# Augustinian

### Augustus Lutheran Church **An Historic Church for Today's People**

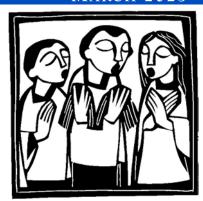


MARCH 2025

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

It is a blessing to be a Lutheran. Our theology is Biblically based and full of hope. Our worship is Christ-centered and filled with singing. It turns out that singing has many benefits besides helping us to praise God.

The Greek Philosopher Plato believed that people sing to experience social harmony. Science has shown that after a half hour of singing together, the brain produces the hormone Oxytocin, which strengthens relationships with other people. Singing together can also banish fears. This effect is even stronger if the singers wear the same clothes or move in the same way. Singing together, the body's own happiness hormones are produced, and stress hormones are reduced. We Lutherans are made wonderfully in God's image and likeness!



I invite you to begin a holy Lent by worshipping together on **Ash Wednesday**, **March 5**, **2025**, **at 7:00 p.m.** The service will include significant leadership by our young people preparing for First Communion or Confirmation. Please support our young folks with your presence.



May God shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and + give you peace.

Amen.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Weleck

### Last Sale of the YEAR

### Youth Group Soup Sales!



The Senior Youth Group and friends will be preparing and selling quarts of soup after both services on March 16.

This is a great way to support our Youth Group in their projects—including their annual mission trip—and enjoy some delicious homemade soup! If you've had them before, you know they're amazing. If not, this is your year to give them a try!



Greetings from the Lutheran Community at Telford. Shortly before Christmas, I was the recipient of a package of assorted "goodies" courtesy of Augustus Church. For that, as well as for a few greeting cards, I am most grateful.

I still cherish the opportunity to have been able to serve for 15 years as your Associate/Visitation Pastor.

I wish all the members of Augustus a blessed New Year.

Pr. William Fluck

### Director of Music

### **MARCH 2025**



On Transfiguration Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will be hearing the Bell Choir introduce us to our new hymn: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light", which was played during Communion February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Kathleen Thomerson, the writer of this hymn text was inspired by 10 scripture passages about "light", to write her text. She was born in Tennessee, went to colleges in the USA, studied abroad with several very famous organists and has served as an organist in many different churches and has taught at the university level. The hymn tune name is "Houston" – find out about why it was named for that city when you come to church on March 2<sup>nd</sup>!

Come hear a new way of "Psalm singing" on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, too!

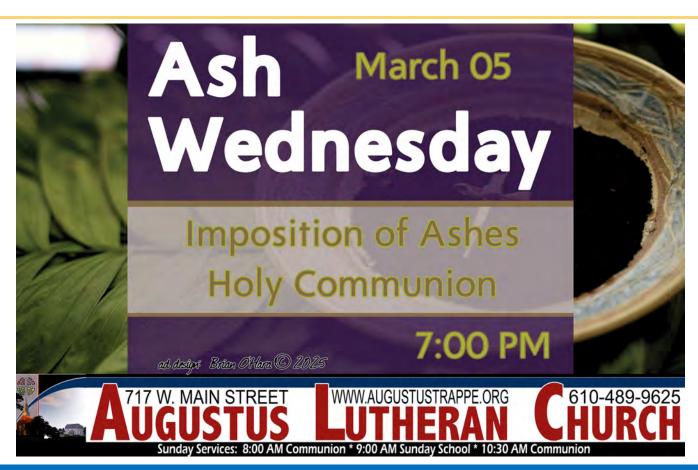
Organ music in **Lent** will feature the hymn tune "**Our Father Who Art in Heaven**", a German chorale used by Bach. The prelude each week will feature a variation on the tune by Mendelssohn, who, many years after Bach's death, found much of Bach's music. He promoted and revitalized this genius' music.

I **LOVE** to hear the congregation **sing**, so don't be shy! Try *singing out more* to help encourage others around you to do the same! Let us all praise God together!

