



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

“Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field’” (Matthew 9:35-38).

Jesus knew that the people needed a shepherd. He was determined to rescue as many as possible. Jesus said to his disciples, as he speaks to us, “Ask the Lord of harvest . . . to send out workers into his harvest field.” It is God’s will that all people come to salvation (2 Peter 3:9). The harvest field belongs to the Lord, and God will see that the people needed for the harvest will be available.

God invites all of us to be his workers in the harvest field. He doesn’t need us, but he gives us the privilege to be involved in this very important work. In his sovereignty, God has called and chosen to work through us. What we can offer is our time and our talents. In Christ, we can do work that will be blessed into eternity. We begin this all-important work by asking or praying for a successful harvest with many workers being sent into the harvest field. Because of our prayers, he will provide the workers who are needed.



As we pray for God’s work to be accomplished through workers in the field, we are, in essence, allowing him to make us the answers to our own prayers. God will find ways to use our gifts in ways that will touch others. We are encouraged to pray for God’s work to be done, and to be involved in doing this work personally. God will give us the strength to overcome the excuses that often plague us such as I don’t have the time or I’m not equipped. As Paul wrote, “I can do everything through him who gives me strength” (Philippians 4:13).

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Weleck

2017 Vestry Members

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

It's been an exciting summer at Augustus in the music department!

Our seven cases of handbells were refurbished by Al Paul at Schulmerich last month. They are back, shiny and beautiful-sounding! Thank you to Agnes Holden for the donation that made it possible, and to Bob Rodenberger for writing the checks.

Our Summer Music program for children has begun with almost 20 children. Nearly all are from Augustus this year. The children are learning to play xylophones, tone chimes, and drums in order to lead worship on **Sunday, September 17, at 10:30.**

On **Saturday, August 12**, we are holding our annual **Senior Choir Workshop**, in order to start learning music for the fall (and maybe Christmas). If you are a good choral singer, or you know someone who is - plan to join us at 9:30 am in the Chapel. This is a great way to try it out and meet our hearty crew!

The choir will sing in church for the first time this fall on **Sunday, September 10 in the Old Church (10:30 am)**. Be there to surround yourself in our history and the wonderful acoustic of the Old Church as the choir returns.

This fall, there are some extra celebrations due to the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation and the 300th Anniversary of Trappe. On **October 27, 28, and probably 29**, a German Theatre company is coming to Augustus to present an original play "In God's Own Country," which tells about Muhlenberg's arrival here in story and song. I found two videos on YouTube that show this company and (the German language version of) the play. You can find them at <https://goo.gl/5uJzs2> and <https://goo.gl/rdW42H>.

Then on **Saturday, November 4**, there will be a service celebrating the 300th Anniversary of Trappe in **Augustus' Old Church**. This brief service will include a combined choir from our Ministerium Churches. Watch for updates on the time; I believe it will be at 1:00 pm.

Our Annual Christmas Concert will be on **Saturday, December 16 at 3:00 pm**. I am hoping the new breezeway fellowship space and elevator will be finished enough that we can have hot chocolate, milk and cookies, and pictures with Santa starting at 2:00 pm and then the family-friendly concert beginning at 3:00.

If you or someone you know is interested in singing with our choir or ringing with our handbell choir, please let me know. God's blessings on the remainder of your summer!

~Laurie Mueller music@augustustrappe.org



*Some of our
Beautifully Refurbished
Handbells*

Money Matters

Personal Financial Stewardship

Are You Saving Enough for Retirement?

From the wisdom of Solomon, God shows us the wisdom of ants that save their provisions (Proverbs 6:6). With our anemic personal savings rate in this country of approximately 1.5 percent, we may be showing less wisdom than the ants. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that, in twenty years, there will be a \$45 billion retirement income shortfall. Four out of five Americans do not have enough retirement savings.

One of our top financial goals should be a comfortable retirement. To live comfortably during retirement, we can project that we will need about 80-90 of our pre-retirement income. This income will come from Social Security, pensions, and private savings. For most people Social Security benefits will provide approximately one-third of their retirement needs. If you subtract your expected social security benefits from our desired annual retirement income, the result will be the annual income gap that will have to be covered by your pension income or savings.



Desired Annual Retirement Income:

\$50,000
75,000

Annual Social Security Benefits

\$12,500
15,000

Annual Income Gap

\$37,500
60,000

One of the greatest obstacles to a savings program for retirement is procrastination!



makes it grow" (Proverbs 13:11). However, if we wait till we are in our 40's, our saving rate will have to increase to 30 percent or more.

