

AUGUSTINIAN

APRIL 2017

Augustus
Lutheran
Church



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

April is a busy month as we journey from Lent to Easter; from Jesus' innocent suffering and death to his glorious resurrection. The special services during this month are listed below.

Palm Sunday – April 9, 2016

Palm Sunday Liturgy and the Dramatic Reading of the Passion of Christ

8:00 AM – Brick Church Chapel

9:00 AM – Sunday School (Prayer Pals Brunch)

10:30 AM – Brick Church Nave

11:35 AM – Coffee Hour in honor of Thelma Hess on her 100th Birthday

Maundy Thursday – April 13, 2017

Maundy Thursday Liturgy celebrating Jesus' institution of the gift of Holy Communion

7:30 PM – Brick Church Nave

Good Friday – April 14, 2017

Good Friday Liturgy and Dramatic Reading of the Passion of Christ

12:00 Noon – Brick Church Nave (The Reverend Dr. Martha Kriebel, Preaching)

Stations of the Cross led by the First Communion and Confirmation Classes

7:00 PM – Fellowship Hall

Easter Day – April 16, 2017

8:00 AM – Brick Church Nave (note the change in location for this service)

9:00 AM – Sunday School (Easter Egg Hunt)

10:30 AM – Brick Church Nave (First Holy Communion)

Youth Sunday – April 23, 2017

8:00 AM – Brick Church Chapel (Youth leading worship and preaching)

9:00 AM – Sunday School

10:30 AM – Brick Church Nave (Youth leading worship and preaching)

We will celebrate the 100th birthday of our oldest member, Thelma Hess, with a special Coffee Hour on Palm Sunday, April 9, 2017 at 11:35 AM. Please plan to be present for this special recognition sponsored by the Augustus Women of the ELCA. Our Women's group would also like you to bring or send a birthday card to Thelma to mark this milestone in her life. We are collecting them in a box in the Lower Narthex of the Brick Church.

April is an active, faith-filled month. Mark your calendars now so you can journey with your church family to the joy of the resurrection.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Weleck





Collegeville/Trappe Ministerium Community Lenten Service

Apr. 5—Praying with Icons, Figurines and Pictures
Trinity United Church of Christ, 532 E Main St, Collegeville, PA 19426

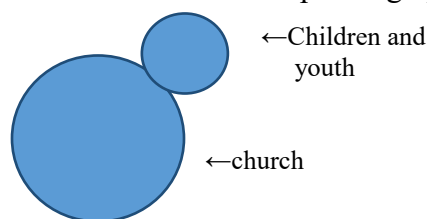
A Gentle Reminder

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.



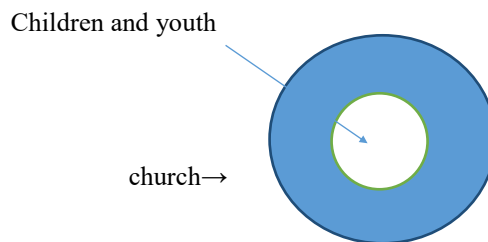
Coordinator of Faith Development

While I was working on my master's degree in Christian Education, I often heard that youth and children's ministers should "avoid the one-eared Mickey Mouse!" This strange sounding catch phrase was seemingly everywhere and it described a phenomenon found in many churches where the youth ministry exists outside of the life of the church—depicted graphically like this:



The unfortunate result of this kind of youth and children's ministry is that children do not make the connection that they are part of the church. Because of this, when they graduate from youth ministry they move away from the church and on to other things.

The preferable model of youth and children's ministry is the "doughnut." This is where the adults in the church surround youth and children's ministry. Children and teenagers know that they are a vital part of the parish and when they return from college, they know that the church is their home.



A couple of weeks ago I heard about the one-eared Mickey Mouse and the doughnut again—just not in those terms. My husband and I attended a seminar at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia given by some leaders in the Christian Education field. The speakers emphasized the importance of *intergenerational* ministry—ministry where children and youth are working with adults in the church. Studies have shown that whether children continue in the faith depends not on a spectacular Sunday school or a "really cool" youth ministry, but on *the number of conversations young people have with significant adults about their faith*. Parents are the most significant in children's lives but, as the African proverb says, "it takes a village to raise a child." A child surrounded by adults who are teaching and guiding her, praying for him, and loving her is a child who has been "raised up in the way he should go—and will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6, KJV) Over and over again the scriptures say that we should tell our children our salvation story (Exodus 13:8 and Deuteronomy 6:6-8 are just a couple of examples).

I have been delighted by the "doughnut" I see here at Augustus. We have committed and gifted teachers and youth leaders, prayer pals who are praying for our children through Lent, parents who make sure their children are in Sunday school and at confirmation classes, and a vestry, pastor and staff that puts children and youth ministry high on the church's priority list. Keep up the good work!



*Grace & peace,
Sonya Sowards*

Sharing God's Bounty

Whom Are You Looking At?

The disciples were thrilled. They had their Lord back in their presence once again. Since his Resurrection, he had appeared to them and others several times. They were still a little confused, though, when he talked about “*waiting for the gift his Father promised*” (Acts 1:5), and, then, “*He was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight*” (Acts 1:9).

You can imagine their bewilderment. He had died and been buried and then had risen from the dead! He had walked among them and taught them again, and now . . . He is taken up into the clouds. No wonder they stood there – probably with mouths agape – looking into the sky where they had last seen him.

