

AUGUSTINIAN

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

MARCH 2017

Augustus
Lutheran
Church



St. Paul writes:

For one believes with the heart and so is justified,
and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ...

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed?

And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard?

And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ...

So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

(Romans 10)

In writing to the Christian congregation in Rome, St. Paul teaches that faith does not develop in a vacuum. Faith comes from hearing the Good News of Jesus Christ. Lutherans say that, "God uses *means*;" i.e., God uses earthly instruments to accomplish his goals. In this case, St. Paul is telling the church that God uses the human voice to proclaim the Word of God and that experience creates faith in others.

Given that is the way God has chosen to work, it is at worship that God's Word is heard. In our society, God's Word is heard in few other places. Therefore, it is necessary for Christians to make worship an essential part of every week.

Making excuses for missing worship is not new, however. In 2017 we have many reasons why we are too busy to be at worship, but this is nothing new. In the early 1500s, Martin Luther dealt with the same situation. In his sermon on John 15, Luther laments, "But as it happens, most people live under the illusion that it is unnecessary to be and remain in Christ." So many fool themselves, thinking they can be Christian while living detached from [Christ]. They are not hearing God's preached Word. They are not receiving the blessed Sacrament. Cut off from the [Christ], there is no life—only death."

Luther continues, "[God] ... has a stronger and more forceful language and voice than the world and the devil. He will outshout them and compel them to let us be with Christ and remain His true and fruitful Vine branches." And so, during our earthly life, Luther says, "We must see to it that we are always found in Christ, that is, that we hold to His Word and let nothing tear us away from it."

So what are you doing next Sunday?

See you in church.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Weleck



P.S. The Ash Wednesday service on March 1 will begin at 7:00 PM. Please note the earlier start time.

Anyone who is to find Christ must first find the church. How could anyone know where Christ is and what faith is in him unless he knew where his believers are?

Martin Luther



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.

Collegeville/Trappe Ministerium Community Lenten Service Schedule 2017 Wednesdays at 7:30 pm “Prayer”

Mar. 8—*What is Prayer?*

Trinity United Church of Christ, 532 E Main St, Collegeville, PA 19426

Mar. 15—*Lectio Divina Method of Prayer*

Evansburg United Methodist, 3871 Germantown Pike, Collegeville, PA 19426

Mar. 22—*Ignatian Method of Prayer*

St. James Episcopal Church, 3768 Germantown Pike, Collegeville, PA 19426

Mar. 29—*Contemplative and Meditative Practices Using Our Senses*

St. Luke’s United Church (or LPBC), 200 W Main St, Trappe, PA 19426

Apr. 5—*Praying with Icons, Figurines and Pictures*

Trinity United Church of Christ, 532 E Main St, Collegeville, PA 19426



Ash Wednesday

There will be an Ash Wednesday Service on Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at Augustus Church beginning at 7:00 PM. Please note the change in time from previous years!

Vestry Contacts 2017

Vestry Members	Special Area	Home Phone	E-mail Address
Gary Wessner	<i>President/Property</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
Cynthia Snyder	<i>Treasurer/Mutual Ministry</i>	610-409-8333	yosua@aol.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
Janice Reiff	<i>Parish Life</i>	610-385-7493	janicetreiff@gmail.com
Janet Stokes	<i>Parish Life</i>	610-948-8554	sjastokes@aol.com
Deb Augustine	<i>Christian Education</i>	610-489-3869	Anniedwebb@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

Sympathy and Prayers

Sympathy and Prayers are offered to the family of Mr. Stanley Hedrick, recently deceased. May God grant eternal rest to Stanley, and comfort to his family during this difficult time.

Sharing God's Bounty

Do Not Be Afraid!

"A young man dressed in a white robe . . . said, 'You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter . . .'" (Mark 16:5-7).

"Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid" (Mark 16:8).

Who wouldn't tremble and be afraid! You go to anoint a body to prepare it for a proper burial, but the body is missing. Then some ethereal creature tells you the body isn't there because it is no longer dead but alive. Who could take it in? *"Don't be alarmed"* the man in white said. Yeah, right!

