

Augustinian

Augustus Lutheran Church

An Historic Church for Today's People



NOVEMBER 2024

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I would like to begin by thanking all those who had a hand in organizing and running Pastors and Staff Appreciation Sunday. I very much appreciate your love and support as we work to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to a world in desperate need of hearing it. The food and fellowship draw us closer together as a healthy church family.

We will have another opportunity for fellowship as we eat lunch together before our Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 10, 2024. At 11:30 a.m. we will gather in Fellowship Hall for lunch and the Congregational Meeting to approve the 2025 Budget and elect Vestry members. See below for more information.

Congregational Meeting in November

The Congregational Meeting to approve the budget for 2025 and elect Vestry members will take place on **Sunday, November 10, 2024, beginning at 11:30 a.m.** in Fellowship Hall. Copies of the 2025 budget proposed to the voting members of Augustus by Vestry will be available after each service on Sunday, November 3, 2024.

What is the purpose of the Congregational Meetings?

The Congregational Meeting is necessary to authorize the expense budget for the coming year and to elect Vestry members, who serve three (3) year terms. The Congregation Meeting is an opportunity for the Augustus Lutheran Church family to gather and seek to discern God's will for Augustus in the coming year. Augustus has another Congregational Meeting in the early part of 2025 to deal with other issues.

Who can vote at the Congregational Meeting?

Voting members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation. Members of this congregation who have satisfied these basic standards shall have the privilege of voice and vote at every regular and special meeting of the congregation.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Weleck

P.S. See you on Sunday!



2024 Historic Trappe Free Lecture Series

St. Luke's Church, 200 W. Main Street, Trappe, PA

7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Refreshments Following Lecture

For more information, please visit the Historic Trappe Facebook Page

Nov. 19

Chris Malone on paintings by Charles Hofmann + Americana Insights book signing

From the Bench

November

This month, I would like to introduce our Bell Choir. Below are their photos and names.

Bass Bells—lowest and heaviest bells



Jim Lien



Mildred Stuffle



Jennie Lien



Gary Wessner

“The Battery” - middle range bells



Alanna Jessee



Becky Quirk



Susan Adams



Jack Bowe

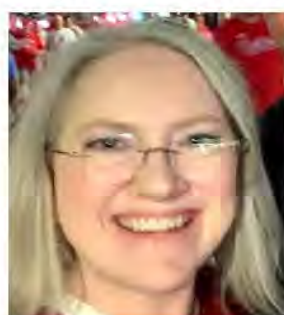
Treble Bells—highest and lightest bells (sometimes rings 2 bells in one hand!)



Karen Lachenmeyer



Jennifer Wentworth



Sherry Jessee



Jack Bowe, our newest member, is Karen Lachenmeyer’s grandson. We also are so fortunate to have a number of great substitute ringers this year: Melinda Einsla, Connor and Gavin Elison, Nate Judisch, and Jessica Krauter. The dedication of all our ringers and subs is inspiring to me.

Please save the date: Sunday December 15th at 4 pm will be our Christmas Concert. The bell choir will play a prelude, and our choral concert will be accompanied by a 10-piece orchestra. There will also be congregational singing of Christmas carols in our beautifully decorated sanctuary. **Don’t miss it, and invite a friend!**

See you in church!

~Laurie Mueller



12th Annual Thanksgiving Apple Pie Sale

Sponsored by the Senior Youth Group

Pies can be picked up on Nov. 24th after both services or delivered after the late service. Pies will be frozen.

Baking instructions will be provided.

Cost: \$12.00 per pie

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Number of Pies: _____

Pick up on 24-Nov-2024 (check one)

After the early Service (8:00 am): _____

After the late Service (10:30 am): _____

Address for delivery: _____

Please e-mail orders to gtwess@comcast.net, place orders in offering plates or drop them off in the church office.

Augustus Senior Youth Group's
HOMEMADE
APPLE PIE
SALE

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2024
 (after the 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM Service)

----- *Order Now* -----

SUNDAY *thru* **SATURDAY**
OCT. 27 **NOV. 17**

Only \$ 12.00

To place order, contact: gtwess@comcast.net

*Brian O'Hara © 2024
 brian.ohara24@gmail.com*

Christian Education

We enjoyed meeting each other's pets on St. Francis Sunday. Thank you, Pastor Weleck, for blessing all our favorite animals.