It took “two men dressed in white” (Acts 1:10) to bring them back to their senses. “‘Men of Galilee,’ ” they said, ‘why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into Heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into Heaven’ ” (Acts 1:11).

Back they went to Jerusalem. Their eyes were no longer on the clouds, but they were still looking at Jesus. They waited. They prayed. They chose another disciple. And they waited some more – all the while looking at Jesus.

Whom are you looking at? Yes, Jesus has ascended. We can only imagine his joyful, triumphant return as all the hosts of Heaven welcomed back the risen, victorious Savior. Because he is that Savior, because he is the Author and perfecter of our faith, “*let us fix our eyes on Jesus*” (Hebrews 12:2). Through his Word and Sacraments, he will lead us in his ways; he will teach us obedience and self-sacrifice; he will teach us love for our neighbors. With joyful and generous hearts, we celebrate the new life that Easter brings us by sharing the message of the Cross and the Empty Tomb with all who will listen. Keep looking at Jesus until in Heaven you see him face to face!



Stewardship is not about large giving, but gifts in small ways. A child's gift, although small, gives glory to the Lord in many ways. Stewardship does not have to be in monetary ways. A gift of time to an elderly shut-in serves the Lord, too. A gift of a loaf of bread to a homeless family could mean the difference between going to bed hungry or going to bed satisfied.

From the Loft

We welcomed Ed Funk in a guest role to the bell choir earlier in March, and the bells played in church on March 19. We will play again at Stations of the Cross on April 14. If you have not been to a Stations of the Cross Service at Augustus, consider coming this year, and bring a friend. Stations is held in our Fellowship Hall at 7 pm. Our 5th-8th graders stage the last days of Jesus' life as Pastor narrates the events. A lot of rehearsing goes into this production (thank you, Sonya Sowards and Deb Augustine!). If you have younger children or grandchildren, bring them. We'll make sure you get a good seat where they can see, and if 7 pm is a little on the late side, they can come in pajamas (with your permission).

As we experience and remember the last days and hours of Jesus' life, we already know that the story doesn't end that way. But the first disciples surely didn't. Imagine their utter joy when they found out - he is not dead! He is risen! In that spirit of joy, we hope you will attend our Easter worship at Augustus, at 8:00 am or 10:30 am. Both services will feature our full choir, bell players, our own Jim Lien on timpani, and a brass quartet!

Looking further ahead, save the date: Sunday, May 21 at 4:00 pm will be our Spring Concert at Augustus! Titled "Muhlenberg's iPod Playlist," this concert will feature a sort of soundtrack for Muhlenberg's life. The concert is part of the 300th Anniversary of Trappe Celebration. Our Spring and Christmas Concerts are two major sources of funding for our music program. They are open to the public and free, but we will gladly accept your free will offering! If you'd like to be a patron (name in the program) or advertiser (ad in the program), please contact me (email is easiest). The concert will be about an hour - plan to come, bring some friends, and go out for a nice dinner afterward!

Laurie Mueller

music@augustustrappe.org

Senior Youth Group News

Hard to believe, but 2017 is 1/4 over already, it seems like we were just planning our Senior Youth Group year and now we are planning our end of year activities and Mission Trip!

We kicked off the Lenten season with our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on February 28th. For the first time in three years we did not have to delay because of bad weather. A great night of fellowship and food as we prepared for Lent.

For the second year, we collected warm socks which were delivered to the Norristown Soup Kitchen - almost 100 pairs of socks were collected from the congregation and we thank the Eastern Stars women's group who donated 30 pair.

Soup Sales are done for the year, the three soup sales were the most successful EVER! Thank you to all of the soup makers and the congregation for supporting this great fundraiser.

The Easter Candy sale is in full swing, check the Sunday bulletin for the order form.

Sunday April 23rd is YOUTH SUNDAY! A favorite day of the congregation, when the youth of Augustus lead the service: Ushers & greeters, music, liturgy, sermons and communion assistants. We appreciate the hard work these youth put into the preparation of this special day.

We are also recruiting foursomes and sponsors for our Annual Golf Outing - June 9th, at Butter Valley Golf Port in Bally. Information is available separately in this Augustinian or on the bulletin board in the lower Narthex.

We thank the congregation for your spiritual and financial support,
we cannot exist without it!



April *Worship Assistants*



Altar Servers:	Acolyte	Crucifer	Torch Bearers
April 2	Liz Wentworth	Jeremy Wentworth	Dylan Firth and Ashley Tighe
April 9	Ally Napier	Bryce Atherholt	Kevin Beattie and Owen Slack
April 16	Daniel Reiser	Jeremy Wentworth	
April 23	Bryce Atherholt	Shayna King	
April 30			

Readers	8:00 am	10:30 am Lector	10:30 am Prayers
April 2	Ron Hess	Brian Funk	Brian Funk
April 9	Amy Sellman Laurie Mueller Sandy Trauger	John Kochel	Chris Dogonniuck
April 13 (Maundy Thurs)	7:30 pm	Alan Shunk	Jeannie Funk
April 14 (Good Friday)	Noon	Barbara Burch	Donna Beishl
April 16 (Easter Day)	8:00 am	Sandy Trauger	Sandy Trauger
	10:30 am	James Lorah	James Lien
April 23	Mike Van Blaricum	Sean McClain	Jonathan Mueller
April 30	Earl Catagnus, Jr.	Diane Mills	Jennifer Wentworth