Yet, looking back, perhaps the women remembered the thousands he had fed with only two fish and five loaves of bread (Matthew 14:15-21). Maybe they thought again about the raising of Lazarus from the dead (John 11:38-44). After all, he was the one who had stilled the raging sea (Mark 4:35-41).

Somewhere, sometime, that trembling and bewilderment turned to joy and faith, for they did go tell his disciples and Peter (Matthew 28:8). And Jesus met them and greeted them, and they worshipped him. "Then Jesus said to them, *'Do not be afraid. Go and tell My brothers . . .'*" (Matthew 28:9-10).

Jesus' last command is the same as this one: Don't be afraid. Go and tell. We can understand the fear of the women at the empty tomb. What are we afraid of? Trouble? Or hardship? Persecution? Or famine? Nakedness? Or danger? Or sword? There is no fear in these things! *"No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us"* (Romans 8:35, 37). We have the benefit of history. The women at the tomb couldn't fathom the outcome, but we have God's Word that assures us of our victory in Christ. We have his promise, *"And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age"* (Matthew 28:20). So don't be afraid! Go and tell!

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! **Alleluia!**



Ask yourself: Do you ever find time for the work of God? There is a wide choice of things which you can do for God and neighbor, in and through your church community - if you have the good will. With goodwill you also will find the necessary time for such projects, even though you may have to cut and pare in other directions.

New in the choir room: I have started a music theory for sight singing class, which meets in the choir room on Mondays from 1-2 pm. If you would like to be able to make more sense of the black dots (notes!) on the page, I invite you to join our small group.

In March, we begin the season of Lent. The word "Lent" (from the Old English word "lencten") refers to the lengthening of daylight hours that occurs in the northern hemisphere as spring approaches. At Augustus, we will worship on Ash Wednesday (March 1) at 7:00 pm.

The season of Lent is the perfect time for us to reflect on the portion of our liturgy known as the Agnus Dei (AHN-yoos DEH-ee), which means "Lamb of God." The following is from the website <http://www.lcms.org/page.aspx?pid=1116>

In the Revelation to St. John, John sees a scroll in the right hand of the One who was sitting on the throne. A "strong angel" challenges, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" Then the Lamb comes into view. Undoubtedly the most significant feature of this Lamb is that it appears to have been slain.

When we sing the Agnus Dei, "Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us," we are preaching and praying all at once. With these very words, John the Baptist pointed his disciples to Jesus (John 1:29, 36). As we prepare to feast on the Lamb of our salvation, we proclaim him who gave his life for us. Here is the Lamb of God! Yet we also pray to him who is now present in his body and blood. We pray for mercy from the One who showed the true depths of mercy and compassion as he was silently led to slaughter, dying like a lamb shorn of all its honor.

[Later in Revelation,] we hear [John's] description of the saints in white robes. "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb" (Rev. 7:13-14). This is the blood of our redemption...foreshadowed at the first Passover when the blood of the year-old lambs was sprinkled on the doorpost.... In his Easter hymn, Martin Luther applies that incident to us: "See, his blood now marks our door; Faith points to it; Death passes o'er, And Satan cannot harm us."

So it is at every celebration of the Lord's Supper. The blood of the Lamb is poured out for our drinking and his flesh for our eating. Clearly, God's mercy is shown, and his peace rests on us.

Thanks be to God for his mercy on us. Peace be with you this Lenten season.

Augustus Book Club

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

The German Boy: A Child in War
by Wolfgang W. E. Samuel

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!



Senior Youth Group News:

There was no update in the February Augustinian, so here is a bit of a 'catch up'.

SOUP SALES ARE BACK!! Yes, for January, February and March, we will be selling homemade soup the third Sunday of each month. January was our best ever! One more chance... March 19th - \$4.00/pint, many great varieties!

