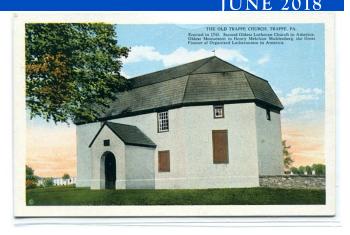
Augustinian

Augustus Lutheran Church An Historic Church for Today's People

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

In the month of June, we celebrate Old Church Sunday, commemorating the building of the Old Church by people who were so devoted to the Gospel of Jesus Christ that they built a fine church more spacious and light than many of their own homes. On Old Church Sunday, June 10, 2018, Pastor Kochenderfer will preach at our one combined service at 9:30 AM in the Old Church. After worship, we will gather in Fellowship Hall to eat lunch together and listen to a presentation by Kutztown University on their search for the foundation of the Third School Building on our campus using ground-penetrating radar. As you may know, besides maintaining a church and cemetery, Augustus provided the



first three schools for the children of Trappe and paid the salary of the schoolteacher. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite relatives, friends, neighbors, co-workers and even strangers to join you at Augustus on June

Our Sunday worship schedule for June is

June 3 – 8:00 AM (Brick Church Chapel) and 10:30 AM (air conditioned Brick Church Nave)

June 10 - 9:30 AM (Old Church)

June 17th – 8:00 AM (Old Church) and 9:30 (air conditioned Brick Church Nave) June 24th – 8:00 AM (Old Church) and 9:30 (air conditioned Brick Church Nave)

Services continue in July and August as follows:

8:00 AM (Old Church)

9:30 AM (air conditioned Brick Church Nave)

After many decades of service to the community, Maureen Gregory informed us that Happy Days Preschool would close at the end of May. Happy Days conducted their preschool program in a suite of classrooms rented from Augustus. With the closing of Happy Days, we will lose over \$800 per month in income which was used to help pay for our regular monthly operating expenses. The Vestry is investigating ways of serving the community, which will also aid in funding our ministries. This process will take some time. As a result, we need to ask our members and friends to prayerfully consider increasing their offerings to offset our lost income. We wish Maureen Gregory and the rest of the staff at Happy Days. God's blessings as they begin a new chapter in their lives.

We have been given a number of corrections to the Capital Campaign Donor List plaque for the Muhlenberg Center. Those corrections have been included in a revised Donor List that will be displayed in the Muhlenberg Center. Please check your entry and report any corrections to me at pastor@augustustrappe.org no later than August 31, 2018. After that date, the metal Donor Plaque will be cast and no further corrections will be possible. Thank you for your help.

May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we are able to ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Weleck

P.S. See you on Sunday

From the Bench

Goodbye, Dave Phillips. Dave passed away in May, having been a faithful choir member for many years. Seventeen singers from the choir sang at his funeral – a testament to how much he is loved and will be missed.

Hello Summer Schedule! For most of June, and all of July and August, worship will be held at 8:00 am in the Old Church, and at 9:30 am in the Brick Church. If you have a musical talent you would like to offer at a summer service, let me know and sign up on the bulletin board across from the choir room.

Thank you Diane and Walter Mills for donating Diane's first piano to Augustus.

Thank you, Claire Yarrison, for singing as our soprano section leader for four years. Claire lives in West Chester, and she is leaving us after Old Church Sunday so that she can take a more active role in raising her children in a church closer to her home.

Thank you, Jonathan Mueller, for singing in the choir for the past 5 years. Jonathan is leaving to attend Kutztown University in the fall, where he will be a junior majoring in CTM (Cinema, Television, and Media Production).

Thank you to all who attended and supported the Organ Concert on May 20, especially Jim Lien, Shane and Melissa Elison, Jonathan Mueller, Judy Bubeck and outstanding young organist, Jinsok Kraybill. A number of people who are not Augustus members attended the concert because they saw our outdoor banner. Thank you, John Kochel, for hanging it!

Thank you to those who have supported the music fund this year.

Thank you to all our choir members, singers and ringers, for another great season.

