



VOL LV
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2021 Event Schedule

Lucia Rehearsal Lucia Celebration	December 5, 2021 2-4 PM; 6 PM 12/11 December 11, 2021 7 PM	Gethsemane Lutheran Church
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At last we plan to meet again for our Lucia celebration! It will be different, but we will have the pleasure of seeing the young people carry out the tradition accompanied by the choir and seeing each other. The program will be the same. Gethsemane Lutheran Church has a policy asking that those attending the church wear masks. We will have small bags of refreshments for everyone to take with them. We do hope that next year we will be able to resume the usual festivities in the dining room. It has been a long wait, and we look forward to resuming one of our favorite gatherings.

I am sorry to tell you that Thomas Josephsen passed away on or around July 19, 2021. I wrote to his daughter in South Carolina but have not heard from her. Tom regaled us with programs on his trips, and gave us our Icelandic flag. Rest in peace, Tom.

Marion Soule has had a fall at home and has been in Central Baptist Hospital for a week. Fortunately there was no serious injury but I am sure Marion would enjoy cards from our members. Marion has been a stalwart member for years, setting up the dining room for most of our meetings and developing extensive check lists for the next generation. Thank you dear Marion

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Scandinavian Heritage Society P.2

The Nobel Prizes are always inspiring. Each year Sweden and Norway confer awards in 6 areas: Medicine or Physiology, literature, Economics, Physics, Chemistry and work for Peace. Recipients receive a medal, a diploma and 10 million Swedish Krona, which is about 1.1 million dollars, divided if there are multiple winners. Here is a list: <https://www.nobelprize.org/all-nobel-prizes-2021/>

In **Medicine/Physiology**, the prize went to **Ardem Patapoutian** and **David Julius** for discoveries related to receptors for temperature and touch. This increases understanding of how the human nervous system senses various temperatures and other stimuli.

In **Physics**, the prize went to **Giorgio Parisi**, **Klaus Hasselmann** and **Syukuro Manabe** who have established a foundation of knowledge on climate and how humans influence it.

In **Chemistry**, the prize went to **Benjamin List** and **David W.C. MacMillan**, who created a tool to build molecules which will advance pharmaceutical research and is helpful to the environment.

In **Literature**, the prize went to **Abdulrazak Gurnah** for "his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents." Born in Tanzania, he lives in Britain and is the first African to win the award in almost 20 years.

In **Economics**, the prize went to **David Card**, **Joshua D. Angrist** and **Guido W. Imbens** who have carried out research based on actually occurring events, such as whether an increase in the minimum wage has an impact on loss of jobs, and developed tools to facilitate this approach.

In **Peace**, the prize went to **Maria Ressa** and **Dmitri A. Muratov**, located in the Philippines and Russia, who are journalists dedicated to protection of freedom of expression and freedom of the press. They give courage new meaning!

The prizes will be delivered in December in the home countries of the honorees. The prizes are highly competitive. For example, there were 329 candidates for the Nobel Peace Prize made up of 234 individuals and 95 organizations. Note that names and nominators of candidates are protected for 50 years!

There is a Norse settlement located in L'Anse aux Meadows, Newfoundland that now has been dated to 1021 C.E. The determination is based on dating discarded branches found at the site. According to the Smithsonian one can still see scars left on the tree sections left by iron blades! This means the Vikings were felling trees when they arrived after the earliest known crossing of the Atlantic. The Scientists were able to pinpoint the date by looking at tree rings which had evidence of a cosmic-ray event in 993 C.E. that left traces in the rings, and by counting the rings after that event. The article continues, the Viking sagas of Iceland suggest that the Vikings traveled on past Greenland which they abandoned to a place they called Vinland. In the 1960s, L'Anse aux Meadows verified the tale! One can visit this site where some reconstruction of sod and timber buildings has taken place. For more information you may wish to explore the Smithsonian article of October 20, 2021. By the way, in considering a trip there once, I was surprised to learn that from northern Maine, the site is still 1091 miles away! The Park is open from May 31 to October 1. For more information, visit <https://www.pc.gc.ca>lhn-nhs.visit>. This takes you to National Historic Sites in Canada. Then look for L'Anse aux Meadows.

Here are some facts for future Trivial Pursuit matches:

Sweden has twice the population of Norway.

More than half of Sweden is covered in forest.

Donald Duck is more popular than Mickey Mouse.

Sweden has an Ice Hotel in Jukkasjarvi (2 dots over the 2d a).