We fall into the trap of telling ourselves that retirement is a long way off, so we will start saving next month. The problem is that next month never comes. Procrastination is detrimental, because it eats up the time that money can be put to work for us.

As a general rule of thumb, if we start saving for retirement in our early 20's, we can set aside close to 10 percent of our incomes and have sufficient funds for retirement. As Solomon wrote, ". . . *he who gathers money little by little*

August *Worship Assistants*



Altar Servers: 9:30 am	Acolyte	Crucifer	Torch Bearers
August 6			
August 13			
August 20			
August 27	Ben Richvalsky		
Readers	8:00 am	9:30 am Lector	9:30 am Prayers
August 6	Karl Stefan	Jeannie Funk	Alan Shunk
August 13	Mildred Stuffle	Nicole Dubeck	Sean McClain
August 20	Mike Van Blaricum	Barbara Burch	Barbara Burch
August 27	Jeff Stuffle	John Kochel	Jim Lien
Communion Assistants	8:00 am: Debra Augustine		
August 6	John Kochel		
August 13	Janice Reiff		
August 20	Bob Rodenberger		
August 27	Jeannie Funk		
Ushers	8:00 am: Early Usher Team		
August	Dick Allebach and John Moorehead		
Offering Tabulation			
August 6	Debra Augustine, Karl Stefan, and Jeannie Funk		
August 13	John Kochel, Brian O'Hara, and Frank DePaul		
August 20	Janet Stokes, Jack Schatz, and Gary Wessner		
August 27	Debra Augustine, Karl Stefan, and Jeannie Funk		
Altar Guild	8:00 am: Sally Sweeney		
August	Jeannie Funk		

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Please Note: Due to a problem with our computer network, the August Birthday list is not available in time for publication. The list will be printed in September. I hope all those with birthdays in August have wonderful days!



NOTICE: By order of the Cemetery Committee

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

- ◆ 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

***Cheaper
than
Therapy.***

Join the Choir

**SENIOR CHOIR WORKSHOP
SATURDAY, AUGUST 12
9:30am—1pm at Augustus**

This is a GREAT time to check out the choir and see if choir is a good fit for you!

Please contact
Laurie Mueller,
music@augustustrappe.org
and let her know you're coming!

Choir Rehearsals Begin Soon!

 Senior Choir begins Thursday, September 7
7:00—8:30 pm

 Bell Choir begins Thursday, September 21
6:00—7:00 pm 



Old Church Model



2018 is the 275th anniversary of the Old Church. Order this treasured keepsake to commemorate this special event. The Old Church metal model, first produced in the 1960's has been re-cast.

This beautiful metal reproduction of the Old Church can be purchased in two finishes: metallic finish like the 1960's run, or done in a hand-painted color finish.

Solid Black Finish: \$30

Hand-Painted Color Finish: \$40

We have 20 models in production in this first production run. We will take pre-orders for a second production run. Place your order for a 2017 delivery of the Old Church Model. Money will be collected when you pick up this keepsake.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail: _____

Quantity:

_____ Solid Black (\$30) _____ Painted (\$40)

Community Connections

1 Corinthians 12:4-6 reminds us that God gives each of us different gifts and talents. What a boring world this would be if we all looked and acted alike! God made some of us singers, others teachers, and others listeners. Help your children recognize their different talents and how they could best be used to share faith.

Use a game to help them think creatively of ways to serve others. Put several items in a bag and have family members draw them out one at a time, suggesting ways they could be used to serve or help others. Items might include: Bible (share God's word); dust cloth (clean the Sunday school area); can of food (collect food for the hungry); picture book (read to someone younger); page of music (sing in a choir); and dollar (give money to those in need).

Choose a project to work on together to benefit your church or community. Some ideas might be: make a matching game for the church nursery by gluing pairs of pictures to index cards; collect food to be distributed to those in need; plant flowers to beautify a park. To save money for the project, make a "We Share Because We Care" bank. Clean an empty nut can that has a plastic lid. Cut an opening in the lid for coins. Cut a paper cover for the can and label it: "We Share Because We Care." To make decoration stamps, cut several small hearts and crosses from perforated foam rubber shoe inserts or foam meat trays. Glue each shape to a small block of wood to create a stamp. Decorate the paper using the stamps and an ink pad. Wrap the paper around the can and tape the ends together.

Use the decoration stamps described above to create "We Care" cards. Decorate folded pieces of construction paper. Help each person use the stamps to create a different, but beautiful, effect. Write messages of love inside and send or deliver the cards to a care facility, hospital, or prison.