If you'd like to be part of the choir next season, consider attending our Summer Retreat on August 11 (Saturday), from 9-3. We will meet at Cunningham Piano Company, 198 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, where we will benefit from two of their voice coaches, learn some music for the fall and Christmas, and enjoy a yummy lunch (maybe at Cheesecake Factory across the street).

See you in church!

~Laurie Mueller

Scholarship Loan Applications Due in July!

Did you know that Augustus has a Scholarship Loan program for students in college or professional training? The loans are usually \$1,000 per year and can be paid back in installments when students are finished their undergraduate or professional study. See the bulletin board in the lower narthex for applications. Return completed applications to the church office by July 31st.

SEND IN YOUR GRADUATION ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Did someone you love graduate this winter or spring from high school, college, or another institution of higher learning? Please e-mail the church office to have your "smarty pants" acknowledged in our newsletter! We love to celebrate the accomplishments of our church family members!

When contacting the office, please include Name of Student, graduation month, and graduate's future plans.

Cemetery Tree Donations

Thank you to everyone who donated a flowering tree for our cemetery!

They promise many years of color and shade to come.

Peggy DeWane in memory of my brother and sister-in-law, Andy and Sis Curtis

John and Linda Romano in honor of those who passed before us

The Reverend William A. Fluck in memory of Patricia Clancy Fluck

The Richvalsky family to the glory of God in memory of loved ones

In memory of Dennis L. Johnson, husband and father, from LaVonne, Eric, Randy, Jeff, and Jim Johnson and Denise Staub

Karl Stefan in loving memory of my parents Louis and Joan Stefan

Gary and Tracy Wessner in memory of our grandparents

Charles Hallman, remembering Carole Hallman 1948-2017

Deborah and Nevin Scholl in memory of our parents Frances and Harold Scholl and Dorothy and Darl Evans

Mildred and Jeffrey Stuffle in memory of parents, Paul and Anna Sergi and Raymond and Nadine Stuffle

Lilyan and Ron Ferraro in memory of the Rev. Dr. John and Mrs. Lillian McConomy

In loving memory of our granddad, Emma, Ethan, and Liam DePaul.





Sympathy and Prayers

Sympathy and prayers are offered to the family of David Phillips, who passed away in May. May God grant eternal rest to David, and comfort to his family during this difficult time.

Sunset, Sunrise

The sun has just gone down behind the hill, and you must hurry to get home before dark to say prayers with your family and to eat your supper. If you lived when Jesus lived, that's what you would do in the evening. In ancient times, morning and evening were important times to pray. In the morning people thanked God for keeping them safe during the night and asked God to guide them during the day. In the evening people gave thanks for the day and asked for protection during the night. When they prayed in the evening they also lighted candles and oil lamps. There were no other lights except the stars and the moon!

Prayers offered near sunset are called Vespers, Evensong, or Evening Prayer. We light one big candle because it reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world, and he has come to save everyone. Before your evening meal, darken the room and put a big candle on the table. Then light it and read the following sentences, letting everyone take a turn being the leader. (Then light other candles near the big one and eat dinner by candlelight.)

Leader: Jesus Christ is the light of the world. Group: The light no darkness can overcome.

Leader: Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening.

Group: And the day is almost over.

Leader: Let your light scatter the darkness.

Group: And shine on your people.

(Permission–This prayer has been adapted from Evening Prayer, LBW, page 142.)

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Coordinator of Faith Development

The Sunday school had a great celebration of mothers (and fathers!) on Mother's Day, May 13th and then on May 20th we finished our Sunday school year with a Pentecost carnival and birthday party for the Church.





A heart-felt thanks to all our teachers this year: Jeannie Halteman, Jess Schiller, Cathy Meeley, Lorna DePaul, Pat North, Bill Kelly, Nichole & Al Dubeck, Chilly Lyaro, and Chris Dogonniuck. We are also grateful to our substitute teachers Jen Gabel, Tami Barndt, and Renee Parker. One of our teachers is retiring this year and two will be "promoted" to the senior high youth group so if you would like to serve in Sunday school next year, either on a weekly basis or as a substitute, please let me know. We have a lot of fun and Augustus has a wonderful group of kids!