For a couple of weeks, *Connor Elison* will be the organist when Marcia and I are on vacation. Thanks, Connor, for your willingness to play!

Soli Deo Gloria (to God alone the glory),

Bruce



### Ten Important Dogmas of the Lutheran Church By Bo Kristian Holm, Associate Professor, Systematic Theology, Aarhus University



### 7. The Holy Communion

In Holy Communion Christ is present in the form of bread and wine and his body and blood are given to the communicants. Through participation in Holy Communion, a person is taking part in the fellowship with God by receiving the One who has given his life for all human beings on the cross. The thought of God giving himself is of major importance to the reformer Martin Luther (1483-1546) who for that reason stresses the real presence of Christ, i.e. that Christ is present in the bread and the wine. The dogma of the Real Presence – that in Holy Communion the Body and Blood of Christ are truly and substantially present – is something that the Lutheran church shares with the Roman Catholic church, but not with the Reformed church, which sees the Eucharist as a symbolic meal. See Article X of the Augsburg Confession.

Augsburg Confession: [X. Concerning the Lord's Supper]

"Concerning the Lord's Supper it is taught that the true body and blood of Christ are truly present under the form of bread and wine in the Lord's Supper and are distributed and received there. Rejected, therefore, is also the contrary teaching."



### 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.



### Remember Augustus in your Estate Planning

We have a beautiful campus to maintain.

If you are considering a gift, please talk with Pastor Weleck about where funds are most needed.

### Christian Education

During Epiphany our Sunday school students have been learning about Jesus' miracles: events that made everyone around him have the "epiphany" that he was the Son of God and Savior of the World.

Epiphany ends on Transfiguration Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, and we'll have our annual ice cream party to celebrate before we enter the serious time of Lent. It's the Sunday school version of Mardi Gras!

On the first Sunday of Lent the Sunday school children will receive "lamb boxes" to collect funds for Lutheran World Relief. One of LWR's ministries is to respond to natural disasters,

helping people recover and rebuild. With all the natural disasters this year, I'm sure LWR needs our help more than ever. You can donate online at give.lwr.org.

Our confirmation students are learning about the Reformation from Pastor Weleck and getting ready to rehearse for Stations of the Cross, which will be presented on Good Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

Winter is coming to a close—don't forget to enjoy some delicious soups provided by our wonderful senior high youth group! Our last soup sale is March 16<sup>th</sup>.

Blessings,

Sonya Sowards
Director of Christian Education

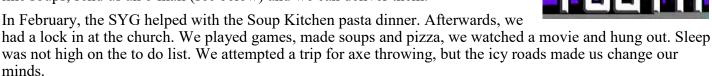


### Lent comes providentially to awaken us, to shake us from our lethargy.

Pope Francis

### SENIOR YOUTH GROUP NEWS SENIOR YOUTH GROUP NEWS

The Senior Youth Group hopes that the congregation is staying warm this winter. We appreciate everyone participating in the winter soup sales. March 16<sup>th</sup> is our last one for the year. If you're not able to attend the services on the 16th and would like soups, send us an e-mail (see below) and we can deliver them.



Please join the SYG on Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> for the annual Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner. We'll also reschedule axe throwing for later in the month.

The SYG meets on the first Wednesday and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month (September thru May), as well as various other days for activities and fund raisers. All youth in 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades can take part in the SYG. If you're new to the congregation and have a teen in high school, reach out to one of the leaders and we'll make sure you get information on our group.

The SYG is looking for a couple of new leaders to help in future years. Please let us know if you are interested. It's a very rewarding experience and we'd like to pass on our knowledge to a new group of leaders. New people bring new ideas and that is always a good thing.