Communion Assistants	8:00 am: Debra Augustine
April 2	John Kochel and David Schweitzer
April 9 (Palm Sunday)	Intinction
April 13 (Maundy Thurs)	7:30 pm Janice Reiff and Bob Rodenberger
April 16 (Easter)	Intinction
April 23	Barbara Burch and Janice Reiff
April 30	Jeannie Funk and Brian Funk



Ushers
April Mike Beattie, Dave Halteman, Scott Halteman, and Dick Allebach

Offering Tabulation
April John Kochel, Brian O'Hara, and Janice Reiff

Altar Guild
April Deb Scholl and Sherry Jesse

Augustus Book Club

The January meeting of the Augustus Book Club will be held on May 15th at 7:30 pm in the Vestry Lounge. We will be discussing:

Little Princes: One Man's Promise to Bring Home the Lost Children of Nepal

New members are always welcome. Come to discuss the book and get to know some new folks!

Refreshments are always served.

Questions? Contact Karen McClain 610-489-9625 or office@augustustrappe.org

Resolving to become more involved at church?

Worship Assistants are always needed and welcome!

Contact the church office for more information about one of the ways you can help!

Most commitments are short term, and we could use your help!

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Steven Gara Patrick O'Hara Joseph Schaffer Jr. John Schwirian Kelly Stalker	Susan Adams Randolph Riegner	Tracy Wessner	Joseph Kirsche	Taylor Halteman Michelle Kemmerer K. Markert	Kevin Beattie Elizabeth Below Kenneth Gold Marsha Llewellyn Michael McDaniel	Emily Allebach Tessa Clark Gregory Kane Lindsey Keyser
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Thomas Wessner	Margaret Bouche	Emma Bar Thelma Hess			Heidi Kunasz Gatrina Nolan Jeffery Scholl	Richard Holcombe Olaf Markert
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Jeanne Funk Teresa Niemann Stephen Riegner	Caroline Antrim Anna Jacobs Joseph McCormack Andrew Tartar	Stephen Holcombe	Nicole Long Anthony Massare Gary Wessner	Kevin Brunswick Kara Camuso Alice Franks Nicholas Marren Janet Stokes Mary Zollers	Victoria Brunswick Jason Mulle Evan Napier Samantha Swan Elizabeth Wentworth Carter Wickersham	Frances Ivarson Ashley Smith Steven Van Alstine
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Virginia Oscapinski	Paul Minella	David Halteman Jonathan Lewis Brooke Newhard Bernard Wagenseller Sheryl Wagenseller	Deena Ottinger Linda Schweitzer	Paula Garton Maria Kochel Alice Rodenberger Grace Schlegel	Erick Lyaro John O'Donnell	Deborah Scholl
30						
Michael DeNucci Francis DePaul Jack Garro Kevin Hynes						



The Paschal Candle

What is the meaning and use of the Paschal Candle?



The Paschal Candle is a tall, prominent candle, visually representing Jesus' resurrection. The Paschal Candle may be adorned in different ways, although a cross, the letters Alpha and Omega, the current year, and five wax "Incense nails" representing the five wounds of Christ are often affixed to the candle. Because the Paschal Candle is a symbol of Jesus' resurrection, it is lighted only during the liturgies of the Easter season, from the Easter Vigil through the Day of Pentecost.

After the last liturgy on The Day of Pentecost, the Paschal Candle is placed near the baptismal font as a visual reminder that through baptism we are "join[ed] ... to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ". When Baptism is celebrated, the Paschal Candle is lighted. It is also lighted for funeral liturgies, the Paschal Candle being placed at the foot of the coffin. Here the tie to Jesus' death and resurrection is especially important.

The current use of the Paschal Candle is the outgrowth of a long and respected tradition in the Church, originating in ancient times. Candles were blessed when lighted in the early Church's worship. In the fifth or sixth century, the Paschal Candle became established as a symbol of Jesus' resurrection. In the Middle Ages, Paschal Candles were quite large, some weighing as much as 300 pounds, although most weighed only 10 to 20 pounds. Today, Paschal Candles are usually two (2) inches in diameter and at least 36 inches long. Though far smaller than Paschal Candles in the Middle Ages, they are the largest candles used in parishes today.

One Dream
MISSION TEAM



2017 MISSION TRIP **GOLF OUTING**

FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 2017

12:00 pm Registration

1:00 pm Shot Gun Start

**Butter Valley Golf Port
Barto, PA**

\$90 / Golfer

**Greens Fees, Cart, Food
Beverages, Soda, Water,
Steak Dinner & Gift Bags**

\$40 / Dinner Only

**6:30 pm Dinner
and Festivities at
the Pavilion**

FIRST UCC Quakertown
TRINITY LUTHERAN Quakertown
AUGUSTUS LUTHERAN Trappe

PROCEEDS BENEFIT 2017 MISSION TRIP

Our goal is to help families improve everyday lives by making needed improvements and modifications to their homes. Teens and adults from 3 churches will join again this summer to make a difference.

**PLEASE HELP US MAKE
THAT DIFFERENCE**

MORE INFO: CALL FIRST UCC AT 215-536-4447



CONTESTS • GREAT SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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



SUMMER 2016 MISSION TRIP PARTICIPANTS!

Look at those great kids, awesome adults, and beaming smiles!

Thanks so much for participating in our Senior Youth Group Fund-raisers so we can make this trip possible for all our youth!

The lessons they learn helping others stay with them for a lifetime!

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.