The Youth Group hosted the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on February 28th. This event is always well attended, and for the first time in two years, we didn't need to reschedule due to snow. Great food and greater fellowship...We appreciate your generosity with the free-will donations to support our service projects!

The Youth Group will be participating in the Box City event at St. James Lutheran Church in Limerick April 1-2 to bring awareness to homelessness in our area. We will be building 'houses' out of boxes and sleeping in them in the church parking lot. A soup kitchen style dinner is served in the evening, followed by activities which are designed to teach the participants about homelessness and what can be done to help combat this issue. There is also some fun - a rousing game of dodgeball, games and a concert by a Christian rock band! This year promises to be bigger than ever as they have extended the invitation to the entire Synod! Come by St. James the evening of April 1 and see an amazing 'city' built by our youth!

The 4th Annual One Dream Mission Team Golf Outing is SET!

June 9, 2017 at Butter Valley Golf Port in Barto PA.

12:00pm registration, 1:00pm shotgun start.

This is the biggest fundraiser of the year for our Mission Trip.

Stay tuned for more information and put your foursome together!

March *Worship Assistants*

Altar Servers:	Acolyte	Crucifer	Torch Bearers
March 5	Ally Napier	Kevin Beattie	
March 12	Jennifer Beattie	Dylan Crothers	
March 19	Ben Richvalsky	Daniel Reiser	
March 26	Sarah Interante	Ashley Tighe	
Readers	8:00 am	10:30 am Lector	10:30 am Prayers
March 1—Ash Wednesday	7:00 PM	Donna Beishl	Barbara Burch
March 5	Mike Van Blaricum	James Lien	James Lorah
March 12	Earl Catagnus, Jr.	Jonathan Mueller	Sean McClain
March 19	Jeff Stuffle	Jennifer Wentworth	Alan Shunk
March 26	Mildred Stuffle	Sunday School Students	
Communion Assistants	8:00 am: Debra Augustine		
March 1—Ash Wednesday	Janice Reiff and Bob Rodenberger		
March 5	John Kochel and David Schweitzer		
March 12	Janice Reiff and Bob Rodenberger		
March 19	Barbara Burch and Janice Reiff		
March 26	Jeanne Funk and Brian Funk		
Ushers			
March	Frank Depaul, Ed Funk, Joe Cooney, and Dick Allebach		
Offering Tabulation			
March	Debra Augustine, Karl Stefan, and Jeanne Funk		
Altar Guild			
March	8:00 am: Sally Sweeney & Debra Augustine		
March	10:30 am: Donna and Joe Cooney		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March Birthdays			1 Samantha Bouche David Garton	2 Brianna Dubeck Eric Lehman Ali Serapillio	3 Bradley Robinson Alec Tantillo Jeremy Wentworth	4 Kellie Booth Anthony Demark Gregory Heck Robert Price
5 Stephen Hess Betsy Lewis Chris Pearson	6 Reed Hacker Elizabeth Massare Jack Schatz	7 Kirsten Pearson Nicole Sellman Wendy Weaver	8 Joshua Lucas Thomas Lyaro	9 Arthur Carucci Warren Weleck	10 Michael McCrea	11 James Bubeck Christopher DeCarlo Chris Dogonniuck Cole Leigl Jennifer Niskala Christine Yocum Frank Yocum
12 Richard Atherholt Shane Elison	13 Michael Beattie Juanita Wagner Lora Wentworth	14 Shawn Gerhard Katherine Heck Patrick North Beth Williams	15 David Lehman Jeffrey Lucas Matthew McCloskey Liam Noonan Griffin Schmitt Karl Stefan	16 Samuel Giraldi Jill Hynes Heather McDaniel John Moorehead Emma Trauger	17 Robert Rodenberger	18 Alison Minkon Erin Moore James Watro John Wentworth III
19	20	21 Ed Funk Jr. Roland Olsen Jennifer Tantillo	22 Olivia Shaffer Jackson Wagenseller	23 Stephen Hynes Tessa Tucker	24 Riley Clelland Aidan Kellner	25 Eric Bowe Kevin Whitman
26 Kimberly Hergenhan Renata Markert Steven Matzke Tyler Schindler Abigail Schwirian	27 Zachary Halteman Ryan Pearson	28 Andrea Halteman	29 Tracey Richvasky Lea Robinson David Ryan Guy Van Alstine Michael Wentworth	30 Deborah Interrante Sally Lorah Diane Mills	31 Jason Griggs Craig Slaybaugh	



Sign of the Cross

What is the history and meaning of the “Sign of the Cross?”