On Pentecost Sunday, May 20th, six eighth graders confirmed the promises made for them by their parents at their baptism. Congratulations to Jennifer Beattie, Cooper Demark, Brianna Dubeck, Dylan Firth, Daniel Reiser, and Gavin Shafer!

AND NOW it's time for Vacation Bible School!

Please sign up using the registration form found in this newsletter. Our theme is "Hero Central: Discover Your Strength in God," and we'll have a great time learning that we are called to be God's "superheroes," carrying on Jesus' work in the world as the Body of Christ. We will also need plenty of adult and youth volunteers to make our VBS a success so please let me know if you can help for an hour, a morning, or all four mornings.

Grace & peace, Sonya Sowards

The Rite of Confirmation

Congratulations to these young people as they are welcomed as full members of our Augustus Family.

May God bless them as they take this important step in their faith journeys.

Jennifer Beattie Cooper Demark
Brianna Dubeck Dylan Firth
Daniel Reiser Gavin Shafer



Holy Baptism

Holy Baptism was administered to Hannah Noelle Thompson on May 6, 2018. May God bless this little one and her family as she begins her journey of faith.



Words of Thanks

Members of Augustus,

On behalf of our entire family, we would like to thank Pastor Weleck, Mrs. Mueller, all the children who took part in the service, and all the members of Augustus Lutheran for making Hannah Noelle's Baptismal Service so very special.

Heather and Stan Lilienthal

Augustus Lutheran Church



Vacation Bible School

June 25-28, 2018, 9:00 a.m.--noon (open to kids ages 3-11)

Registration Form

(Please complete a form for each child attending)
All children must be potty-trained in order to attend without a parent

Name:Gen	der Parents/Guardians
Parents: we need you! If possible We/I can help on ☐ Monday ☐ Tues	e, please sign up to help out at VBS for one or more days: day Wednesday Thursday
Address	
Best email:	Birth date
Grade this fall	(if 7n grade or above, please see the "VBS Youth Helper" choices below
Best Phone #:	Second Phone #
We are:	☐ interested in joining Augustus ☐ just visiting
Does your child attend Sunday schoo	ol or CCD? If so where?
	VBS Youth Helpers
would like to help out as: (name yo	ur choice(s)—see below)
Snack crew: Set out daily snack for snack time is done.	VBS participants and clean up snack area and kitchen when
	games area, assist the VBS participants as they perform the area when the games are completed for the day.
Crew guide : Lead five or so childre various activities.	n to and from activity sites assisting them as needed at the
Craft crew: Help set up the daily craft craft area each day.	t, assist VBS participants in completing their craft and clean up

Please return completed form to Sonya Sowards, Coordinator of Faith Development, by any of the below methods:

- Hand deliver to Sonya's mailbox in the church office
- Mail to 717 W. Main Street, Trappe, PA 19426
- Email to education@augustustrappe.org

Please complete reverse →

MEDICAL RELEASE AND GENERAL PERMISSION FORM

Please complete fully. Write "none" if a particular section does not apply to the participant. You must also include a copy of the participant's insurance card (front and back) with this form.