Augustus' Women of the ELCA Annual Spring Turkey Dinner/Craft & Vendor Fair which will be held on Saturday April 29, 2017 from 2:00pm to 7:00pm is in its final stage of preparations. This benefit fundraiser will be supporting three ministries this year in Tanzania: The Irete Children's Home (Ministry of the North Eastern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church), Dr. Stephen and Jodi Lynn Swanson (ELCA Missionaries serving at the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center and Selian Lutheran Hospital), and the Sebastian Kolowa Memorial University (SEKOMU) in the North Eastern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.



The cost for the turkey dinner is \$12.00 for adults, \$6.00 for children 3 to 10 years of age and is “free” for children under 3 years of age. Ticket sales will start the beginning of April. To avoid disappointment, please purchase your tickets early. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door. Tickets that are reserved and not paid for will only be held until 6:00pm on the day of the event. Even if you do not want to eat at the turkey dinner, you are still welcome to come and see the craft & vendor fair “free of charge”. Last year we had over 30 vendors participating. Come out & enjoy the day! Shop for Mother's Day gifts and Spring decorations.

CRAFTERS & VENDORS ARE STILL NEEDED. It's not too late to reserve your space/table. You, too, can be a vendor. Do you have a craft that you would like to try selling? Or, are you in the process of downsizing or removing excess clutter? Is the cost of vendor space/table too expensive? Try sharing it with a friend. For information regarding the rental of vendor space/table, please contact Trish Reiser at trishreiser@verizon.net or call her at 610-587-9123. She will be glad to help you. Trish Reiser is our chairperson for the Craft & Vendor Fair.

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS/BASKETS STILL NEEDED. Augustus' Women/ELCA is asking the families of the congregation (or each committee of the congregation) to donate a “theme” basket (or items for a basket) to be auctioned at our Spring Turkey Dinner/Craft & Vendor Show. Some of the themes to consider would be a children's basket, a boy's beach basket, a girl's beach basket, a snack basket, a handyman basket, an auto supply basket, a baker's delight basket, etc. The actual baskets can be innovative as well. Perhaps the tools are in a five gallon work bucket, gardening supplies in a terra-cotta pot, or dog supplies in a dog dish. Get creative; the possibilities are endless! If you do not have enough goodies to fill an entire basket, no problem! We will accept donated items that can be supplemented. Can you imagine the money we could raise if each family (or committee) donated a basket? Please consider contributing to this wonderful cause. The money collected will benefit Ministries in Tanzania. Please contact Mildred Stuffle at 610-489-7461 or jandmstuffle@verizon.net if interested in participating.

“NEW” THIS YEAR WILL BE ADDED ATTRACTIONS FOR THE 300th ANNIVERSARY OF TRAPPE. There will be a photo gallery with pictures of Trappe (the way Trappe used to be) on display. We might even have some people from our past showing up. “Old” church tours will be available upon request. In addition, we will have a display on the “Life in Tanzania” with artifacts & pictures. We will also have short videos available for viewing on Augustus’ ministry work in Tanzania. Monetary donations will be accepted.



VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED. Please check the sign-up sheets located in the lower narthex of the church to see where help is still needed. Many volunteers are needed to run this event and your help is very important if this event is to continue. The more people that get involved, the easier it is one, and it is a great way to meet other members of the church. We are a great congregation that is working together to achieve a common goal of supporting those less fortunate. This event is supported by Thrivent Financial.

Pictures from Turkey Dinner/Craft & Vendor Fair 2016



SEPA Women/ELCA Upper Montgomery Conference First Tuesday Bible Study will be held on Tuesday April 4, 2017, at St. James Lutheran Church in Limerick, PA. Coffee & treats begin at 9:30am and the Bible study begins at 10:00am. In April the topic is “For freedom, Christ has set us free” taken from Galatians 5:1- 6:18. For both Paul and Luther, freedom in Christ means living life in service of others. Barbara Lisi is the study leader. Bring your Bibles and your April edition of the Gather magazine. Please try to attend. All women and girls are invited. Contact Fran Ivarson at 610-489-4969 if you have any questions or if you would like to carpool.

Upper Montgomery Spring Conference Gathering will be held at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, Pennsburg on Saturday, April 29. The theme is “Salvation” from Romans 3:23-25. The first two of Martin Luther’s 95 Theses contain the central idea that God intended believers to seek repentance and that faith alone, not deeds, would lead to salvation. Registration begins at 9:00 am. The program speaker is The Rev. Paul Bartlett, retired pastor after serving congregations for 40 years. Pastor Paul’s slideshow presentation on Martin Luther will take us on a reformation journey to landmarks in Germany that were pinnacle to Luther’s legacy. Please bring canned goods for “Open Line”, a Pennsburg local food cupboard. For more information or if you would like to carpool, please contact Fran Ivarson at 610-489-4969. All women and girls are invited to attend. You don’t have to be a member of the Women/ELCA to attend.

Tenth Triennial Gathering of Women/ELCA in Minneapolis, Minnesota, is now open for registration. The Gathering runs from July 13 through July 16, 2017. The registration book can be downloaded from WELCATG.ORG or see Dale O'Hara for information. The theme for the Gathering is "All Anew".