Making the sign of the cross was a very early devotion in the Christian Church, dating from at least the time of Tertullian (A.D. 200). From earliest times, the sign of the cross was used in connection with Baptism and its remembrance. The sign of the cross symbolizes many things:

- that we worship the Triune God;
- that we are redeemed by Christ who died on a cross; and
- that in Baptism, we are “marked with the cross of Christ forever.”

In making the sign of the cross, we affirm and proclaim who we are and to whom we belong.

Luther, in the *Small Catechism*, directs that our morning and evening prayers begin with the sign of the cross. *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* places a red cross (+) where the sign of the cross may be made. These places include:

- at the invocation, when we remember that we are baptized;
- at the absolution (forgiveness), when, because of our Baptism, God forgives our sins; and
- at the benediction (blessing), when God’s baptized people receive God’s blessing.

The sign of the cross is made by drawing the right hand from forehead to breast, and then from left shoulder to right shoulder, returning to the center afterwards. A mention of God the Holy Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit), usually accompanies the action in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

FACES OF THE REFORMATION

JUSTUS JONAS

Born: June 5, 1493 | Nordhausen, Germany

Died: Oct. 9, 1555 | Eisfeld, Germany



REFORMATION
2017 It's Still All About
Jesus

LutheranReformation.org

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Faithful teacher of God's Word and Martin Luther's closest friend

A TEACHER OF GOD'S WORD: this was the life's work of Justus Jonas. He is not famous for prolific writing, nor does history remember him as a great leader, swaying the masses. He was, instead, Martin Luther's closest friend and colleague. He shared Luther's fiery personality and possessed a strong command of Greek, Hebrew and Latin. His translation skills and ability to think theologically made him a unique combination of Luther and Philipp Melanchthon.

While teaching at the University of Erfurt (1519–1521), Jonas began to correspond with Luther through a mutual friend, John Lange. Lange followed Luther while Jonas was a devotee of Erasmus of Rotterdam, the great Humanist philosopher. At the beginning of the Reformation, the two sides were in agreement that the church needed to be reformed. Erasmus was more interested in a gradual reform focused on changing the atmosphere of moral decay in the church, while Luther was adamant that the focus be centered on the immediate need to preach the Gospel in its purity. Jonas was won over by Luther's theology, much to Erasmus' consternation at having lost such an able disciple.

Jonas literally began to follow Luther as the reformer traveled through Erfurt on his way to the Diet of Worms in 1521. Frederick the Wise had suggested that Jonas, who held a doctorate in canon and civil law, might be a good counselor for Luther at Worms.

Shortly after the Diet ended, Jonas left the University of Erfurt to join the faculty at the University of Wittenberg, but he was hired as a teacher of law. In a letter to Frederick the Wise, he asked to be relieved of these duties to be free instead to teach God's Word at the university. The Gospel had fully captivated his heart and mind and it could belong to no other discipline. A few months later, Jonas was granted a doctorate in theology.

Jonas shared Luther's strong resolve and steadied Melanchthon in Luther's absence at the Diet of Augsburg, as well as during Luther's exile at the Wartburg. These three men were close both professionally and personally, but it was Jonas who was Luther's closest companion. He was at Luther's side when he stood up to the Emperor at Worms, he was one of the few witnesses to Luther's marriage, and he was at Luther's bedside as the reformer took his last breath in 1546.