Partici	pant's Physician's Name _		
Hospit	al/Clinic and Address		
1.	Participant is allergic to (inc	luding food):	
2.		on diet or exercise:	
3.	Does the participant have a	ny special needs or medical history? If so, pl	ease list:
4.	Are there any over the cour	ter medications the participant cannot receive	e?
5.	Is the participant on regular	medication? If so, please list the drugs, dosa	ages, frequency and any instructions:
	Please note that	no drugs are to be brought to VBS other t	than those listed above
In con:	sideration of being accepte	RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS d for participation in Vacation Bible School	
the em death, child/p	pree to forever hold harmle uployees, and agents there as well as property dama	elves) and on behalf of my child/participal ss Augustus Lutheran Church and the So of, from any and all liability, claims and de ge and expenses of any nature whatsoev aid child's participation in the synod sportities.	utheastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA, mands for personal injury, sickness and ver which may be incurred by me or my
unders	nal injury, sickness, death, stand that staff and volunte	chalf of our child/participant under 18 year damage and expenses as a result of persers are not responsible for the administration for any medication taken on a daily scheo	participation as above set forth. I also tion of prescribed medication and I (we)
hospita	er to participate fully in said al, share the above medi	c(s) or legal guardian(s) of this participant, youth events, and give my (our) permissi cal information and authorize medical teatment, and assume responsibility of all r	on to take said participant to a doctor or reatment, including, but not limited to
		the participant to receive over the counterterial ointment, throat lozenges, eye wash	
related	I (we) also release the par I entities.	ticipant's name as part of an information d	atabase for the church, synod and ELCA
(still ar	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY O	s, the synod and ELCA unrestricted rights any medium without compensation.	to use, alter, and reproduce any images
Parent	.'s/Guardian's signature: _		Date:
			Phone 2:





GOLD Sponsor • SILVER Sponsor • HOLE Sponsor • Raffles • Monetary Donations

Want more info about the Golf Outing? Contact Gary Wessner at gtwess@comcast.net.

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP NEWS SYG

The Senior Youth Group would like to congratulate this year's confirmands. We look forward to having them in the Senior Youth Group in 2018/19.

We do have some sad news. Jeanne Halteman and Jim Lien will be stepping aside over the summer. We would like to thank them for her many years of service in the SYG. The good news is that we welcome Chris Dogonniuck as a new leader.

The Senior Youth Group meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month and the 3rd Sunday of each month. Along with our monthly meetings, we also have a monthly activity for the youth.

Lastly, while we travel to Camden, New York to do mission work each year, we understand that there is work to be done in our own community. If you have a project that you need help with, please do not hesitate to ask the SYG to help. Our rules are simple, if you purchase the materials, we'll do the work to the best of our abilities. Contact us at youth@augustustrappe.org or gtwess@comcast.net.

This year's Mission Trip will take place from July 21st thru July 28th. If you're interested in participating in this year's golf tournament, on June 8th, please contact one of the youth leaders.

Knitting 'N Crochet Group

Augustus Lutheran Church is starting a knitting 'n crochet group. We will meet the second Monday of the month. The next time we will meet is Monday June 11th 7 pm to 9:00 pm. The group is open to all skill levels. All are welcome.

- Don't know how to knit or crochet? We can teach you.
- You can knit but can't figure out how to add that crocheted border? We can show you.
- You love to knit/crochet but how many afghans do you need? We have service projects you can work on using donated yarns.
- You are currently working on a project? Please attend and bring it with you.

Enter through the Muhlenberg Center and take the steps or elevator down to basement. Turn right and then turn left at the first hall. The meeting room is at the end of the hall on the left (Room 20).



Quilting Group

Augustus Lutheran Church has a quilting group that meets the first Wednesday and the third Tuesday of the Month 9:30 am to 11:30 am. We will continue to meet throughout the summer with the exception of Wednesday July 4th. The June meeting will be Wednesday June 6th and Tuesday June 19th.

Who Is Your Wantok?

In Ephesians 4:4-6 Paul writes about how we are all part of one body—one family in Christ. In Papua New Guinea, the people have a special word which tells about belonging: "wantok" (wuhn tohk), which means "one talk"—a person who speaks the same language. But wantok also has a deeper meaning. A wantok is a relative or close friend, someone with whom you share your joys and sorrows. As a person's wantok, you and another person are of "one mouth" and "one language." In short, you belong together.

Invite your family members to name someone who is a wantok for them and tell why. Perhaps some may not have anyone to whom they feel this close. In that case, discuss the qualities which would make someone a good wantok. (Examples may include: someone who is willing to listen, is caring, and tells the truth.)