Now our Sunday school students are looking forward to continuing to learn about God through stories, music, crafts, science, drama and games! We'll also be collecting for the Martin Luther School at Gemma Services in November.

Our middle school students are learning about the Ten Commandments in confirmation class. They will finish up in November and will make Advent chains for Sunday school students and worship bags for our littlest church goers.

Please keep the children and youth of Augustus in your prayers.

Grace & peace,

Sonya Sowards, Director of Christian Education



SENIOR YOUTH GROUP NEWS

The Senior Youth Group would like to thank all of those who participated in this year's Trunk or Treat. We had over 15 cars and a great turnout. After the event the SYG went on a trip to Pennhurst for their annual event.

As November approaches, we set our sights on the annual Apple Pie fund raiser. We'll be taking orders through November 17th. Pick up will be after both services on the 24th. We thank Thrivent for their donation. We use their seed money to purchase the majority of the ingredients. Order forms are located in this addition of the Augustinian.

The SYG meets on the first Wednesday and the 3rd Sunday of each month (September thru May), as well as various other days for activities and fund raisers. All youth in 9th -12th 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.

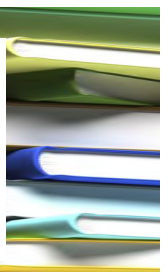


Cathy Meeley, tcmeeley@verizon.net
Joe Schaffer, joe.schaffer.44@gmail.com
Liz Wentworth, lizwentworth@yahoo.com
Gary Wessner, gtwess@comcast.net

Augustus Book Club

The next meeting is Monday, November 18, 2024 at 7:00 pm in the Vestry room.
We'll discuss The Eulogist by Terry Gamble

Contact Karen McClain 610-489-9625 or office@augustrappe.org



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



3. The two natures of Christ

Jesus is at the same time God and man. In the New Testament, Jesus is called both the Son of God and Mary's son who dies and rises again to save all humankind. The doctrine of the two natures is affirmed as a dogma in 325 in what is called the Nicene Creed. See Article III of the Augsburg Confession which says about Jesus that "... two natures, the divine and the human, are so inseparably united in one person that there is one Christ."



**Refurbished
Sunday School Altar**

Many thanks to Scott Halteman for all the hard work he put into painting and refinishing our Sunday School altar. It was in need of some TLC after many years of weekly use with our Sunday School students.



FOR THOSE WHO WE HOLD CLOSE TO OUR HEARTS AT CHRISTMAS
 a free gift and token of remembrance and hope

Advent Remembrance Doves

Dec. 01
 8:00 & 10:30 AM

Brian O'Hara © 2024
 brian.ohara24@gmail.com

OUTREACH COMMITTEE – ADVENT REMEMBRANCE DOVES

A Pair of Doves spiritually represent love, friendship, and peace. When two doves couple together, they enter into partnership for a lifetime. A pair of doves can signify a union of two or more people or entities with a positive outlook for the future. At Christmas, people tend to remember those that have gone before them. If you are thinking of someone special this Christmas Season, we will be offering you two free remembrance doves in memory of that person. One to keep to adorn your Christmas Tree reminding you of their presence throughout the season, and one to leave at Augustus adorning the Christmas Tree in the nave to remind you that they are with Jesus, the one we are celebrating at Christmas. The doves will be made available on the first Sunday of Advent on December 01, 2024. Be present to receive yours!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services & Family Traditions

HISTORIC OLD TRAPPE CHURCH
 December 24, 5:00 PM Candlelight Living Nativity
 Candlelit pathways, Lessons & Carols
 December 24, 7:00 PM Candlelight Family Service
 Candlelit pathways, Lessons & Carols

FREE GIFT!!!
 for all attendees

HEATED BRICK CHURCH
 December 24, 9:00 PM Candlelight, Lessons, Carols, & Communion
 Traditionally decorated main Sanctuary

Step back in time with our candlelit pathways, gas lamps wrapped in greens, and candlelight Christmas Eve Services in Historic Old Trappe Church! All services in Old Trappe Church are in a 1743 unheated and unelectrified Colonial Church.
 Please dress accordingly and remember your flashlights!