Cathy Meeley, <u>tcmeeley@verizon.net</u> Joe Schaffer, <u>joe.schaffer.44@gmail.com</u> Liz Wentworth, <u>lizwentworth@yahoo.com</u> Gary Wessner, <u>gtwess@comcast.net</u>

### Pancake Dinner

Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> 4:30-6:30



Free Will Offering (benefits the SYG)

### **Augustus Lutheran Church**



717 W. Main Street, Trappe
All Welcome!

# SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON WITH FUN ACTIVITIES AND EASTER EGG HART APRIL 20, 2025, 9:00 AM BRINGA CUT FLOWER TO ATTACH TO THE CROSS MOVIE & REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW ALL CHILDREN AGES 3-6TH GRADE ARE WELCOME





The Collegeville-Trappe Ministerium

the churches of the historical mile



### 2025 Easter Flowers

Flowers can now be ordered for Easter!

Please include payment with your order.

Make checks payable to: Augustus Flower Fund
Orders can be left in the church office or mailed to:

Karen Lachenmayer, 412 Dartmoor Road, Schwenksville, PA 19473

Phone: 610-715-4850 E-Mail: karenlachenmayer@gmail.com

ORDER DEADLINE: April 6, 2025

Name:						
					(P	lease Print)
QTY						
Lily		@ \$15.50	=			Please give my flowers to others
Daffodil		@ \$11.00	= _			I will take my flowers after the Easter Service
Tulip		@ \$5.50	= -		-	•
		Order Total	_		•	
I would lik	ke the b	oulletin ackno	wled	gement to r	ead: (PLE	EASE <u>PRINT</u> )

2025 Vestry							
Member	Special Area	E-mail Address					
Gary Wessner	President/Property	gtwess@comcast.net					
Dick Allebach	Vice President	Doot44@gmail.com					
Alison Fishell	Secretary	alisonfishell@gmail.com					
Jeannie Funk	General Treasurer	jeanniefunk@gmail.com					
Sherry Jessee	Trust Fund Treasurer	dsajessee@hotmail.com					
John Kochel	Parish Life	John.kochel@thrivent.com					
Karl Stefan	Mutual Ministry	kssurf@verizon.net					
Chilly Lyaro	Christian Education	chillylyaro@yahoo.com					
Brian O'Hara	Outreach	Brian.ohara24@gmail.com					
Shane Elison	Christian Education	scrabbie1@aol.com					
Jennifer Wentworth	Old Church Committee	jawentw@aol.com					
Matthew Vera	Cemetery Committee	Matthew vera@verizon.net					

### **PALM SUNDAY**

APRIL 13 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

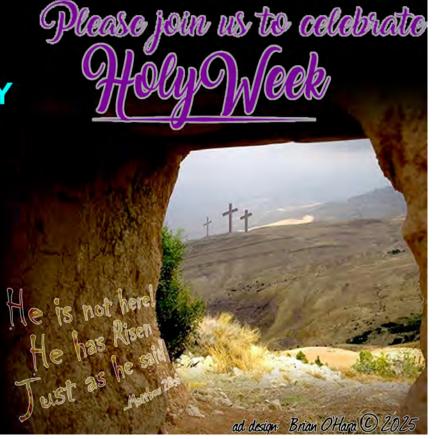
Stripping of the Altar 7:00 PM

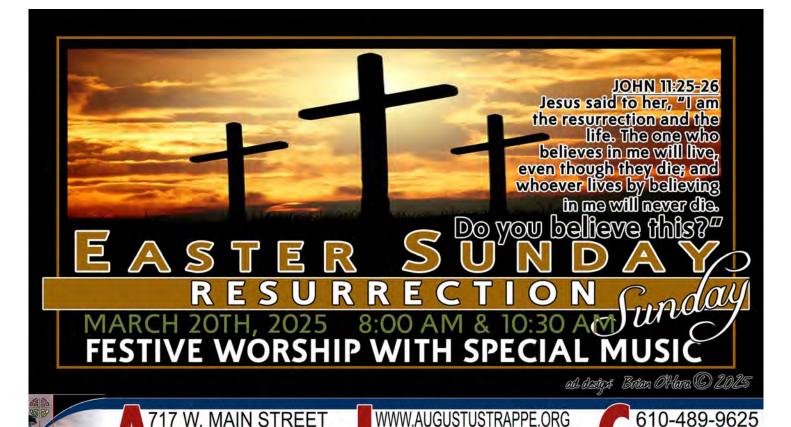
## GOOD FRIDAY

Stations of the Cross Led by Augustus Youth 7:00 PM

He Is Risen!!! Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt 9:00 AM

Festive Worship 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM





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

# Graceful Generosity

Published to help you grow as a steward of God's grace.