Work in pairs to create friendship cards to send to your family's wantoks. Fold pieces of construction paper and locate several pairs of pliers and a variety of small hardware, such as nuts, bolts, and screws. Pour small amounts of liquid tempera paint into foam meat trays. Say that a pair of pliers is made of two parts—as is friendship. Cooperation builds trust between wantoks. Work together, with each partner holding one handle of the pliers, to pick up a piece of hardware, dip it in paint, and press it onto the folded paper to make a design. When the cards dry, write a message of friendship inside each one.

Explain to your family that "fele" (fay-lay) is the way the Begesin people in Papua New Guinea greet each other. A fele is also a woven coconut mat that is placed by the door. By saying "Fele!" a person means, "Come, you are welcome here. The door of my home and of my heart are open to you." Make a welcome mat for your home by writing "Fele!" with permanent marker on a rope mat. You could also weave place mats of paper strips or use a plastic loom to weave fabric loops. Use puff paint to print "Fele!" on these mats. Make enough to use at home and to give as a gift to another family, telling them about the meaning of "wantok."

Pray using the words of this traditional Papua New Guinea song based on Psalm 68:26. Say: "God of all the world, we have come to give you thanks and become more like you. In worship we long to be one with each other and you."

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Money Matters

Personal Financial Stewardship

The Problem of Materialism

In our society, we've come to expect a high level of material comfort. Many people want bigger, newer, and more things to enjoy. Our society has long told us that what we have is not enough and that we deserve more. The "more is better" attitude of our culture makes it difficult to know when enough is enough!

Webster's New World Dictionary defines materialism as "the tendency to be more concerned with material than with spiritual or intellectual



values." Materialism suggests an inordinate with the acquisition, possession, and consumption of material goods and services. Inherent in a materialistic attitude is an attitude of superficiality, selfishness, individualism, possessiveness, and covetousness.

Russ Crosson wrote about how riches can consume us: "It has been said that 95 percent of those who have been tested with adversity pass the test, but 95 percent of those who have been tested with prosperity fail."

It seems that Christians learn more from adversity than they do success. It is ironic that, as one of the most prosperous countries in the world, our drug abuse, spouse and child beatings, divorce rate, and crime are out of control. Wealth seems to contribute to our problems rather than alleviate them. The love of money and material things has the potential to possess a person's life like no other emotion can. A person can spend a lifetime chasing prosperity that, when found, often destroys him. C. H. Spurgeon said it this way: "It is a very serious thing to grow rich. Of all the temptations to which God's children are exposed, it is the worst, because it is the one they do not dread, therefore, it is the more subtle temptation." Unfortunately, the love of money and possessions is like drinking salt water. The more water we drink the thirstier we become. Likewise, the more money we have the more we want. The problem with materialism is that people try to fill emptiness in their lives with "things."

When our hearts become more concerned and obsessed with the accumulation of things than anything else, we've joined our materialistic society. Do we see ourselves or other members of our churches as materialistic? The number of possessions we have or the size of our homes or bank accounts does not indicate our disposition toward materialism. A materialist may not have a lot of money or possessions or he could own a lot. Materialism may be seen in one's lifestyle, but it is mainly a condition of the heart, which is unseen. Because materialism has become the norm in our society, it is hard not to be part of it. Unfortunately, as Christians, we may be unaware that we have fallen into a materialistic mindset and lifestyle.

Tune

Sharing God's Bounty

Overcoming Pride

In his book *Mere Christianity*, C. S. Lewis wrote the following about pride: "Pride is the one vice of which no man in the world is free; which everyone in the world loathes when he sees it in someone else; and of which hardly any people, except Christians, ever imagine they are guilty of themselves." We demonstrate pride when go our own way and do our own thing. It is "my will be done" not "thy will be done."

Pride is sinful and destructive. It destroys gratitude to God for all his kindness to us. It destroys our desire and ability to serve others. It destroys contentment for it feeds our competitive nature so that we are not satisfied with just being wealthy or intelligent, but we want to be wealthier and more intelligent than anyone else.

Through faith, we are changed by God from being self-serving, proud people into people who are humble and seek the welfare of others before ourselves. God changes us from being people who always want to be in control into people who desire to be controlled by God. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth" (Matthew 5:5). In Rick Warren's book The Purpose Driven Life, he wrote, "Humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less."