Enjoy a traditional Christmas Eve Holy Communion Service in the heated Brick Church with lessons, carols, and special music



September 2024



Dear friend,

Each year, we strive to make the holidays special for youth and families by providing them with handpicked gifts or gift cards that have been generously provided by our caring friends. Often, the children and families whom Gemma accompanies have experienced holidays without family by their side to comfort them, with no gifts to unwrap, and without caring individuals – like you – to extend a helping hand.

Nothing warms one's heart like seeing a huge smile spread across a child's face when they open a gift, especially when that gift is exactly what the child had asked for. We often hear a parent say, "I would not have been able to do anything for my kids for the holidays if I didn't have this help." This sentiment shows how big your impact can be on their and their children's lives.

With the support of caring friends like YOU, Gemma is able to extend the warmth of the season to hundreds of children and families each year. This year, please consider these ways you might help:

- 👉 **Make a generous financial gift** in the spirit of the holidays to support children and families this year.
- 👉 **Suggest friends or family make a gift** to Gemma in your honor.
- 👉 **Donate a gift card** to help Gemma's children and families. The most useful are \$25 gift cards to Amazon, ShopRite, Target, Visa, and Walmart.
- 👉 **Provide a present for a child.** A wish list of gifts can be found on the back of this letter or on Amazon at <https://bit.ly/GemmaNeeds>. **We ask that all gifts be new and unwrapped.**

Gift delivery is by appointment only from Monday, December 2nd through Wednesday, December 11th. Please contact Amanda Bryant at (610) 825-4440 x3307 or abryant@gemmaservices.org to **schedule a delivery time.**

Your kind generosity will warm the hearts of "our" children and families this year. Thank you for helping to make sure they know how much they matter!

With appreciation,

Amanda Bryant
Director of Donor & Volunteer Engagement

www.gemmaservices.org



2024 Gift Wish List

Toys

- Large and medium-sized stuffed animals
- Small and medium-sized Squishmallow stuffed animals
- Weighted stuffed animals
- Board games – Battleship, Candyland, checkers, chess, Chutes & Ladders, Hedbanz, and Scrabble Jr. are favorites
- LEGO sets
- Pokémon cards and toys
- Superhero action figures
- LOL dolls and Rainbow High dolls
- Remote controlled vehicles
- Beyblades and Beyblades arenas
- Playing cards and card games – Uno, Dos, Phase 10, Skip-bo, and Spot it! are favorites
- Rubik's cubes
- Fidget toys – spinners, tangles, cubes, stress balls, pop-its
- Dream Lites or other soft night lights
- Books for children and teens
- Wireless headphones/earbuds
- Small Bluetooth speakers
- Matchbox or Hot Wheels cars & racetracks
- Puzzles
- Play-Doh
- Hairstyling mannequin heads

Clothing & Personal Care

- Pajama sets for boys and girls – youth sizes M-XL and adult sizes S-L
- Hooded sweatshirts for girls and boys – youth sizes 12-18 and adult sizes S-L. Nike, Adidas, Champion, and Fila are favorite brands
- Adidas or Nike slide style sandals – youth and adult sizes
- Crocs and Crocs-style sandals – youth and adult sizes
- Jibbitz or charms for Crocs-style sandals
- Adjustable baseball hats – Nike and Philly sports teams are favorites
- Athletic socks – Nike, Adidas, Champion, and Fila are favorites
- Athletic tights – youth sizes L-XL and adult sizes S-L
- Hairbrushes and combs
- Nail polish, lip gloss, lip balm, and makeup
- Toiletry gift sets with body wash, shampoo, conditioner, & deodorant. Dove, Axe, and Bath and Body Works are favorites. Plastic bottles only, please!
- Plastic water bottles – Contigo and Camelback brands are favorites
- Winter coats – youth & adult sizes
- Children's weighted blankets

Arts & Crafts

- Craft kits
- Crayola art kits
- Diamond or crystal art kits
- Paint by number
- Gel pen sets
- Crayons, markers, and colored pencils
- Velvet posters to color
- Coloring books and large coloring pages
- Sticker by number books
- Sketch books and drawing paper – non-spiral bound, please!
- Journals – no locks, non-spiral bound, please!
- Origami kits and origami paper
- Small and medium art canvases

Sports

- Footballs and basketballs
- Over-the-door basketball hoops
- Football gloves – youth and adult sizes
- Basketball shooting sleeves – youth and adult sizes
- Fitness watches

Email Abryant@gemmaservices.org to arrange delivery. For more information about Gemma Services or to make a donation online to support our mission, please visit www.gemmaservices.org.