The framework of the church underwent a seismic shift because of the Reformation. Both bread and wine were now given at Communion. Priests could marry. Parishes were no longer dependent on the hierarchy of the Catholic Church. Jonas' abilities to organize and think logically about these and other reforms, along with his gifted preaching and teaching skills, were used mightily by God to assist churches during this time of transition. His dedication to the cause of the Reformation never wavered — even when he was forced to become a wandering preacher from 1546 until his death in 1555 — because of Jonas' faithfulness to the gracious Christ rediscovered by Luther in the Holy Bible.

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
ConcordiaHistoricalInstitute.org

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 will be held on Saturday April 29, 2017 from 2:00pm to 7:00pm. This benefit fundraiser will be supporting three ministries this year in Tanzania. For one, this fundraiser will be supporting the Irete Children’s Home, a ministry of the North Eastern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania. This home cares for babies and toddlers 0-2 years who have lost their parents or whose families are too destitute to raise them. The second ministry that this fundraiser will be supporting is for Dr. Stephen and Jodi Lynn Swanson, ELCA Missionaries serving at the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center and Selian Lutheran Hospital in Arusha. The third ministry that this fundraiser will be supporting is the Sebastian Kolowa Memorial University (SEKOMU) in the North Eastern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, our companion diocese. In September, 2016, the diocese’s university SEKOMU was tragically attacked and significant damage was done to the property. The university is looking for donations to help rebuild & put in a security system to protect the students, faculty and staff of the school in the future.



The cost of the dinner or the rental of vendor space/table have not increased over last year’s prices. The cost for the dinner remains at \$12.00 for adults, \$6.00 for children 3 to 10 years of age and is “free” for children under 3 years of age. For information on 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. Thank you, Trish!

AGAIN THIS YEAR WILL BE A SILENT AUCTION. 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, we will accept donated items that can be supplemented. Can you imagine if each family (or committee) donated a basket, the money we could raise? Please consider it, and 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. Look for more details to follow.



VOLUNTEERS ARE NOW NEEDED. Over 100 volunteers are needed to run this special event, and your willingness to help will be greatly appreciated. Needed are cooks, bakers, hostesses, servers, waitresses, bus people, dishwashers, ticket sales people, people to set-up, people to clean-up, musicians, etc. We need people to work Wednesday night April 26, Thursday night April 27, Friday April 28, and/or Saturday, April 29. You can work 1 hour or all day. The more people that get involved, the easier it is for everyone, and it is a great way to meet other members of the church. We need everyone to support this important church event if it is to continue.

We need volunteers to sing or play Dinner Music during the Turkey Dinner between 4PM & 7PM on Saturday. “LIVE” DINNER MUSIC from previous years has been a very nice accompaniment to the meal. If you can play an instrument or sing a variety of songs for a period of approximately 30 minutes (depending on the number of people who volunteer) and would be willing to do so, please contact Dale O’Hara @ 610-489-0417 or see her in church. A sign-up sheet will also be available in the breezeway soon. Thanks in advance for your willingness to serve!!!

We need volunteers to help with the craft & vendor portion of this event, and also with the silent auction. Trish Reiser has graciously accepted to chair the craft & vendor portion, but she will need help. Trish can be reached at 610-587-9123 or TrishReiser@Verizon.net. Mildred Stuffle has accepted to chair the silent auction. If you would like to help with the silent auction, Mildred can be reached at jandmstuffle@verizon.net or 610-489-7461.

SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR ALL JOBS will soon be available in the breezeway for your convenience, or you may contact Dale O’Hara @ 610-489-0417 or oharadvd@aol.com to express your willingness to serve your church. Sign-up early for that job which suites you best. Don’t wait for that personal contact.

TICKET SALES for the Spring Turkey Dinner will begin early April. Please look for that designated person before or after Sunday Church Services, or you may call the Church Office to reserve your tickets. REMEMBER! THIS DINNER HAS ALREADY SOLD OUT, so don’t wait until the last minute. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door. Tickets that are reserved and not paid for, will only be held until 6:00P.M. on the day of the Turkey Dinner. The best seating (with no waiting) is at 4:00P.M. So please, GET YOUR TICKETS EARLY AND AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!!