Through faith, we understand our need for humility. We become more humble as God molds and transforms us by the renewing of our mind (Romans 12:2).

Pride has no place in our lives as Christians and stewards. First Peter 5:6 reads, "*Humble yourselves, there-fore, under God's mighty hand that he may lift you up in due time.*" It is God alone who can exalt us (Psalm 75:7). If Christ himself, God's only begotten Son, humbled himself, should we not follow his example and humble ourselves? Because Christ humbled himself, God exalted him (Philippians 2:9)

David, the shepherd-king, put our situation in proper perspective: "When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?" (Psalm 8:3-4). The inference is that, although we are insignificant, God has exalted us: "You made [us] ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under [our] feet."

Humility allows us to accept our smallness and God's goodness. Humility is the decision to "let God be God." We are stewards through humility. We are to honor him with what we have, what we are, and what he will make of us.



Let us be generous with gifts we can give to others:

Time, Good Example, Acceptance, Seeing the Best in People, Self-esteem, Self-disclosure, Helping Someone Learn Something New, Listening, Fun, Letting Others Give to You.

JUNE Worship Assistants

8:00 am: Sally Sweeney

Altar Servers:	Acolyte	Crucifer	
June	TBD	Crucilei	
June 10	100		1
June 17			7688
June 24			4000
Readers	8:00 am	10:30 am Lector/9:30 am	10:30 am Prayers/ 9:30 am
June 3	Laurie Mueller	Jim Lien	Jonathan Mueller
June 10	9:30 am Service ONLY	Jennifer Wentworth	Chris Dogonniuck
June 17	Mildred Stuffle	9:30 am: Jeannie Funk	9:30 am: Jim Lien
June 24	Mike Van Blaricum	9:30 am: Jim Lorah	9:30 am Alan Shunk
Communion Assistants	8:00 am: Debra Augustine	e	
June 3	10:30 am: John Kochel an	d David Schweitzer	
June 10	9:30 am Old Church: Janie	ce Reiff and Sonya Sowards	
June 17	9:30 am: Jennifer Wentwo	orth and Bob Rodenberger	
June 24	9:30 am: Jeannie Funk and	l Gary Wessner	
Ushers	8:00 am: Early Usher Tear	n	
June	TBD		
Offering Tabulation	John Kochel, Brian O'Hara	, and Frank DePaul	



Altar Guild

A Gentle Reminder

10:30 am/9:30 am: Jim Lien and Linda Romano

The generations of faithful Lutherans that have gone before us have left us a great legacy at Augustus Lutheran Church. Please do your part to keep our buildings neat, clean, and presentable to the many friends and visitors we welcome throughout each week of the year.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
H	appy	Bir	rthdo	ay		Addie Matoney Kenneth Missimer
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
James Sellman Brandie Snyder Courtney Weaver	Susan Hess		Robert Bunting		Jeanne Halteman Christine Maurer	Julia DeNucci
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Caitlyn Hart Emily Hart Kathryn Hausman	Gavin Elison Kathryn Franc Kelley Olsen Jessica Schiller	Stefan Franz		Lois Robinson Olivia Smith		Nathan Gabel James Lien Gemma Patten
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Josey Augustine	Alexander Schmidt	Brian Schad	Lauren Davis	Marty Burke	Emily Barndt Aaron Crothers Griffin Crothers	Nicole Dubeck
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Kelly Balzereit Howard Frazier Jane Whitman	Gayle Hones Christy Smith	Kevin Krasley Ryan Krasley Cora Wells	Mike Hones	Dean Allebach Miles Klenk Harrison Lumley Scott MacMullen	Casey Demark Lila Olsen Kyle Schwirian Henry Stokes	Mikaela Schad

June 2018



As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit – we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, society, and the world.

Please read through the Swanson Family Newsletter on the following pages. This family of missionaries are supported by your generous donations of time, talent, and treasure through the Spring Turkey Dinner at Augustus and our WELCA ladies. Thank you!