Gracious Givers

Lay Reader Message

We are Accountable

The need for us to be accountable is well illustrated in the Parable of the Talents found in Matthew 25:14-30. Three servants were entrusted with a lot of money before their master went on a journey. One servant was given five talents, one two, and one one. They were given a period of time to put their funds to work. In Matthew 25:19 we read, *"After a long time the Master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them."* The servants knew the Master would return from his trip, and they would have to give an account of the money given to them. There would be a Day of Judgment, an accounting of their responsibilities. Two servants were very faithful and went out and invested their talents wisely, and they heard the words we all want to hear, *"Well done, good and faithful servant."* For those who do well, the accounting is a time for rejoicing. If a man is able to turn his talents from five into ten, he is praised for doing good work.

The parable is truly a picture of life itself. We are born into the world with certain talents and abilities which we do not choose. They are gifts from outside us, talents from God. Each of us is given a period of time in which to use these talents—our life span. Then at the end, beyond death, comes judgment, an accounting to render of our days upon earth.

As stewards, we understand our need to be responsible in our stewardship because we know that at some time we will be held accountable. Our accountability provides an encouragement for us to use our time, talents, and treasures faithfully and properly. Accountability does imply hard work and effort. It conveys our responsibilities, not to take our tasks lightly. However, we know that God is always with us, and, with his help and strength, we can accomplish much.

We are accountable to God because he is the creator and owner of all. We become his stewards because he has chosen to entrust us with his love, grace, and mercy for which we are to render faithful and wise service. As the Apostle Paul said in 1 Corinthians 4:2, *"Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful."* Jesus' words, recorded in Luke 12:48 are, *"From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked."*

God, who loves us and calls us each by name, will enable us to be faithful and accountable stewards.



All Saints Sunday

"... and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

--Revelation 7:17

Richard Meeley	Ronald Wessner
Priscilla Wessner	Ric Case
Bonnie Bosarth	Sandra Trauger
Al Stagliano	Shirley Latshaw

2024 Christmas Poinsettia Order Form



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

ORDER DEADLINE: December 8, 2024

NAME _____

CONTACT INFO: _____

COLOR	QUANTITY	TOTAL \$
RED	_____	@ \$11.00 ea _____
WHITE	_____	@ \$11.00 ea _____

Check One:

_____ I will take my plants after the 9:00 P.M. Service 12/24.

_____ Please distribute my plants to others.

I would like the bulletin acknowledgement to read:



Christmas Poinsettias!

The **Outreach Committee** is once again hard at work preparing the church for Christmas. We have an opportunity for every member of the congregation to join in this church-wide endeavor. Every year, the **Worship & Music Committee** provides a vehicle for every congregant to facilitate the decorating of the church for Christmas. We are asking that you prayerfully consider buying at least one poinsettia this year to entrench the sanctuary in red and white. If you can do multiple poinsettias, that would be even more fantastic and appreciated. These embellishments can also be seen by those patrons who are watching our Christmas services at home.

Additionally, if you do not wish to take your poinsettia home with you after the Christmas Day service, please let us know on your form. The Outreach Committee will tag any donated plants with the Augustus Logo and a message of hope. The plants are then taken to assisted living homes and distributed to let the residents know that Augustus cares about them. So, every donation is greatly appreciated and nothing goes to waste. We hope that you will join us in this endeavor.

Graceful Generosity

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

Blessings on your Thanksgiving

As we approach Thanksgiving, we are reminded of the many blessings God has given to us. The question we should be asking is, "How do we begin to thank God for all that he has done and continues to do for us?" High on our lists of things for which to thank our heavenly Father should be our new lives in Christ. In spite of our sinful ways, God demonstrated his awesome love for us by sending his only Son to the Cross on our behalf. We certainly will also thank him for our families as well as our health and material blessings. How blessed we are that God provides for all we need to sustain our lives, and, through faith he provides, he gives us life forever with him.