### Money Changers in the Temple

This phrase, taken from the act of our Lord recorded in Matthew 21:12, is usually taken to describe something deplorable, the sordid, the profaning of religion by commercialism. But in the highest sense, each Christian can be a "money changer." When a person brings money to be used in furthering the purposes of Christ, money becomes changed into life. Money can be changed into health and life in a hospital down the street or across the sea; it can be changed into a college where a young person finds what is needed for real living. It is changed into food as the church meets physical need in all parts of the earth. By its right use, money is the alchemy by which human life and energy are transported from one place to another.

By our money, we can talk in many languages to proclaim the Gospel; by our money, we can heal the sick, give sight to the blind, care for the fatherless, teach the ignorant and feed the hungry. Hence it becomes the "open sesame" to a glorious ministry.

You ... yes, you ... can be a money changer in the temple!

G. W. Mattace



### Serve Where You Are

A policeman in Birmingham, England on becoming a Christian was so greatly troubled by the sights and sounds of sin among which he worked that for a long time he prayed, "Lord, take me out of the police service. Give me some other work."

No answer came and no other work was opened to him. At last he said to his wife: "I think we have been making a great mistake. We have been praying that I may be taken out of the force, and I begin to think that he

has put me there to work. Now I am going to pray that he will help me to serve where I am."

That was the beginning of a life of marvelous usefulness. His influence over the men was so great that he was promoted to be the head of the detectives. He was instrumental in the salvation of many criminals. The place where God has put you is the place where you do the best service for him.

M. Lunn

### Thoughts to Ponder:

"If you think health care is expensive now, wait until you see what it costs when it's free."

P. J. O'Rourke

"No man's life, liberty, or property is safe while the legislature is in session."

Mark Twain

"I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle."

Winston Churchill

### Carrying Our Own Loads

We all start at the same place: "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23), and we are all rescued from this position in the same way: "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). God sees us all the same – sinners saved by his grace. Since we are all equal in his sight, there is no need to measure ourselves by our neighbors. The Apostle Paul, in our text above, declares this a fruitless exercise.

What is helpful, though, is to test our own actions. Am I using the gifts and talents God has given me in a way that brings him honor and that benefits the Body of Christ? Am I spending time in reading his Word and in prayer to him? Am I joining in Christian fellowship as the Word of God is preached and the Sacraments are administered? Am I encouraging others to do good deeds? Am I giving sacrificially and humbly? How am I building up my pastor(s) so he can effectively preach the Word and care for the flock in his care?

As we examine our actions, we must also examine our motives. Do I do "good things" because I'm a prominent member of the congregation and it's expected of me? Do I labor in the church so I'll be noticed and commended? Do I serve others and give of my time in order to earn God's favor? God forbid that those should be our motives! Rather, we say with Paul, "Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again" (2 Corinthians 5:14-15).

### Finding the Good Life

Most people believe that money brings happiness, so they always want more of it. But money does not bring happiness. Money and the things that money can buy do not produce the good life. The good life is taking "hold of the life that is truly life" (1 Timothy 6:19) and in using what God has given us to build his kingdom. Through the working of the Holy Spirit, we will hold the things of this world loosely and focus on things that are eternal.