The Hearts & Hands Committee continues to meet twice a month on the 1st Wednesday & the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 9:30am in Augustus' quilting room. Among an array of various projects that the committed embarks on, the ladies concentrate their efforts making quilts for Lutheran World Relief. **Currently, the committee is in need of colored embroidery floss for their quilts. Although they will accept any color, they are in desperate need of blue and red colored floss.** If you would like to make a donation, please label your donation with "Hearts and Hands Committee" and place in the lower narthex of the church. Thank you in advance for your support! If you are interested in partaking in the efforts of this committee, the workshop will meet on April 5 and April 18. New members are always welcome to this social group and no experience is necessary. For more information, please contact Mildred Stuffle at 610-489-7461 or jandmstuffle@verizon.net.

Egg Appeal (Benefits Artman Home): Following a tradition for many years, Augustus Women of the ELCA will once again support Artman Home thru their Egg Appeal. A special offering will be collected on Palm Sunday April 9. All proceeds will go towards Artman's Benevolent Fund or a Special Spring Project which will benefit the residents of Artman Home.

Thelma Hess is turning 100 in April! Let's party!! Everyone is invited to this celebration on Sunday April 9 in Augustus' fellowship hall immediately following the 10:30am church worship service. Cards are being collected to present to Thelma at the party. Let's overwhelm Thelma with an overabundance of Birthday Cards. Place your card with a note of warm wishes in the labeled box located in the lower narthex. Please join us in wishing Thelma a very Happy Birthday and many more.

Please continue to Save the Following Items and place them in the appropriate box in the Lower Narthex of the church: Redner's Tapes, eyeglasses, General Mills Box Tops for Education, and your old smartphones/cell phones/ipads/ipods. We are no longer collecting Campbell soup labels.

Schedule Of Events

- April 4: Upper Montg Conference Bible Study @ St. James LC, Limerick – 9:30am
Topic: "For Freedom Christ Has Set Us Free" Galatians 5:1-6:18
Study Leader: Barbara Lisi
- 5: Hearts and Hands Workshop 9:30am
- 9: Palm Sunday
- 16: Happy Easter!
- 18: Hearts and Hands Workshop 9:30am
- 25: Augustus' Committee Night in the Chapel 7:00pm
- 29: Upper Montg Conference Spring Gathering @ St. Mark's LC, Pennsburg
Theme: "Salvation" (Romans 3:23-25)
Presenter, The Rev. Paul Bartlett – 9:30am
- 29: Spring Turkey Dinner/Craft & Vendor Fair: 2pm – 7pm
- May 2: Upper Montg Conference Bible Study @ Augustus LC, Trappe – 9:30am
Topic: Study Leader: Jean John
- 3: Hearts and Hands Workshop 9:30am
- 14: Happy Mother's Day!
- 16: Hearts and Hands Workshop 9:30am
- 23: Augustus' Committee Night in the Chapel 7:00pm
- 29: Happy Memorial Day!

.....Dale O'Hara.....

Money Matters

Personal Financial Stewardship

Loving Money

God's Word warns us about the love of money: *"People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs"* (1 Timothy 6:9-10). Jesus said, *"You cannot serve both God and money"* (Matthew 6:24).

How much we love money is not dependent upon the amount of money that we may have. We can love money and have very little love of it, or we can have lots of it and not love it at all. Loving money is very subtle, and it can manifest itself in different ways. For example for those who have accumulated some money, it could be seen in an unhealthy obsession with the investment markets. It could be seen in our desire to hoard our money and not give. Power and success for those who focus on money is relative to how much money they have.



Because we live in a very materialistic society, there is a great deal of interest in money. Webster's Dictionary defines materialism as "the tendency to be more concerned with material things than with spiritual goals or values." Materialism leads us to spend money we don't have in order to buy things we don't need so that we can impress people we don't even like. A materialistic person loves his possessions, is greedy, and lacks contentment.

The following are three negative consequences of both loving money and becoming part of our materialistic society:

- ✚ Distorts our thinking: Our hearts become darkened. *"For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking become futile and their foolish hearts were darkened"* (Romans 1:22-23).
- ✚ Stimulates our pride: We become self-sufficient rather than relying on God. *"You may say to yourself, 'My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me' "* (Deuteronomy 8:17).
- ✚ Preoccupies our thoughts: We have no time or concern for the needy or for God. *"Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things"* (Philippians 3:19).

When we call upon God's strength, he will empower us to serve him rather than our money. As we spend time hearing and reading God's Word, he will strengthen our faith so we can break the power that money and possessions can have over us.



Spring

Gathering

of
THE UPPER MONTGOMERY CONFERENCE
of
The Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod of
The Women of The Evangelical
Lutheran Church of America

SATURDAY, April 29, 2017 - 9:30 a.m.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
81 North Main Street
Pennsburg, PA
(610) 323-4312

PROGRAM BEGINS PROMPTLY AT 9:30 A.M.

REGISTRATION WILL START AT 9:00 A.M.

PROGRAM THEME: *Romans 3:23-25*: Salvation

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, [a] through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished."

PROGRAM SPEAKER: The Rev. Paul Bartlett's presentation will be about the 500th Anniversary of Martin Luther's Reformation. The Program Theme is in line with the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation: Since we're preparing for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017, we're centering our Spring 2017 Conference event on the theme of Salvation (see below). One of two of Martin Luther's 95 theses containing his central idea, that God intended believers to seek repentance and that faith alone, and not deeds, would lead to salvation.

WHAT TO BRING: Each church is asked to bring one refreshment to share. 😊

Thanks to St. Mark's Lutheran Church, our host, for providing us with coffee and tea.

IN-KIND DONATIONS: Canned goods for "Open Line," a Pennsburg local food cupboard.