Another wonderful blessing for which we should always give thanks is God's faithfulness to us. As the prophet Jeremiah wrote, "*Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness*" (Lamentations 3:22-23). God's faithfulness to us never wavers, even though we vacillate in our faithfulness to him.



As you thank God this Thanksgiving season, you may want to consider putting God's love within you into action with a Thanksgiving gift for the ministry here at our church. Through our giving, we demonstrate our gratitude and faithfulness to him who is always faithful to us. How wonderful it is that God promises to bless those who are generous in his name!

Blessings on your Thanksgiving Day as you spend time with your family, enjoy some turkey, and possibly watch some football.

Insight

"A wise person once said, 'Even a fool can count the apples on a tree, but it takes a wise man to count the trees in an apple.' To see the tree in a seed and then help it to grow; to pick the winner before he has won his laurels and then help him to win; to discover the poet or genius in that dreamy, restless, nonconforming schoolboy, and then help him to find himself—that is the creative kind of wisdom which keeps life growing and entitles us to be called 'workers together with God.'"

Ralph W. Sockman

Thanks for all Things

During this Thanksgiving season, it is easy for us to give thanks for our families, our homes, our clothing, and our food. These blessings are very visible to us. However, there are other blessings for which we should be thankful, but we may need to be reminded to give thanks because we sort of take them for granted. For example, when is the last time that you thanked God for the air that you breathe, the smell and taste of fresh coffee in the morning, the beauty of flowers or the beauty of a sunset, the excitement from a college or pro football game, the joy of holding a baby. The list could go on forever.

The blessing that we want to focus on today is the blessing of God's love for us and the love that he places in our hearts for others. How wonderful it is, when individuals or groups of people experience difficulties due to calamities such as fire or flooding that others will come to their aid. Most of us may have given our time by offering a helping hand, and even larger numbers of us have given some financial support. There was probably very little hesitation in our response as Christians because God has commanded us to love and help our neighbors. Jesus said, "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:39). We are to elevate the interests of our neighbors over those of ourselves. God's love for us compels us to share that love with others. Paul wrote in Galatians 6:10, "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." When we serve others, God's love is seen through us.

Even in our best moments, our love for our neighbors doesn't come close to comparing to how much God loves us. In the words of Paul:

"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39). In spite of our sinful ways and unworthiness, "God demonstrates his own love for us in this:

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8).

Thanksgiving, don't forget to thank God for his awesome love for us and also thank him for empowering us to love others.



Myself

Years ago in a Richmond, Virginia church, a collection was taken following a missionary address. In one of the plates was a card. The pastor picked it up and found written on it, "Myself. John Lewis Shuck." That was the start of the young man's missionary career. He became the first Baptist missionary appointed to China, sailing for Hong Kong in 1835. If you would be God's steward, you must give yourself.

M Lynn



Blessings on Your Stewardship Journey!

September 2024

Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson

ELCA Global Personnel

Arusha, Tanzania

Tender Moments of a New Life



Each day in the neonatal intensive care unit, tender moments are witnessed. A mother holding her small baby for the first time. A physician carefully listening to the rapid beating of a new heart. The assistance of a nurse helping support a baby's first breaths.

A NICU can be frightening for a new mother and even more frightening when her baby is born too soon, too small. The team in the NICU uses such tenderness alongside their skilled hands and trained minds... and the results are obvious. Small infants are stabilized, and joyful smiles of mothers emerge. Today, our NICU offers a low-technology, evidence-based approach to caring for small, sick infants that results in an unimaginably high survival rate for Tanzania.

Above and below, a mother nestles her baby skin-to-skin, kangaroo mother care, providing the warmth and assurance that her body can offer even while the infant(s) receives respiratory support through a nasal RAM cannula and are fed breastmilk through an orogastric feeding tube. All the details are attended to and the infants rest peacefully. What a joy and a privilege it is to be a part of providing this care. The world could use more tenderness.