### Blessings on Your Stewardship Journey!



CRANBERRY SAUCE DESSERT

TO RESERVE TICKETS:

(a limited number of tickets available at the door) PHONE 610-489-9625 **ONLINE: AUGUSTUSTRAPPE.ORG** 

SATURDAY Y 03, 2025

Dr. Stephen and Jodi Lynn Swanson, Missionaries in Tanzania
Sponsors: WordFM Radio, Great Songs of the Faith Radio, Trappe Tavern, Thrivent Financial
Phoenixville Federal Bank & Trust, Brandywine Assisted Living, Risher Van Horn

717 W. MAIN STREET

crafters and vendors needed:

AugustusCraftShow@gmail.com

**CRAFT & VENDOR** 

WWW.AUGUSTUSTRAPPE.ORG

610-489-9625

### **WELCA ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER & CRAFT FAIR**

This annual fundraiser helps support medical missionaries Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson to save infants and children at the



\*Food Prep \*

\*Food Service\* \*Set-up/Clean-up\*

\*Craft Fair\*

\*\*\*Parking and SO MUCH MORE\*\*\*

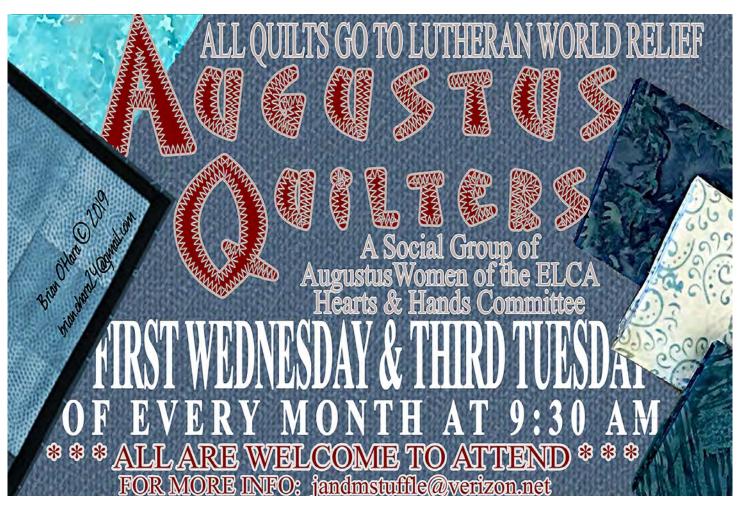
The Turkey Dinner Committee would greatly appreciate early commitments to plan for this year's fundraiser. If you are able to provide an early commitment, please reach out to Nancy Loughery (nancyloughery63@gmail.com) or Dale O'Hara (oharadvd@aol.com)

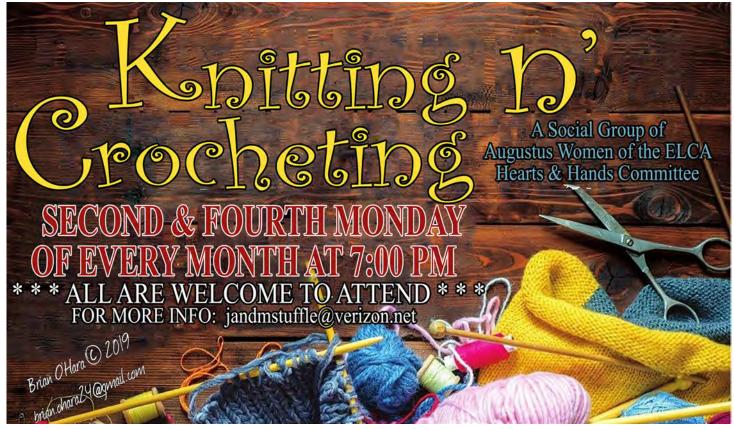
Mark your calendars now and plan to help for