DIRECTIONS: From Rt. 100: Turn right onto Rt. 29 and go approximately 5 miles. The church is on the right. Turn on Front Street; the parking lot is at the rear of the church. From Rt. 663: The road is closed at the bridge beyond Kutztown Road. Turn left at light at Kutztown Rd. Go to Church Rd., turn right onto Church Rd. and continue to New Goshenhoppen Church on your left (at a 4-way intersection, each road has a stop sign). Take Third St. to Jefferson St., then turn right and go 2 blocks to Front St. St. Mark's parking lot is on the left.



Women
of the
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
IN AMERICA

SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Upper Montgomery Cluster

GATHER BIBLE STUDY 2016-2017

First Tuesdays 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

[Coffee and treats at 9:30 a.m.]



Winter/Spring 2017

No other Gospel [Galatians 1:1-2:21]

Tuesdays, January / February

HOME STUDY

Children of God through faith

[Galatians 2:19-3:29] and Galatians 1:1-3:29

**INVITE A FRIEND OR GROUP TO STUDY THESE SESSIONS WITH YOU OR STUDY ON YOUR OWN -
NOTE ANY QUESTIONS OR HIGHLIGHTS**

April 4

*For freedom Christ has set us free
Galatians 5:1-6:18*

St. James Lutheran Church
Kugler Rd., & Swamp Pike
Limerick

Barbara Lisi, Study Leader

May 2

Augustus Lutheran Church
717 W. Main St.
Trappe, PA

Jean John, Study Leader

ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED TO ATTEND AND BRING FRIENDS. Study materials are found in the *Gather* magazine. Subscriptions available at \$15.00 per year.

Please call [800] 328-4648. THANK YOU.

ADDITIONAL WAYS TO HELP WITH THE TURKEY DINNER:

Augustus' Women/ELCA is currently organizing a silent auction of "Themed Gift Baskets" and is currently requesting families and committees within the church to donate a gift basket to be auctioned. Some of the themes to consider would be a children's basket, a boy's beach basket, a girl's beach basket, a snack basket, a handyman basket, an auto supply basket, a baker's delight basket, etc. The actual baskets can be innovative as well. Perhaps the tools are in a five gallon work bucket, gardening supplies in a terra-cotta pot, or dog supplies in a dog dish. Get creative; the possibilities are endless! If you do not have enough goodies to fill an entire basket, we will accept donated items that can be supplemented. As with the other funds raised at the Turkey Dinner, the proceeds will benefit the Irete Children's Home in Tanzania, Dr. Stephen & Jodi Lynn Swanson (Augustus' Missionaries in Tanzania), and the Sebastian Kolowa Memorial University in Tanzania's North Eastern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran church. If you would like to participate through donating to the silent auction or through volunteering to assist in the organization of the silent auction, please contact Mildred Stuffle at 610-489-7461 or jandmstuffle@verizon.net.

The Spring Turkey Dinner/Craft & Vendor Fair would not be a continuous success without the entire loving support of our congregation, and we would like to thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration of your help again for this year.

WELCA COLLECTS ELECTRONICS! Please note the following when donating

Regarding the collection of old smartphones/cell phones/ipads/ipods, please do not include chargers or other accessories. If you are recycling an iPhone, please turn off "Find My iPhone". Go to settings > iCloud, turn off "Find My iPhone". Please place all smartphones, cell phones, ipads, and ipods in the appropriate recycling box on the church's windowsill in the lower narthex.



NOTICE

In order to preserve our legacy, the following rules are in effect:

- ♦ POTTED PLANTS AND DECORATIONS—May be placed for Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Memorial Day, and Veteran's Day. The Cemetery Committee reserves the right to remove these items after 14 days.
- ♦ CHRISTMAS WREATHS AND DECORATIONS—are permitted November 15—March 1.
- ♦ THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE RESERVES THE RIGHT, IN ITS SOLE JUDGEMENT, TO REMOVE ANY UNKEMPT OR UNSIGHTLY ITEMS FROM THE CEMETERY PROPERTY.
- ♦ PERMANENT PLANTINGS/ FIXTURES WHICH IMPEDE THE FREE MOVEMENT OF THE LAWNMOWERS ARE PROHIBITED.
- ♦ THE ERECTION OF WALLS, RAILINGS, FENCES, AND BENCHES IS PROHIBITED.
- ♦ POSITIVELY NO MOTORBIKES, ATVS, SKATEBOARDS, OR SNOWMOBILES ALLOWED.
- ♦ NO ALTERATIONS TO FOUNDATIONS ARE PERMITTED.
- ♦ THE CEMETERY IS UNATTENDED AND ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC. ANY PERSONAL PROPERTY LEFT OR PLACED ON CEMETERY PROPERTY IS DONE AT THE OWNER'S RISK.
- ♦ PLEASE PLACE ALL REFUSE IN THE DUMPSTER

By order of the Cemetery Committee

**The Cemetery Committee would like to thank you
for your patience.**

Due to the heavy March snow, the committee was unable to clean the cemetery as early as we had hoped. If you would like to join the Cemetery Committee, please contact Karl Stefan or Gary Wessner for future meeting and clean up dates.

TWO GREAT EVENTS ONE CONVENIENT LOCATION!

Spring Turkey Dinner

CRAFT & VENDOR FAIR
SILENT AUCTION

4 TO 7 PM SIT-DOWN DINNER
4-6 PM TAKE-OUTS

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT & MUSIC

adults: \$ 12.00 children 3-10 yrs: \$ 6.00
children under 3: free

COMMEMORATING THE
300th ANNIVERSARY OF TRAPPE
WITH ADDITIONAL ATTRACTIONS!