Twins are one reason that some newborns need many days in the NICU, as they are more likely to be born premature. With the assistance of the staff, this mama is able to provide more than warmth for her babies. Kangaroo mother care (KMC) has many benefits-- regulates heart and breathing rates, improves lung function, decreases stress, reduces risk of infection, and improves weight gain-- all of which helps improve the development of the small brain!



Tiny Feet, Big Steps 2024 African Neonatology Conference

It's that time of the year! This is the 4th Neonatology conference we have held in Arusha and it looks like it may be even more far-reaching in its impact as we have several new countries sending teams. Over 120 hospitals from 20 African countries and several non-African countries are sending their doctors and nurses to learn from a team of nearly 50 instructors arriving from across the globe. They will be coming to learn innovative, low costs ways to improve neonatology services in their hospital setting. This may be the largest clinical neonatology training conference held in sub-Saharan Africa.



Celebrations!

In May, **Hannah** graduated from St. Olaf and it was a grand celebration! Caedmon was able to join us and together we celebrated her accomplishments. She excelled in every way and it was a joy to meet her friends and professors with whom she has developed relationships over these 4 years. She had a wonderful summer of travels (including coming home to TZ to attend Indya's graduation), and she is now so very happily settled into the University of Minnesota's College of Veterinary Medicine! She loves every Vet Med class, giving us regular updates of her animal anatomy class, and can't stop talking about how grateful she is to be there. This is such a huge blessing.



Indya graduated from Rift Valley Academy in July and also with honors! She has such a good set of friends with whom she has laughed and hiked and studied over these 4 years. There were times when her "chill demeanor" lulled us into thinking she was just cruising along... until she was awarded the Salutatorian of her class! Another surprise- she joined rugby this year and became a top fearless tackler!! What next?! She keeps us guessing. At this time she is at the beginning of her gap year and is volunteering as a keeper of pangolins and civets at Saving Vietnam's Wildlife Center in one of their national parks, gaining experience in conservation. She is enduring the heat and humidity and is blown away by the beauty of Vietnam. She will be there for 2 months and be returning to MN later this fall to work for a time before heading off on more adventures in environmental conservation.



Caedmon has started his Jr. year at UW Madison, and is deep into his computer engineering classes and loving it. In his spare time he is rock climbing and slack lining on a long line and has managed to walk 70m. His goal? Highlining, of course! Always more challenges. I'm grateful for harnesses and helmets.

Hospital Challenges

There are always hard seasons in life, and these past 3 years have held one of the hardest for us to navigate. Mid-2021 there was an abrupt change in leadership and governance at Arusha Lutheran Medical Centre (ALMC) that was outside of our influence. As we waited to see the outcome of this change, we continued our work. But it has been difficult as ALMC is struggling to pay salaries, procure basic medications, and retain staff.

Through the support of our donors we have managed to uphold the standard of care in the NICU, and keep it running while the rest of the hospital is struggling. **Our NICU remains the gold standard**, the best place of care for a sick or preterm infant in Northern Tanzania. It is difficult to know where these infants will find care if ALMC's NICU has to close. For that reason, we are continuing to walk forward, until we are out of options. If you are interested in helping these mamas and vulnerable babies, we could use your financial support as we procure medicines, supplies and equipment for their continuing care. We are also now paying all salaries for the NICU doctors and nurses through donations. You can use this link for financial support of the NICU: <https://give.ghm.org/nicu> or www.tanzanianchildren.com

Though the work at **Selian Hospital** with malnourished children continues in the inpatient ward, the outpatient program has suffered a setback in our acquisition of Ready To Use Therapeutic Food, the anchoring nutrition food product on which many children rely to complete their healing following a hospitalization. The setback is multi-faceted, as all challenges are, and we are hopeful recently that some forward movement is being made.

September 2024

Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson

The school gardens are growing!! I am happy to report that the ongoing work of nutritional education is bearing fruit (pun intended), and we are looking forward to new opportunities for education in the community- new schools and a health center. Stay tuned! We had a busy summer with 2 graduations on 2 continents, and trips from CA to PA to visit supporting congregations. **Thank you** to those who hosted us! It is always good to connect face to face with you while we are Stateside. We regretfully know there are many more churches that we were unable to visit. The schedule was full and we moved and slept in more places than we care to count! We are both now back in Arusha, in one place, for a time.