Saturday May 3rd

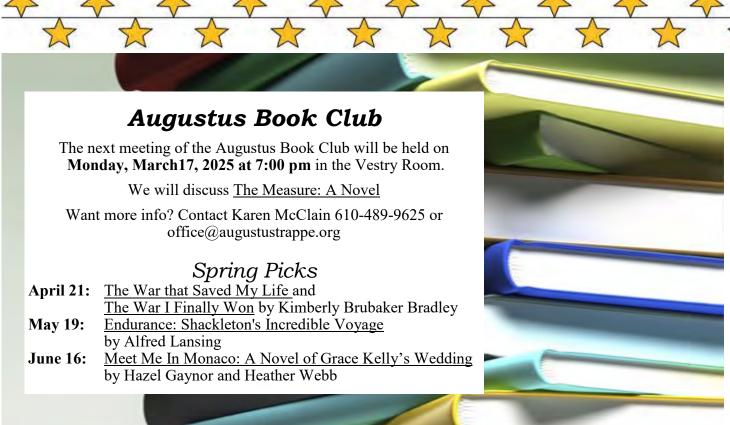
WE SIMPLY CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!





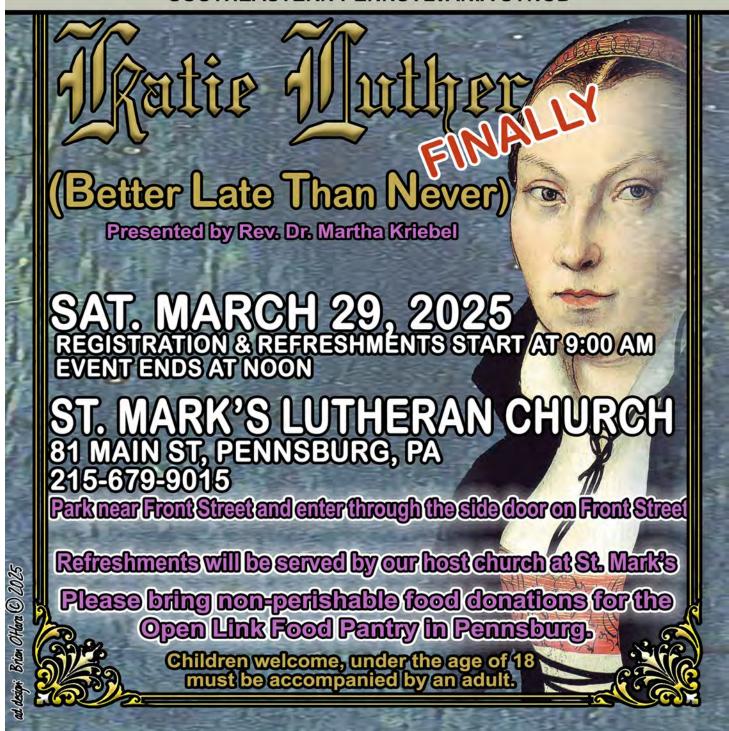


Sunday Monday **Tuesday** Wednesday **Thursday** Friday Saturday **March Birthdays** Samantha Bouche **David Garton** 2 8 Ali Bauder Bradley Robinson Tony Demark Stephen Hess John Schatz Kirsten Pearson Violet Cecceanni Brianna Dubeck Nicole Sellman Jeremy Wentworth Robert Price Betsy Lewis Thomas Lyaro Landon Walker Chris Pearson Susan Snow Wendy Weaver 10 11 12 13 14 15 Michael McCrea Richard Atherholt Michael Beattie Valentina Martin James Bubeck Patrick North Matthew McCloskey Warren Weleck Chris Dogonniuck Shane Elison Beth Williams Liam Noonan Shavna King Griffin Schmitt Cole Leigl Joanne Garro Juanita Wagner Jennifer Niskala Lora Wentworth Karl Stefan 19 20 21 16 18 22 Samuel Giraldi Robert Rodenberger Brayden McCrea Alexandra Kuklentz Taylor Coldwater Olivia Shaffer Jill Hynes James Watro Olivia Kuklentz Ed Funk Jackson Wagenseller Emma Trauger John Wentworth Roland Olsen 24 25 28 29 23 26 27 Hannah Brown Kevin Whitman Renate Markert Logan Alessandrini Rory Collins Greyson Borthwick Jennifer Gabel Zachary Halteman Andrea Halteman Stephen Hynes JP Murray Traćey Richvalsky Lea Robinson Tessa Tucker Ryan Pearson Jústin Schlegel Guy Van Alstine Shérry Wagenseller Michael Wentworth 30 31 Deborah Interrante Sally Lorah