The Swanson Family

May 2018 update from:
Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson
ELCA Global Personnel



Dear friends and family,

We know it has been a long time since you have heard from us, but we are hopeful that with a new format, we will do a better job in keeping you up to date! We have a lot to get caught up on as life has been busy and full here in Tanzania. My youngest one likes to keep a "countdown calendar" and after Christmas passed, she wrote on the white board, "Next up? Valentine's Day!" She moves from one joyous event to the next (which happens to be her birthday next week!) At present, I'm also living in the countdown mode as Steve is traveling in the United States, giving medical lectures at the University of Minnesota, Children's Hospital Oakland, and meeting with supporters in Minneapolis, Oakland, Los Angeles, and Atlanta. Most of our days here in Tanzania are packed with work, school, and the daily challenges of life in another culture. When we first arrived in Arusha 4-1/2 years ago, I remember living each day with a prayer, "Lord, in your mercy..." Still today, we are calling on His mercy.

Interwoven into the spaces of our lives are names like Elizabeth, Andreas, Baraka, Blessing, and Neema-children who are suffering from disease, lack of food, or prematurity, and children who have touched our lives. As our days are filled with caring for these little ones, our hearts are simultaneously filled with concern, compassion, love, joy, sadness, anxiety, frustration and connection. We have become connected to these children, these families; and we have been changed. Love has a way of changing us.

Every Child Has a Story

Elizabeth came into our hospital with classic kwashiorkor, a severe acute malnutrition that we often see in children who are 2 - 5 yrs old. She came with all the common symptoms- edema of the extremities and face, skin changes, diarrhea, and irritability. What she needed? The right food, the right balance of carbohydrates, fat, and protein. It may sound simple, but a particular formula must be made and correct volumes given for her to recover at a slow and steady pace. She is back on track, and her glowing skin and sweet smile are the rewards of our labor. Her story has a happy ending...at least for now. It is not always the story we hearfood insecurity, lack of income, a vulnerable home situation- are



often a part of the stories behind the children who end up in our pediatric ward. Those challenges will require changes in the community.

Party with a Purpose – ALMC NICU

On March 3rd, we held our first-ever local fundraiser for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) of Arusha Lutheran Medical Center (ALMC). We called it, "*Party with a Purpose*". More than 70 local corporations and safari companies came out to offer support for the event, and 300+ individuals attended. In the middle of the evening event, the skies opened and it poured rain! It was a fitting occurrence—in Africa, rain is life. And that is the work of our NICU—to give life. The evening was a huge success, and we raised \$25,000! These funds will go towards expanding free care for premature and critically ill neonates, and to open a Maternity House for mother's whose babies are admitted to the NICU.





Our NICU has a new Facebook page! It was created for the Fund Raiser with additional photos of the work.

The Training of Tanzanian Pediatricians: Meet Victor

As a medical educator, it remains one of my greatest rewards to identify and support the pediatric training of talented, committed Tanzanian doctors and nurses. I am blessed to work with so many Tanzanian healthcare providers who are committed to children and eager to learn. Over the past couple of years, we have identified 3 young doctors for further residency training in pediatrics. Dr. Victor Urio is one of those individuals.



He is exceptionally kind, hard-working and intelligent. After spending 2 years with me, we helped Victor get accepted into a wonderful pediatric 3-year residency program at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda. His residency training will be completed in late 2020. Afterwards, Dr. Victor will return as a fully qualified pediatrician and join our faculty at Arusha Lutheran Medical Centre/ Selian Hospital. Victor, and his 2 Tanzanian colleagues, will be the future face of pediatrics in northern Tanzania.

We are committed to raise the funds (through the Pediatric-NICU Fund: www.tanzanianchildren.org) to fully support Victor's pediatric residency training expenses-- about \$15,000 per year. It is one of our greatest investments towards the future of pediatrics in the Arusha area.