Life is full of ups and downs. Joys and sorrows. As you glance back at the newsletter, you will see we are experiencing life! Would you please pray for us- for wisdom, courage, and strength to face each day?

Let us leave you with part of a prayer that resonated with us as we participated in a service at Ascension Church in IL:

"You are before us, God, you are behind; you are in the light and the darkness; you see our most public face; you know the secret thoughts of every heart.

*We bring the faith that is in us, and the doubt;
We bring the joy that is in us, and the sorrow;
We bring the pride that is in us, and the shame;
We bring the knowledge that is in us, and the ignorance;
We bring the hope that is in us, and the despair;
We bring the courage that is in us, and the fear.*

*God, give us the grace to walk in the way of Christ.
Guide us by your Spirit. In Jesus' name."*

Steve and Jodi

For more information and videos:

www.tanzanianchildren.com

or

Neonatology Africa

Funds are received through Global Health Ministries (<https://give.ghm.org/nicu>) and directed in entirety towards clinical pediatric training of doctors and nurses in Tanzania, care of babies in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), medications, bed fees, and food for malnourished children.

Our mailing address is:

Steve and Jodi Swanson
c/o Michael Swanson
16608 Early Dawn Trail
Lakeville, MN 55044



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



Hearts & Hands Committee Quilting, Knitting & Crochet



Quilting:

We now have quilting packs available in the Muhlenberg Center. The pack each has 48 squares in it and makes a 60" X 80" quilt top.

- Pick a pack out of the Basket on the table.
- Sew the squares into a Quilt top.
- Return the pack to the bin under the table.

Each quilt top will then be used to make a quilt for **Lutheran World Relief**.

Each pack has instructions, and a contact email address if you have any questions.

Knitting & Crochet:

Do you like to Knit or Crochet? You don't need any more Afghans or sweaters? The Hearts and Hands Committee of Augustus Women of the ELCA collects:

For Laurel House, a shelter in Norristown for abused women and children:

- Knitted and crocheted 7" x 9" inch blocks that are sewn together
- Completed full-sized Afghans about 49" X 56" (about the same size as the top of a double bed).

For Genesis House:

- Baby Afghans about 36" X 36" or 36" X 45" in pastel colors.

For Doylestown Hospital:

- Knitted/crocheted/quilted blankets -- 2'-3' wide by 3'-4' long. Blankets are distributed to end of life patients, both hospice and non-hospice. Blue is the most requested color but any color is okay.

For Holy Redeemer Hospital's Maternity Ward:

- Knitted/crocheted/quilted blankets -- 60" x 50" -- Pastel colors. Blankets are distributed to mothers who lost their babies.

Place blocks and Afghans in the basket in the Muhlenberg Center. Please contact me if you need any yarn at jandmstuffle@verizon.net.



Congregational Meeting

Part II

The Fall Congregational Meeting will be held on
November 10th
following the 10:30 am service.

All members are invited and encouraged to attend this meeting. On the agenda is the approval of the 2025 Church Budget as well as Vestry Elections for 2025.

A light lunch will be provided by Augustus' Women of the ELCA.

Augustus Women of the ELCA

Thankoffering Quilt & Afghan Sunday

“...gifts from individuals in gratitude for blessings”

NOVEMBER 24, 2024

guest preacher: **The Rev. Maggie Spring Ainslie**
Director of Pastoral Care at Doylestown Hospital & ELCA Pulpit Supply Rostered Minister



Brian O'Hara © 2024
brian.ohara24@gmail.com

Thankoffering Sunday

Augustus Lutheran Church will be holding their annual Thankoffering/Quilt & Afghan Sunday on November 24, 2024, at both the 8:00am & 10:30am church worship services. The [Rev. Maggie Spring Ainslie, Director of Pastoral Care at Doylestown Hospital](#) & ELCA Pulpit Supply Rostered Minister, will be our guest preacher. Please mark your calendars & plan to attend. You won't want to miss this service!!