Create a reminder that each person has God-given talents which can be combined with other people's talents to do God's work. Trace around each person's hand on construction paper. Have the person print his or her name and write or draw a talent on the hand. Cut out the hand prints, group them in a circle, and place them in a circle on a large sheet of white paper and glue them there. At the top of the sheet write: "GOD GIVES US TALENTS."

Gather around the circle of hands you made in the previous activity. Join hands and have each person thank God for a talent or ability God has given someone else in the family.



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Graduation Announcements

Kathryn Bubeck graduated Magna Cum Laud in December 2016 from the University of Alabama with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Food and Nutrition. She plans to continue her studies with an internship through Murray State University.

Earl J. Catagnus, Jr. graduated in May from Temple University's Doctorate program in History. Dr. Catagnus' original research culminated in a 400 page (approximately 100,000 words) dissertation titled, "Getting Rid of the Line: Toward an American Infantry Way of Battle, 1918—1945." He is currently Assistant Professor of History and Security Studies, and the Founding Director of the Center for the Advancement of Security Studies at Valley Forge Military College.



Senior Youth Group News

By the time you read this, the Mission Trip to Camden NY will be a memory - a great memory - of hard work, fellowship, new friends and a feeling of gratitude that comes from helping others. The Youth Group, along with our friends from First UCC Trinity Lutheran in Quakertown thank you for your support in making the trip happen, we are looking forward to sharing our experiences with you at 'Mission Trip Sunday' this fall.



The week before the trip, the participants were blessed by Pastor K. at the 9:30 service. It is always a meaningful time while preparing for the adventure. The morning of departure, First UCC in Quakertown hosted a breakfast for all of the participants, families and Prayer Pals - over 120 people attended to give us a terrific kick-off to the week!



WHAT'S NEXT??



The Youth Group season will be starting soon, watch for information regarding the first meeting in September! HOWEVER - Before the school year starts, we had so much fun last year, we are looking to do the Reading Fightin's game again! Stay tuned!!



Coordinator of Faith Development



Before I begin this article, I must take a moment to correct a huge omission on my part—in last month’s article wrapping up our Vacation Bible School event I neglected to thank a VERY important person! Scott Halteman and his crew transported our VBS sets from St. Timothy’s in Fox Chase, repaired some of them for Augustus’ use, and returned them to St. Tim’s so that they could have a fantastic VBS in July. Thanks to Scott, we are putting in place a coordination plan for VBS sets that I hope will serve us for years to come—thanks Scott!

Well, it’s summer here in southeastern Pennsylvania. In Florida, where I lived until four years ago, it’s summer (almost) all the time so the months of July and August are pretty much business as usual. Here in Pennsylvania I’ve come to appreciate the idea of summer as a sacred time to relax and refresh (yay!) and also to reflect on the past program year and look forward to a new one. In the world of Christian education, summer is a time to regroup and plan the upcoming program year. I have been looking over our Sunday school curriculum and talking about music with Laurie Mueller. Pastor Weleck and I have been discussing the upcoming year with our confirmation group. If you have ideas, suggestions or any sorts of input, feel free to send me an email at education@augustrappe.org. I would love to hear from you!



Back to Sunday School!

The first day of Sunday school for 2017/2018 is September 10!

Families should plan to **arrive at 9:00 am** to meet the teachers and decorate class bulletin boards.

During the **10:30 service**, Pastor Weleck will bless our Sunday School staff.

After church, we’ll have our Rally Day Picnic.

This is going to be a great day to start our new Sunday School year!

Look for e-mails as the date gets closer, but **mark your calendar now!**



Christian Parenting Making Choices

We all hope that our children will make wise decisions throughout their lives. How can we guide them in that direction? Since children learn by example, we need to demonstrate how God is a part of the decision making process. Include children in appropriate family decisions. Begin the decision making process with a prayer asking for God’s guidance.

In the upper elementary grades, your child will learn that choices that are pleasing to God are not always the choices of his or her peers. Your child will need encouragement and support to help him or her stay with the right choice in spite of what “everyone else” might be doing. Make family Bible story reading and devotions part of your household routine. Tell your child about times when your faith made it possible for you to stand firm on a decision that was unpopular with your friends. Don’t be afraid to share your mistakes as well. As your child’s faith matures, so will the ability to discern which choices are compatible with his or her faith.

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Sharing God's Bounty

God Calls Us to be His Workers

In spite of our foolish and sinful ways, God calls us to be his workers. Scripture tells us that Jesus did not pick people from society's elite when he chose his workers. Jesus' disciples were peasants, fishermen, and even a tax collector. Paul wrote, "*Brothers, think of what you when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things . . .*" (1 Corinthians 1:26-28). The majority of God's work was done and continues to be done by the lowly and oppressed people.