Please mark your calendar now & plan to attend. If you would like to get involved in the planning or organizing of this event, please contact Dale O’Hara at 610-489-0417. Your help is very much appreciated.

SEPA Women/ELCA Upper Montgomery Conference First Tuesday Bible Study will be held on Tuesday March 7, 2017, at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church in Pennsburg, PA. Coffee & treats begin at 9:30am and the Bible study begins at 10:00am. In March the topic is “Heirs of the Promise” taken from Galatians 3:24–4:31. This study is about Christian faith and freedom. For Paul, Jesus Christ is both the cause and the center of the Christian family. In Christ we become daughters and sons of God. Kitty Pell is the study leader. Bring your Bibles and your March 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.

Tenth Triennial Gathering of Women/ELCA in Minneapolis, Minnesota, from July 13 – 16, 2017, is now open for registration. 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. During this time as one of their projects, ladies make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Currently, the committee is in need of any color embroidery floss for their quilts, esp. needed are the colors blue & red. If you would like to make a donation, please label your donation and place in the lower narthex of the church. Thank you in advance! This is a wonderful committee coming together to help those people in need. In March the workshop will meet on March 1 and March 21. New members are always welcome. For more information, please contact Mildred Stuffle at 610-489-7461 or jandmstuffle@verizon.net.

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

- Mar 1: Ash Wednesday / Hearts and Hands Workshop 9:30am
 7: Upper Montg Conference Bible Study @ St. Mark's LC, Pennsburg – 9:30am
 Topic: "Heirs of the Promise" Galatians 3:24-4:31
 Study Leader: Kitty Pell
 21: Hearts and Hands Workshop 9:30am
 28: Augustus' Committee Night in the Chapel 7:00pm
- 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

Dale O'Hara

**SMARTPHONE
& CELL PHONE
COLLECTION**



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Augustus Lutheran Church
Women of the ELCA

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SMARTPHONE RECYCLING.com 800-203-1506
Smartphonerecycling.com

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.

Augustus Lutheran Church Spring Turkey Dinner and Craft and Vendor Fair

Crafters and vendors have always added a unique touch to our spring turkey dinner fundraiser, making the afternoon an event rather than a mere dinner. The Craft and Vendor Fair will take place on Saturday, April 29th, outdoors along the sidewalks of our beautiful campus from 3:00pm until 7:00pm. If the weather does not cooperate, we will arrange to have tables and spaces inside the Parish House.

We are interested in crafters and vendors who make and/or sell items such as skin care, jewelry, soap, candles, cakes, specialty candies and desserts, floral designs, furniture, quilts, or other unique objects. 8' spaces are \$20 and 8' tables are \$25 – All proceeds benefit Dr. and Mrs. Swanson (missionaries in Tanzania), The Irete Children's Home in Tanzania and Sebastian Kolowa Memorial University in Tanzania.

We will be advertising for public vendors, but wanted to invite our congregational family first, so please contact Trish Reiser at trishreiser@verizon.net to reserve your spot today! See a letter about the Swanson family at the end of the bulletin this week (ELCA Global Church Sponsorship). What a wonderful cause!



ELCA Global Church Sponsorship



Missionaries • Young Adults in Global Mission • International Leaders • Global Ministries

“How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!” Psalm 133:1

Dear Rev. Weleck and Augustus Lutheran Church,

There I was. I had never been in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) before, and I certainly never imagined having my first visit to the NICU be while I was visiting some of our ELCA missionaries at Arusha Lutheran Medical Center in Arusha, Tanzania. But it didn't take long for me to see God's work in action.

