICHAEL WHITEMORE
SS. PETER & PAUL WEST BEND CATHOLIC CHURCHES

Wednesday, December 10
9:00 a.m. - Bishop Garrigan School Mass
1:45 p.m. - Mass at Good Samaritan, Algona
Thursday, December 11
8:30 a.m. - Mass at St. Michael, Whittemore
9:00 a.m. - Eucharistic Adoration/ Sacrament of Penance, St. Michael's, Whittemore

Friday, December 12
7:00 a.m. - Mass at St. Cecelia, Algona
7:30 a.m. - Sacrament of Penance at St. Cecelia, Algona

Saturday, December 13
3:15 p.m. - Sacrament of Penance at St. Cecelia, Algona
4:15 p.m. - Sacrament of Penance at St. Joseph, Wesley
4:30 p.m. - Mass at St. Cecelia, Algona
5:00 p.m. - Mass at St. Joseph, Wesley

Sunday, December 14
8:00 a.m. - Mass at St. Michael, Whittemore
8:00 a.m. - Mass at St. John the Baptist, Bancroft
10:00 a.m. - Mass at SS. Peter & Paul, West Bend
10:00 a.m. - Mass at St. Cecelia, Algona

Monday, December 15
6:50 a.m. - KC Rosary for Vocations at St. Cecelia's, Algona
7:30 a.m. - Bishop Garrigan Chapel, Algona
Tuesday, December 16
8:30 a.m. - Mass at St. Joseph, Wesley

9:00 a.m. - Eucharistic Adoration/ Sacrament of Penance, St. Joseph, Wesley
4:30 p.m. - Eucharistic Adoration/ Sacrament of Penance, St. John, Bancroft
5:30 p.m. - Mass at St. John, Bancroft

Wednesday, December 17
9:00 a.m. - Bishop Garrigan School Mass
1:45 p.m. - Mass at Algona Manor, Algona
3:00 p.m. - Mass at Homestead, Algona
Thursday, December 18
8:30 a.m. - Mass at St. Michael, Whittemore
9:00 a.m. - Eucharistic Adoration/

Sacrament of Penance, St. Michael's, Whittemore

SWEA CITY COMMUNITY CHURCH
Swea City, IA
Pastor Todd Hartssock
Sunday, December 14
9:00 a.m. - Worship Services inside the church
Social hour will be held following service

Wednesday, December 17
After school - Mighty Warriors grades 1-5 meet at Old First Baptist Church, Swea City
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Mighty Warriors 6-12 students, Swea City Open Bible Church.

BETHANY EVANGELICAL & REFORMED CHURCH
Ledyard, Iowa

Sunday, December 14
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School
10:15 a.m. - Worship
Wednesday, December 17
After school - Mighty Warriors grades 1-5 meet at Old First Baptist Church, Swea City
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Mighty Warriors 6-12 students, Swea City Open Bible Church.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Bancroft, Iowa
Pastor Jim Dewar

Sunday, December 14
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
10:30 a.m. - In person and Facebook Live Worship Services
6:30 p.m. - In person Sunday Evening Service
Wednesday, December 17
7:30 p.m. - In person evening, Prayer Service

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN
Lakota, Iowa

Sunday, December 14
8:30 a.m. - Worship

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Lakota, Iowa

Pastor Josh Johanson
Sunday, December 14
8:30 a.m. - Worship Service
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School

ALGONA FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sunday, December 14

9:00 a.m. - Adult Bible Study - The Wired Word, focus on connecting current events with scripture.
10:15 a.m. - Worship Service followed with fellowship and coffee time

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1:00 p.m. - Afternoon group Bible Study "Seeking Him" (contact church for book information)
Monday, December 15
9:00 a.m. - Sunday's Worship Service on AMU Channel 20 and Mediaom Channel 18
Wednesday, December 17
5:15 p.m. - F.R.O.G.s (Fully Rely On God) Elementary Youth Group
6:30 p.m. - W.O.W. (Worship on Wednesday) Service

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Lone Rock, Iowa
Pastor Walter Reemtsma

Sunday, December 14
9:00 a.m. - Worship Service
10:00 a.m. - Fellowship
Tuesday, December 16
9:30 a.m. - Prayer Time

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Lone Rock, Iowa
Pastor Steven Wichtendahl

Sunday, December 14
9:00 a.m. - Worship
9:45 a.m. - Christmas Rehearsal
Wednesday, December 17
Advent Service at Immanuel
5:30 p.m. - Meal
6:30 p.m. - Service

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Swea City, Iowa

Sunday, December 14
9:00 a.m. - Worship
10:00 a.m. - Sunday School
Wednesday, December 17
After school - Mighty Warriors grades 1-5 meet at Old First Baptist Church, Swea City
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Mighty Warriors 6-12 students, Swea City Open Bible Church.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
Pastor David Schultz

Swea City, Iowa
Sunday, December 14

9:00 a.m. - In person services
Wednesday, December 17
After school - Mighty Warriors grades 1-5 meet at Old First Baptist Church, Swea City
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Mighty Warriors 6-12 students, Swea City Open Bible Church.