Kid's Corner

Hannah (17) was home for the holidays! Yes! Both Christmas and Easter we were together. She is doing really well in her Jr. year at Rift Valley Academy at Kijabe, Kenya. She is happy, studying hard, and preparing for the ACT and SAT exams as she begins to look toward college. Last term she was on the soccer team and took a course in Reef Ecology on an island in the Indian Ocean, one of the blessings of being a missionary kid in East Africa! I am happy to say she has picked up her cello again and is taking Photography as an elective this term. Follow us on Instagram and you are sure to see some of her photos as well as ours!

Caedmon (14) is growing leaps and bounds and now proudly holds the title for "the tallest" in our family (that means he has passed up his Dad!!). He is doing exceptionally well in school and recently received a perfect score in his science project which he designed and executed completely on his own! If he isn't looking up the best knife for bush craft on his computer, he can be found climbing rocks (pictured above) or out on his bike exploring the local paths- always with an eye set on a mountain on the horizon.





Indya (12 next week) is a delight **and** a force to be reckoned with! She recently beat her Dad in bananagrams, and still tromps around the yard in her rainboots, looking for dead bugs to add to her collection. Many of you may wonder about her health. After her 2 surgeries in the fall of 2016, she received a graft on her tympanic membrane last summer. It perforated again last fall from another infection, so we headed to Nairobi, Kenya to see an ENT specialist. Since then, it has improved and we are hopeful that she will continue to recover. We would appreciate your prayers for complete healing in her body. As for school? She is doing great, has wonderful friends and teachers, and she recently signed up (on her own) for **touch rugby** as her after school activity! Like I said, she is a force to be reckoned with!

Grateful for You

We appreciate your ongoing prayers for our work, our children- for health and well being, for guidance for the future, for peace both in hearts and in our home, and for God's blessing to be upon the country of Tanzania. Thank you so much for partnering with us!

Jodi and Steve Swanson

We are supported through the gifts of churches with the ELCA. Additional gifts can be received through the ELCA: https://community.elca.org/Tanzania

Information regarding tax deductible contributions for pediatric work can be found at: www.tanzanianchildren.org All funds are received through Global Health Ministries (GHM), and directed in entirety towards clinical pediatric training of doctors and nurses in Tanzania, care of babies in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), medications, bed fees and food for malnourished children. Your support makes this work possible! GHM will send you a tax deductible receipt.



SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA WOMEN OF THE ELCA Upper Montgomery Conference First Tuesday Bible Studies

Summer/Fall 2017 9:30 a.m. — 11:30 a.m. Winter/Spring 2018



Pat Leberman, presenter

June 5, 2018 Multiple Meanings - GATHER April issue

St. John's Lutheran Church 3104 Main St., Sumneytown

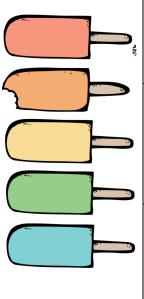
Fran Ivarson, presenter

2018 Summer Bible Study to be announced in the Spring

ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED TO ATTEND AND BRING FRIENDS. Study materials are found in the *Gather* magazine.

Subscriptions available at \$19.95 per year. Please call (844) 409-0576. THANK YOU.

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Sat	7	6	16	23	30
Fri	1 7:00 PM Cubs Pack Meeting	∞	15	22	29
Thu		7	14 Old Church Tour	21	28 9:00 AM Vacation Bible School
Wed		6 9:30 AM Quilting Group 2:00 PM Staff Meeting	13 9:30 AM Soup Kitchen Outreach	20	27 9:00 AM Vacation Bible School
en_		5 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:30 PM Vestry Meeting	12 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Community Club	19 9:30 AM Quilting Group 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Scout Comm. Mtg	26 9:00 AM Vacation Bible School 7:00 PM Committee Night 7:00 PM Boy Scouts
Mon		4	11 7:00 PM Knitting Group	18 7:00 PM Boy Scout District Mtg	25 9:00 AM Vacation Bible School
Sun		3 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:15 AM Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM Holy Communion	10 OLD CHURCH SUNDAY 9:30 AM Holy Communion	17 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:30 AM Holy Communion	24 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:30 AM Holy Communion