Certainly, God can use celebrities and very successful people in his work. However, we need to remember that, even though we may not have accomplished anything of worldly significance, broken any records, or won any awards, God can use and transform us into effective workers in his kingdom. "*I can do everything through him who gives me strength*" (Philippians 4:13). Society gives many accolades to those who succeed, but there is no greater honor or privilege than to be chosen as God's vehicle to spread the Gospel. As John states in his Gospel, it is Jesus who does the choosing. "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit" (John 15:16).

So why does God elevate the foolish and the lowly to be his workers? A reason may be found in 1 Corinthians 1:29: "so that no one may boast before him." It is only by God's grace that we are saved, called, and equipped to be in his service. If we come into God's work with impressive credentials, we risk taking the glory and credit for ourselves. God desires the weak and the lowly. As Paul said, "*Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong*" (2 Corinthians 12:9-10). God uses ordinary people to do extra-ordinary things. Are you ready for duty?



"Charge them to do good, to be rich in good works and generous, sharing what they have." (1 Timothy 6:18) May Timothy's letter move us to better see how we are using all that the Lord has entrusted to us; our income, our talents. This sense of stewardship will help us grow in faith and concern one for another. That's what faith community is all about."



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



May 2, 2017	“You Are Not Alone”	Augustus Lutheran Church 717 W. Main St., Trappe
<u>Jean John – presenter</u>		
June/July/August 1, 2017	The Pottstown Diner <i>GATHER</i> magazines “ALL ANEW – Ready or Not”	99 W. King St., Pottstown
* 9:00 a.m. - Individual breakfast orders taken - - billing + \$1.00 room fee		
<u>Allison Smith - presenter</u>		10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
September 5, 2017	“The Apostles Creed” Session 1	St. James Lutheran Church High & Price Sts., Pottstown
<u>Rev. Kay Bender-Braun, pastor - St. James</u>		
October 3, 2017	“The Apostles Creed” Session 2	St. Peter’s Lutheran Church Glasgow & Walnut Sts., Pottstown
<u>Rev. Karen Sease, Pastor - Grace Lutheran</u>		
November 7, 2017	“The Apostles Creed” Session 3	St. Mark’s Lutheran Church 81 N. Main St., Pennsburg
<u>Debra Long – presenter - St. Mark’s</u>		
December 5, 2017	An Advent Devotion	Grace Lutheran Church 660 N. Charlotte St., Pottstown
<u>Rosalic Zukauskas – presenter- Grace Lutheran</u>		

January - February 2018 Mid-winter break — SAVE *GATHER* Magazines

March 6, 2018	Multiple Meanings - <i>GATHER</i> January issue	St. Mark’s Lutheran Church 81 N. Main St., Pennsburg
<u>Janet Luyben, presenter</u>		
April 3, 2018	Multiple Meanings - <i>GATHER</i> Jan/Feb. issue	St. James Lutheran Church Kugler Rd. & Swamp Pk., Limerick
<u>Barbara Lisi, presenter</u>		
May 1, 2018	Multiple Meanings - <i>GATHER</i> March issue	Augustus Lutheran Church 717W. Main St., Trappe
<u>Pat Leberman, presenter</u>		
June 5, 2018	Multiple Meanings - <i>GATHER</i> April issue	St. John’s Lutheran Church 3104 Main St., Sumneytown
<u>Fran Ivarson, presenter</u>		

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.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>August</h1>						
6 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:30 AM Holy Communion	7	8 7:30 PM Vestry Meeting	9 9:30 AM Soup Kitchen Outreach	10 7:00 PM Kids' Summer Music	11 9:30 AM Choir Workshop 11:30 AM Old Church Tour	12 9:30 AM Choir Workshop 11:30 AM Old Church Tour
13 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:30 AM Holy Communion Holy Baptism	14 2:00 PM Staff Mtg	15 9:30 AM Quilting Group 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	16	17 7:00 PM Kids' Summer Music	18 9:30 AM Old Church Tour	19
20 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:30 AM Holy Communion	21 7:00 PM Boy Scout District Meeting	22 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Committee Night	23	24	25	26
27 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:30 AM Holy Communion	28 2:00 PM Staff Mtg	29 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	30	31 7:00 PM Kids' Summer Music		

Ready for September?

September 10:

Services return to regular schedule 8:00 am & 10:30 am

First Day of Sunday School & Rally Day Picnic!