TO RESERVE TICKETS CALL:
610-489-9625

CRAFT & VENDOR FAIR :

2 TO 7 PM

FREE ADMISSION

crafters and vendors needed:

TrishReiser@verizon.net or 610-587-9123

AUGUSTUS LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Augustus Lutheran Church
1937

717 W. MAIN STREET, TRAPPE, PA 19426

SATURDAY APRIL 29, 2017

Proceeds benefit:

Irente Children's Home in Tanzania

Dr. Stephen and Jodi Lynn Swanson, Missionaries in Tanzania

Sebastian Kolowa Memorial University in Tanzania

Supplemental funds provided by Thrivent Financial

Sunday Services: 8:00 AM Communion * 9:00 AM Sunday School * 10:30 AM Worship

ad design: Brian O'Hara © 2017

Get Your Sweet Treats Here!!!



SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP 4th EASTER SWEET TREAT FUNDRAISER

Sunday, April 9th is the delivery date.

Homemade peanut butter and coconut creme eggs.

We also have thin mint cookies. Delicious!

Thin mint cookies will be arranged and sold by the dozen. Peanut butter and coconut creme eggs will be sold by the half pound and full pound container.

Name: _____

I would like:

Thin Mints	\$4.00	_____	1 Dozen	\$4.00
Thin Mints	\$8.00	_____	2 Dozen	\$8.00
Chocolate PB Eggs		_____	½ pound	\$5.00
		_____	Full Pound	\$10.00
Coconut Creme Eggs		_____	½ pound	\$5.00
		_____	Full Pound	\$10.00

I will pick up after the 8 o'clock service _____

I will pick up after the 10 o'clock service _____

Thank you for supporting SHYG



Two Pieces of Wood That Spell ‘Love’

Imagine someone loving you so much that he or she would give up absolutely everything—even life itself—just to let you know how much you’re loved! Sometimes people in our own families or special friends show us glimpses of that kind of love, but to love someone like that all the time is impossible for human beings. Only God can do that, and that’s exactly what God did by sending Jesus.

Because Jesus died for us, life is different. For one thing, there are things we don’t need to be so afraid of—like being alone. Jesus loves us and comes with us in our hearts wherever we go. He died on the cross to show that to us, and that’s why there are crosses in churches now. Crosses remind us that Jesus’ love is so big that nothing can stop it or change it. What kind of crosses are there in your church? Sometimes at the beginning of worship, a person walks in carrying a cross attached to a long pole. That cross is called a processional cross. Others often follow that cross. It’s like a little parade.

At home, make a cross from some tree branches—perhaps some from your Christmas tree if it’s available. Hang the cross inside your front door to help you remember that Jesus loves you and is with you wherever you go. Then make one for someone in the hospital or nursing home, to let that person know the good news of Jesus’ love!

From Family Newsletters on Disk, copyright 1995 Augsburg Fortress.



Christian Parenting

Mpiandry: The Healing Shepherds

In Luke 15:1-7 Jesus tells a parable about the shepherd who rejoiced when the lost sheep was found. In Madagascar, there is a special kind of shepherd, the “mpiandry” (pee-AHN-dree). The mpiandry are church workers who care for orphans, the sick, and the poor who are some of Jesus’ “lost sheep.” The mpiandry also lead worship services in which they lay their hands on the heads of worshipers and bless them in Jesus’ name. They pray that God will solve the people’s problems and worries.

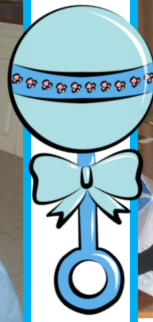
Talk about the mpiandry and consider ways that each of us can be shepherds. Read aloud the Bible reference. It may be fun for the family to act out the story. Preschoolers could follow a set of hoof prints to a “pen” (circle of chairs) and play the roles of sheep and shepherd. Older children can pretend what it would be like to be lost and share their feelings. Teens can consider the shepherd’s role. What leadership qualities would a shepherd need? Adults can ponder how they as parents fill the role of a shepherd.

Make a flannel board for children to use when they retell the parable of the lost sheep. Older children can help younger ones draw and cut from construction paper these things: a shepherd, neighbors, several sheep, and a fence. Glue felt strips on the back of each piece to use on a flannel board. Glue a felt square to the lid of a clean large-sized cardboard pizza delivery box to make the flannel board. Store the figures inside the box.

Wrap wooden models of sheep (obtain at craft stores) in fuzzy yarn. Display them throughout your home as reminders of how God loves and cares for us like a shepherd cares for sheep. Play “Find the Lost Sheep.” Have one family member hide (the game may be played indoors or out) while the others hunt for the lost sheep. When the sheep has been found, everyone cheers.

Enjoy a Malagasy meal. In Madagascar, rice is a staple of the diet. “Laoka” (LAU-ka) is meat and vegetable toppings spooned over rice. Make chicken topping by browning 1 cup thinly sliced chicken in 1/4 cup of oil. Stir in 1/4 cup each of chopped onions and tomatoes, 1/2 teaspoon minced ginger root, and salt and pepper to taste. Simmer until tender, adding water if necessary.

Before the meal, lay hands on top of each other’s heads and say, “God bless you.” Close by asking for God’s help in becoming good shepherds who care for others.