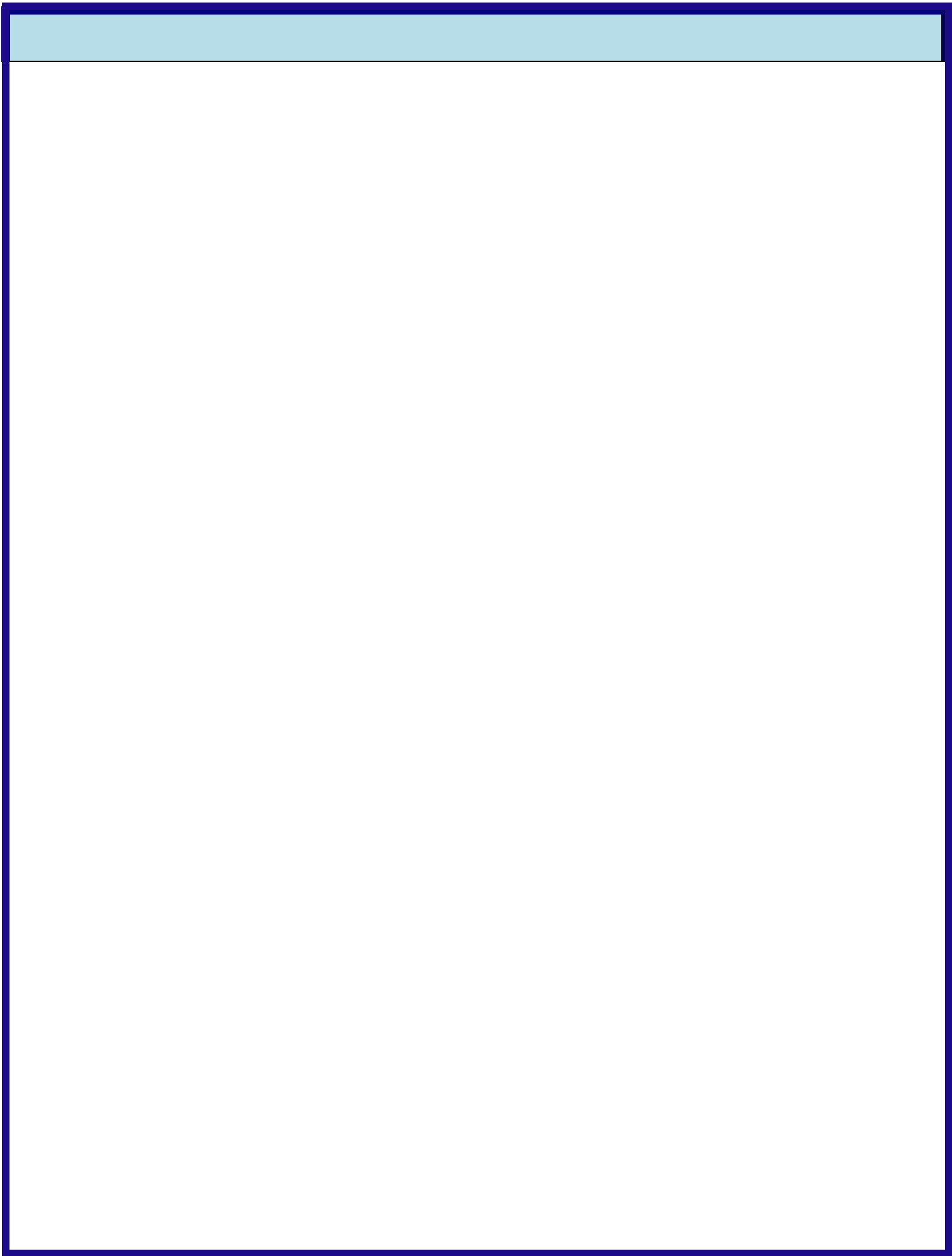
Sweden's yuletide carbonated drink, Julmust, outsells Coca-Cola. (Also available at Easter.)