The buzz of activity in this rather small but technologically advanced room reminded me of hospital dramas on television. One moment, Dr. Swanson would go to check on one of the baby patients noticing something wasn't right, and order the correct treatment. The next moment he would examine a baby and call over the interns, residents and other students there learning to perfect their crafts to teach them about the treatment or illness that this baby had. I kept thinking to myself, “This guy is a hero. I'm witnessing him save lives right now.” And while Dr. Swanson would never accept such a title, I can honestly say that his work and vocation is making a significant impact on lives each and every day, and his call to this work is so very important to so many people.



Dr. Swanson examining one of the triplets born prematurely the previous day

Later that day, I traveled a few miles down the road to Selian Lutheran Hospital, where Dr. Swanson spends most of his time. Selian is the public hospital in town, run in conjunction between the Tanzanian government and the Lutheran Church. The contrast between the fee-for-service Arusha Lutheran Medical Center, (where I was earlier that day) and Selian Lutheran Hospital was stark. The government has been behind in sending the supplies the hospital needs, and there is only a limited capacity for patients. When I asked Dr. Swanson what he does during his breaks or days off, he replied “Go out and buy diapers or food for the patients.” Despite the challenges, the hospital is providing life-saving services to many people in need.

Earlier this past year, Jodi organized with some staff at Selian to begin a nutrition program for mothers and their children. Each Friday, children previously admitted to the hospital for severe malnutrition return for a follow-up of their weight and growth and are given supplemental therapeutic food. A model garden has been planted and the mothers receiving ongoing nutritional education. There is an abundance of good happening in Arusha through the hands of Steve and Jodi. Their tireless work is making an impact on God's children across Tanzania and across the world. It is only because of your generous gifts in support of their work that the church can be present in these ways.



Jodi Swanson discussing the nutrition program with a friend and colleague

We are so thankful for your gifts of prayer, financial support and willingness to walk alongside Steve, Jodi and their family as they lend their hands to God's work. None of God's work being done would happen without your generous financial gifts. I ask that you continue to lift up Steve and Jodi in prayer and financial support this year, and even possibly increase your support so their work can continue.

Thank you for your gifts that make this life-saving, life-giving work possible.

In God's peace,

Andrew G. Steele
Director, ELCA Global Church Sponsorship

P.S. Did you see Dr. Steve was featured in a nationally televised Walgreens commercial? Check it out here:
www.walgreens.com/pharmacy/immunization/shot_at_life.jsp

<http://www.kare11.com/news/rare-illness-strikes-mn-missionary-family/342391610>—Article about Swanson Family!~



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**

March 7 Kitty Pell, Study Leader	<i>Heirs of the promise Galatians 3:24-4:31</i>	St. Mark Lutheran Church 81 N. Main St. Pennsburg
April 4 Barbara Lisi, Study Leader	<i>For freedom Christ has set us free Galatians 5:1-6:18</i>	St. James Lutheran Church Kugler Rd., & Swamp Pike Limerick
May 2 Jean John, Study Leader		Augustus Lutheran Church 717 W. Main St. Trappe, PA

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.

Christian Parenting

The Age of the Believer



Children in the first through third grades are enthusiastic and eager, creative and curious. They're ready to learn. This zest for learning applies to their religion, too. This stage of life is sometimes called "the age of the believer." Church educators consider it to be one of the prime times for teaching students how to use the Bible, introducing them to church liturgies and rituals, and encouraging their participation in worship and other church functions.

As parents and caregivers, we can assist in this faith growth spurt by continuing to teach and reinforce their faith at home and by making every effort to see that they are able to attend Sunday school, worship, and other church activities. Positive experiences within their church family promote affirmative attitudes toward God and faith. They foster a sense of belonging to God and to the Christian community. This identity and these attitudes are important vehicles for the future growth of our children's faith.

From Family Newsletters on Disk, copyright 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Money Matters

Personal Financial Stewardship

God Blesses Us for our Giving

By faith, we understand that the best investment we can make with our money is investing or giving it to God. Throughout Scripture, when a command to give is stated, along with that command is a reference to the blessings that the giver will enjoy. These blessings come in many forms. For example in Proverbs 11:25, "*A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.*" In Proverbs 19:17 Solomon tells us: "*He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and [God] will reward him for what he has done.*" God has ordained that, when we give generously, we receive generously.