In honor of Thankoffering, envelopes will be distributed for your donation in support of the life-changing ministries of Women of the ELCA programs, resources, leadership training, and operational expenses. All the money collected will be sent directly to the churchwide organization of the Women of the ELCA. Make checks payable to “Augustus Women of the ELCA”. Please be generous! Thankofferings show gratitude for God's blessings and hope for all that is to come. They give us an important and tangible way to express that gratitude and hope. When significant or ordinary moments happen, it is our way of saying “thank you” to God!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NATIVITY PROGRAM

Participating youth attend
Sunday School at 9:00 AM

★ December 15, 2024
10:30 AM

FREE GIFT!!!
One per Family

Brian O'Hara © 2024
brian.ohara24@gmail.com

Sunday School Nativity Program!

Nothing is more precious than watching a children's production at Christmas. You will not want to miss this event! The Augustus Lutheran Church Sunday School will perform their annual Christmas Nativity program during the 10:30 AM service on Sunday December 15, 2024 in the Brick Church. This is a fantastic church service for both adults and children alike and enjoyed by all. Start your Christmas family tradition at Augustus!

SOMETHING NEW: Each family attending the 10:30 AM service will receive a special gift on behalf of the Augustus Sunday School Program and the Outreach Committee

For questions about this event or to place your reservations,
contact: brian.ohara24@gmail.com

Annual Christmas Decorating Party

Brian O'Hara © 2022
brian.ohara24@gmail.com



A social outing for all congregants, family, & friends of Augustus

Annual Augustus Family Christmas Party!

Join the Augustus Family in preparing the House of the Lord for the Christmas Season. It takes many hands to get the church ready and we definitely need your help to make it happen! From decorating the tree in the nave, to hanging the garland and wreaths, there is lots to do in a short period of time. All of the holiday enhancements around our campus entice visitors that are looking for the 'old fashioned family Christmas'. We will also be serving lunch and a light continental breakfast...because a party without food is just a meeting. Look for details in the near future and a sign-up sheet in the Muhlenberg Center. Contact Brian O'Hara or 610-489-0417 for more details. The event is sponsored by the **Outreach Committee** and is open to the entire Augustus Lutheran Church Family

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>November</h1>					1	2
3 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Holy Communion	4	5	6 9:00 am Quilting 2:00 pm Staff Meeting 6:00 pm 3-in-1	7 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Vocal Choir	8	9
10 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Holy Communion 11:30 am Annual Meeting II	11 7:00 pm Knitting	12 7:00 pm Community Club	13 9:00 am Soup Kitchen 6:00 pm 3-in-1	14 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Vocal Choir	15	16
17 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Holy Communion	18 7:00 pm Book Club	19 9:00 am Quilting	20 2:00 pm Staff Meeting 6:00 pm 3-in-1	21 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Vocal Choir	22	23
24 THANKOFFERING 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Holy Communion 1:00 pm Concert Rehearsal	25 7:00 pm Knitting	26 7:00 pm Committee Night	27	28 Office Closed Thanksgiving	29 Office Closed	30



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h2>November Birthdays</h2>						1 Joe Firth
3	4 Abbie Fargo John Kochel Mary Saylor	5 Clifford Sifton Brandon Snyder	6 Brandon Barish Lillian Catagnus Edward Cushine Jim Herr Nate Long Kiersten Markert Minetta O'Boyle Jeffrey Whitman	7 Hazel Giera Rick Opperman	8 Ruth Frazier Lily Rode	9 Lorna DePaul Isaiah House Landon Pribbernow
10 Mike Van Blaricum Summer Watts Tristan Watts	11 Douglas Cornish Beth Vida	12	13 Michele Casullo Cheryl Ludwig	14 Wade Anderson David Hess James Murray	15	16
17 Matthew Meeley Hogan Millheim	18 Aubrey Collins	19 Kevin Dubeck Brook Gabel	20 Dolores Allebach Jacob Keim Harold Nelson	21 Martin Sweeney	22 Joseph Cooney Joshua Martin	23 Sarah Interrante Sean Whitman
24 Heather Lilienthal	25 Marie Conver	26 Jack Cooney Brian O'Hara	27 Matthew Cooney Ashley Tighe	28 Piper Clark Moira Gallagher	29 Shirley Heist Lucas McCrea Matthew Quirk	30