**Baby
Shower
for
Jesus!
*January
2017***



Thanks for the Photos, Chilly!



2017 Easter Flowers

Flowers can now be ordered for Easter!

ORDER DEADLINE: April 2, 2017

Please include payment with your order.

Make checks payable to: Augustus Flower Fund

Mail to: Karen Lachenmayer
412 Dartmoor Road
Schwenksville, PA 19473
Phone: 610-715-4850
E-Mail: karenlachenmayer@gmail.com

Name: _____

(Please Print)

QTY

Lily	_____	@ \$11.50	=	_____
Daffodil	_____	@ \$8.50	=	_____
Tulip	_____	@ \$4.50	=	_____
Order Total	_____			_____

Check One:

I will take my flowers AFTER the Easter Service

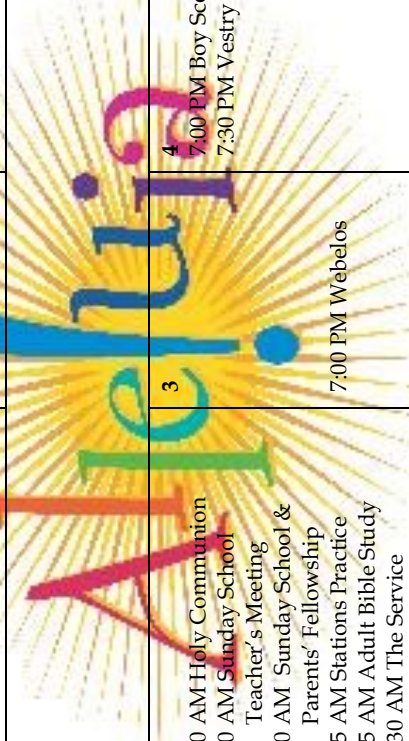
Please distribute my flowers to others

I would like the bulletin acknowledgement to read:

(PLEASE PRINT)

2017 Vestry Members

Vestry Members	Special Area	Home Phone	E-mail Address
Gary Wessner	<i>President</i>	610-454-0106	gtwess@comcast.net
Richard Allebach	<i>Vice President</i>	610-948-3488	dallebach@verizon.net
Brian O'Hara	<i>Secretary/Worship & Music</i>	610-489-0417	brian.ohara24@gmail.com
Janice Reiff	<i>Treasurer</i>	610-385-7493	janicetreiff@gmail.com
Frank DePaul	<i>Property</i>	215-669-0677	fvdp52@gmail.com
Jeanne Funk	<i>Comm. & Tech.</i>	610-792-3830	jfunk@kpinterface.com
John Kochel	<i>Outreach/Mutual Min.</i>	484-945-0100	John.Kochel@thrivent.com
Janet Stokes	<i>Parish Life</i>	610-948-8554	sjastokes@aol.com
Deb Augustine	<i>Christian Education</i>	610-489-3869	AnnieWebb@verizon.net
Bob Rodenberger	<i>Trust Fund Treasurer</i>	610-489-3280	r.rodenberger7@gmail.com
Jack Schatz	<i>Old Church</i>	610-489-3176	
Karl Stefan	<i>Cemetery/Mutual Ministry</i>	610-454-0373	kssurf@verizon.net

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
2 8:00 AM Holy Communion 8:30 AM Sunday School Teacher's Meeting 9:00 AM Sunday School & Parents' Fellowship 9:15 AM Stations Practice 9:15 AM Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM The Service	3 7:00 PM Webelos	4 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:30 PM Vestry Mtg	5 9:30 AM Quilting Group 6:00 PM 3-in-1 Confirmation Classes – Stations Dress Rehearsal 6:00 PM Sr. Youth Group 7:30 PM Community Lenten Service @ Trinity Reformed UCC	6 6:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Vocal Choir	7 3:00 PM Card Party Set Up 7:00 PM Cubs Committee Meeting	8 9:00 AM Card Party 9:00 AM Sr. Youth Easter Candy Making
9 PALM SUNDAY 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:00 AM Sunday School & Parents' Fellowship/Palm Sunday Brunch 9:15 AM Stations Practice 9:15 AM Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM Holy Communion 11:30 AM Thelma Hess's Birthday Party EASTER CANDY PICK UP	10	11 9:00 AM MOPS Planning Meeting 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Community Club	12 9:30 AM Soup Kitchen Outreach	13 7:30 PM Maundy Thursday Service	14 12:00 noon: Office Closes 12:00 noon: Good Friday Service 7:00 PM: Stations of the Cross Service	15
16 EASTER DAY! 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:00 AM Sunday School & Parents' Fellowship 9:15 AM Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM Holy Communion First Holy Communion	17 OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 PM Webelos 7:00 PM BS District Meeting	18 9:30 AM Quilting Group 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Committee Night 7:00 PM BS Committee Meeting	19 8:30 AM MOPS 6:00 PM 3-in-1 Confirmation Classes	20 6:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Vocal Choir	21 7:00 PM Cubs Pack Meeting	22
23 YOUTH SUNDAY 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:00 AM Sunday School & Parents' Fellowship 9:15 AM Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM Holy Communion Youth Sunday	24	25 9:00 AM MOPS Steering Committee 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	26 6:00 PM 3-in-1 Confirmation Classes	27 6:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Vocal Choir	28	29 2:00 PM Craft Fair 4:00 PM Turkey Dinner
30 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:00 AM Sunday School & Parents' Fellowship 9:15 AM Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM Holy Communion Sunday School Singing						