As Christians, we should give without expectation of receiving anything in return. However, our gracious God, who loves us so much, thrills to bless us. He has put within us the joy of giving and finding reward in another's pleasure.

Through Malachi, the Lord offers a double blessing to those who will be obedient in bringing their tithes to the temple. He promises to reward them materially through plentiful harvests. He promises that, if they will honor him with their tithes, he will prosper them beyond their dreams. Their crops will produce abundantly, and none of their fruit will spoil on the vine. The second part of the blessing is that surrounding nations will see this and realize the special protection that God gives them. "*Test me in this,*" God said. Are you willing to test God with your earnings? Are you willing to bring your tithes to your church before you pay your bills? Are you worried about the mortgage, the clothes, the groceries, and the transportation? Jesus said, "*. . . do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear . . . your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well*" (Matthew 6:25, 32-33). Test him! "*Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly and whoever sows generously will also reap generously*" (2 Corinthians 9:6). Are you willing to sow generously? You are free to sow generously and then to receive God's promise that you will also reap generously. "*Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you*" (Luke 6:38). It is inevitable that, when you give, you will receive, for that is the way our giving heavenly Father has planned it. "*Be careful not to do your acts of righteousness before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do . . . to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full*" (Matthew 6:1-2). God pours out spiritual blessings on us when we least expect them. When you are giving out of a desire to obey God's command and to help others, you will find blessings heaped up and running over. These are blessings not understood by those outside the faith.

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

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

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

COMMEMORATING THE
300th ANNIVERSARY OF TRAPPE
WITH ADDITIONAL ATTRACTIONS!

Augustus Lutheran Church
1937

ad design: Brian O'Hara © 2017

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Lent is upon us! I am always heartened by the fact that the word “lent” comes from the “lengthening” of days that points to spring. When spring comes to Pennsylvania—it is spectacular!

In Sunday school we learn that Lent is a time when we think about how we can be more like Jesus. We will be strengthened in this journey with extra prayer from our prayer pals. Prayer pals are Augustinians who are not involved in Sunday school, but who have taken the opportunity to fulfill the promise they’ve made during many baptisms when the Pastor asked “People of God, do you promise to support [this child] and pray for them in their new life in Christ?” and they answered “We do!” Serving as a prayer pal during Lent is a perfect way to fulfill that promise. We will also receive Lent boxes to collect money for the needy during Lent—remembering to be thankful for our blessings and that we are blessed so that we may bless others.



Our confirmation students will be especially busy this Lent—as they are every Lent—preparing for their presentation of the Stations of the Cross. If you’ve known a middle schooler, you know that sitting still and taking notes during a long lecture is probably not their strong suit. Everyone has a different learning style, but middle schoolers are particularly responsive to kinesthetic learning. This is learning by doing, by getting the body involved (see <http://www.learningstyles.org/styles/kinesthetic.html>). Athletes are often kinesthetic learners, and they practice their skills over and over again until they know everything about

their sport without thinking—they know it with their whole body. Our 3-in-1 students act out the Stations of the Cross for the three years that they are in the confirmation process, and when they confirm their baptisms they will know the story of Christ’s passion and what it means to them personally. It’s a wonderful tradition at Augustus that has been handed down for generations. Debra Augustine will once again take charge of our preparation this year, and will hopefully be able to then retire after many years of faithful service.

Grace & peace,

Sonya Sowards



THANK YOU

SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS AND FAMILIES!

Thanks so much for the wonderful assortment of baby items for our clients. We are so grateful for your assistance!

In this ministry we have the privilege of seeing miracles happen. On behalf of families in the midst of a crisis pregnancy, I want to thank you for your generosity in giving. You are part of a miracle in action!

Blessings to all!
Dianne Pomon, Director
Genesis Pregnancy Care Center



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

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

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**



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 Fundraisers so we can make this trip possible for all our youth!

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

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