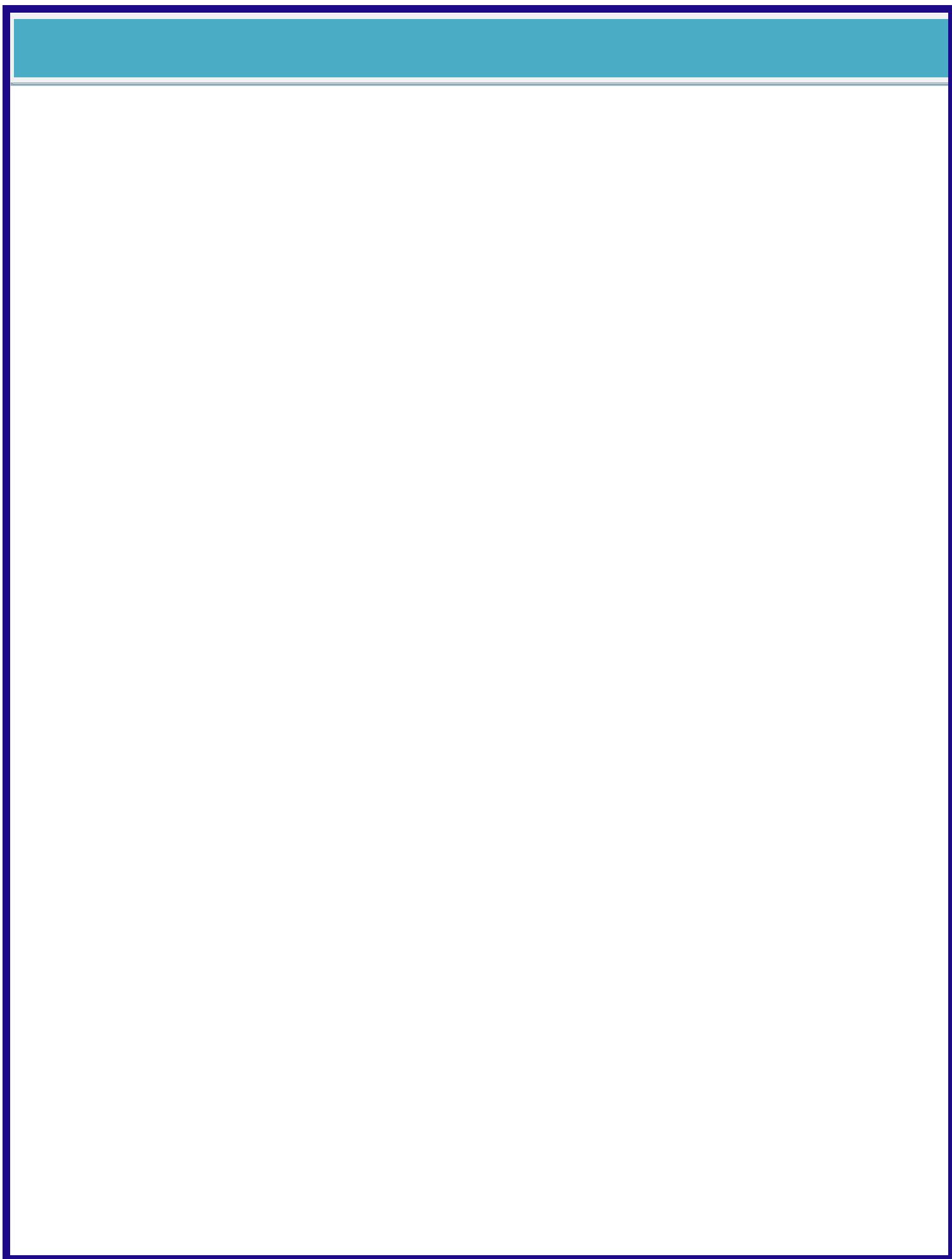
Sweden had a Pirate King, Eric XIII (14th century)

Work breaks in Sweden are called Fika, a time for employees to chat over coffee and cake. (I don't remember cake being available every day at my workplace!)

Note: Norwegians have coffee at breakfast, after dinner or with dessert and during the day. (I like this idea, but how do they sleep!) Most streets in Oslo have a coffee shop on the corner. It is said the popularity may have something to do with the prohibition on alcohol between 1917 and 1927. Coffee arrived in the 19th century but at first was a drink of the wealthy. Perhaps the climate influences coffee's popularity! You should see the photo from Espresso House of frothed coffee with a delectable cinnamon roll. The most popular coffee house chain, it was started in Lund in Sweden and now has 430 sites in Norway, 243 in Sweden and many in Finland and Denmark as well. If you are traveling anytime soon, you can download their app for 10% off regular prices and coupons! Trevlig resa! Top coffee consumption: Finland, Norway, Iceland, Denmark and Sweden (6th) Who is 5th?

Time to wrap up. Please send me your news. I hope to see you at the Lucia celebration!





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