### UPPER MONTGOMERY CONFERENCE SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD



### **Gracious Givers**

Lay Reader Message

### A Sure and Certain Hope

Hebrews 11 begins with very familiar words: "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see" (Hebrews 11:1). The rest of the chapter is devoted to those whom we call "heroes of faith." We read about Abel and his sincere sacrifice, Enoch who pleased God, Noah who built an ark, Abraham who followed God to a place he didn't know, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, even Rahab, the prostitute, along with judges, kings, and prophets of God's people – all servants of God who, through faith, pleased him with their acts of obedience. "The world was not worthy of them" (Hebrews 11:38), the writer concludes.

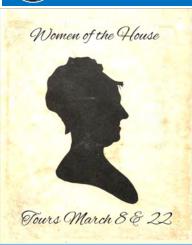
"None of them received what had been promised" (verse 39), but they believed. They were sure of what they hoped for and certain of what they could not see. We, too live by faith. We didn't see Jesus on the cross; we didn't see his risen body; we didn't watch him ascend into the clouds, but we, too, are sure of what we hope for and certain of what we cannot see. We have an advantage, though. We are on the other side of Calvary. We have the Word of God, given us though the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, written by those who were in Gethsemane, those who did stand at the foot of the cross, those who did run to find the tomb empty, those who did touch his hands and sides, those who did stand staring into the heavens when Christ ascended.

Those eyewitnesses turned the world upside down, because they themselves had been turned upside down. Those who had deserted him (Mark 14:50), denied him (Mark 14:66-72), and hid themselves away in a locked room in fear (John 20:19) were transformed by the living Christ. They came out of the room, they declared themselves his followers and servants, and they found they could not "help speaking about what [they] had seen and heard" (Acts 4:20).

And that's how we know. We have hope built on faith passed on to us by God's people through the power of his Spirit. And that's how others will know – by our "speaking about what we [have] seen and heard." This is our awesome and joyous privilege and responsibility as God's stewards.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Holy Communion	3	5:00 pm Pancake Supper 7:00 pm Vestry Meeting	5 9:30 am Quilting 2:00 pm Staff Meeting 6:00 pm 3-in-1 7:00 pm Ash Wednes- day Service	6 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Vocal Choir	7	8
9 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Holy Communion	10 7:00 pm Knitting	9:30 am Quilting 7:00 pm Comm. Club	9:00 am Soup Kitchen 7:30 pm Community Lenten Service	13 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Vocal Choir	14	15
16 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Holy Communion	17 7:00 pm Book Club	18 7:00 pm Comm. Club Board Meeting	19 2:00 pm Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Community Lenten Service	20 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Vocal Choir	21	22
Youth Group Soup Sale!						
23 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Holy Communion Holy Baptism	24 7:00 pm Knitting	25 7:00 pm Committee Night	26 7:30 pm Community Lenten Service	27 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Vocal Choir	28	0
30 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Holy Communion	31	V	<b>Iarch</b>		5	





### Women of the House Tours March 8 & March 22

Historic Trappe is proud to offer a brand new tour, Women of the House, focusing on the lives, work, and sacrifice of all the women who made the Muhlenberg House function.

Join us as we tell the stories of not only the Muhlenberg women but also the indentured and enslaved laborers who lived and worked alongside them. Learn about women's responsibilities and roles within the Muhlenberg household while seeing firsthand the rooms and objects owned by the family.

For more info and tickets: https://historictrappe.org/events/