OPEN BIBLE CHURCH
Swea City
Sunday, December 14

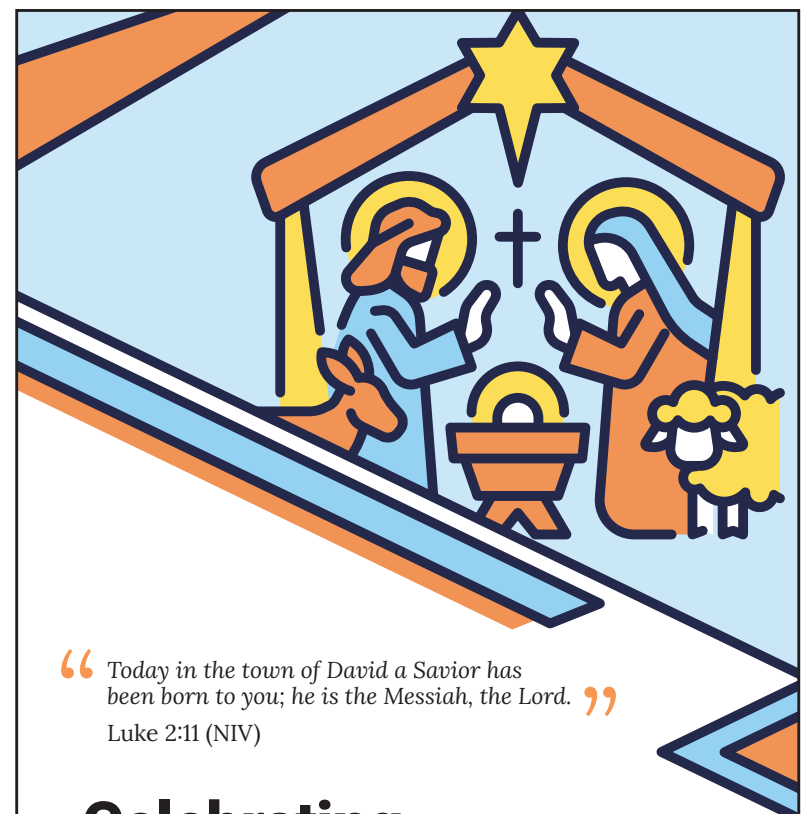
10:00 a.m. - Worship Services at church
10:30 a.m. - Service streamed at sweacityopenbible.org
Wednesday, December 17
After school - Mighty Warriors grades 1-5 meet at Old First Baptist Church, Swea City
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Mighty Warriors 6-12 students, Swea City Open Bible Church.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Burt, Iowa

Sunday, December 14
8:15 a.m. - Adult Bible Class
8:30 a.m. - Sunday School
9:30 a.m. - Divine Service
Tuesday, December 16
8:30 a.m. - Pastor Winkle at Our Savior's Swea City
Wednesday, December 17
6:00 p.m. - Advent Service Burt
6:30 p.m. - Catechesis Class
Thursday, December 18
Pastor Dose at Burt

BURT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Pastor Kent Madison
Pastor Walt Reemtsma
Sunday, December 14
10:30 a.m. - Service will be broadcast live on the Burt Presbyterian Church Facebook page



“Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.”
Luke 2:11 (NIV)

Celebrating Christ's Birth

In the time leading up to Christmas, we enjoy all the season has to offer: decorating, giving gifts, spending time with loved ones, and a lot more. While these joyful feelings may seem fleeting, we can seek out lasting joy in recognizing the fact that Christ was brought into this world for us. In celebrating Christ's birth, we can find both the real meaning of the holiday, but also a measure of hope in a world that often feels characterized by conflict. Truly, the narrative of Christ's birth and life provide excellent guidance for us when encountering such conflict in our own lives. From His family's first steps towards Bethlehem to His last days on earth, Christ has laid out a perfect blueprint for us. In attempting to both emulate His actions and celebrate His birth this Christmas season, we are serving Christ.

-James Stone

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