

Augustinian

Augustus Lutheran Church

An Historic Church for Today's People



NOVEMBER 2025

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On behalf of the Pastors and Staff of Augustus, I would like to thank the O'Hara family, the Outreach Committee, and the Women of the ELCA for another wonderful Pastors and Staff Appreciation Sunday. Your love and support are deeply appreciated. Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

Congregational Meeting in November

The Congregational Meeting to approve the budget for 2026 and elect Vestry members will take place on Sunday, **November 9, 2025, beginning at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall**. Copies of the 2026 budget proposed to the voting members of Augustus by Vestry will be available after each service on Sunday, November 2, 2025.

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 Congregational 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 2026 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!



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



Sharon Mowry Altland
Hazel Giera
Marsha Llewellyn
Roy G. Lovell
Gail Martin
Bryan Saylor
Donna Yannelli

Darlene Scholl Eisenhardt
Brian Henry
Lovelie MacDonald Lovell
Muriel Ludwig
Rick Reyer
Ruth Yoder Taylor
Alice Young

From the Bench

November

Introducing the *Augustus Treble Choir!*

I'm excited to announce the formation of the Augustus Treble Choir! Children and Youth ages 7 through 17 who love to sing are encouraged to learn more about the program.

The Treble Choir offers young people an opportunity to receive professional-level choral training that includes lessons for healthy vocal production, reading music, and sight singing. Choristers also develop leadership and teambuilding skills.

In addition, regular participation in choir provides our young people with an excellent opportunity to learn more about our Lutheran faith and liturgy. The combination of hymns, anthems, readings, and sermons tell the story of Jesus, beginning with the birth of Christ in Advent and ending with the gift of the Holy Spirit in Pentecost. And, of course, choir is a great way to build long-lasting friendships.

Please see the Augustus Preparatory and Treble Choir Flyer for more information!

Thank you,

Darryl Roland



AUGUSTUS' CHOIR & FRIENDS
Conducted by Dr. Darryl Roland
Organist Accompanist: Mr. Matthew Boatmon

Christmas Concert

**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 14
3:00 PM**

FREE WILL OFFERING

Brian O'Hara © 2025
brian.ohara24@gmail.com

Annual Augustus Choir Christmas Concert!

Take in the sounds of the season with the combined Augustus Lutheran Church Choirs on December 14th, 2025 in the Brick Church at 3:00 PM. This is a fantastic event for both adults and children alike and enjoyed by all. A free-will offering will be taken and the proceeds will support the Augustus music program. Start your Christmas family tradition at Augustus!



Augustus Lutheran Church Preparatory and Treble Choirs

Does your child love to sing?

The Augustus Lutheran Church Preparatory and Treble Choir provides boys and girls ages 7 – 17 with professional level choral training and performing opportunities.

In addition, choristers learn how to read music and sight sing, develop teamwork and leadership skills and make new friends!

Information Sheet

Preparatory Choir (2nd – 4th Grade)

Weekly rehearsals on Sunday

11:45 Pizza!
12:15 – 1:15 Rehearsal
1:15 – 1:30 Musicianship

Weekly Performances on Sundays

*10:15 Choir Room to vest
10:25 Line up for procession
10:30 Service

Families who participate in the Preparatory Choir continue to participate fully in Sunday School!

Treble Choir (5th Grade – High School)

Weekly rehearsals on Sunday

11:45 Pizza!
12:15 – 1:15 Rehearsal
1:15 – 1:30 Musicianship

Weekly Performances on Sundays

*9:20 Choir Room to vest
9:30 Full rehearsal
10:30 Service

* “To vest” means to put on your choir robe.

Please contact Dr. Darryl Roland, Director of Music,
for additional information.

music@augustustrappe.org • (610) 489-9625



Augustus' Women of the ELCA THANKOFFERING/ Quilt & Afghan Sunday



Augustus' Thankoffering/Quilt & Afghan Sunday will be held on November 23, 2025, at both the 8:00am & 10:30am church worship services. Amanda Bryant, Director of Donor & Volunteer Engagement at Gemma Services, will be our guest speaker. With nearly 20 years of experience in the nonprofit sector, and 11 years with Gemma, Amanda oversees donations of in-kind items (such as clothing and toys), including coordinating the organization's annual Christmas gift collection which Augustus supports. She also coordinates Gemma's volunteer program, special events, and donor stewardship - making sure Gemma communicates to our supporters, such as many faithful congregational friends, the impact of their charitable giving to Gemma.

Gemma Services was formed in 2019 by the merger of two long-standing Philadelphia-area non-profits: Silver Springs - Martin Luther School and the Village. Both legacy organizations were founded in the 1800s as orphanages and evolved through the years to respond to the growing needs in our local communities. Today, as one organization, Gemma assists youth and families through challenging times. Guided by the vision of a world where every person knows they matter, Gemma Services' mission is to accompany people of all ages through life's challenges using individualized, data-informed support. With three locations in Greater Philadelphia, more than 3,000 youth and families participate each year in Gemma's 10 mental health, child welfare, and prevention programs, and special education school (Martin Luther School).

More information is available about the organization and fundraising needs at www.gemmaservices.org. Please mark your calendars & plan to attend. You won't want to miss this service!! Following the services refreshments will be served in the Muhlenberg Center.

Also, on this day handcrafted quilts and afghans by Augustus' Women of the ELCA Hearts & Hands Committee will be on display. The quilts and afghans were produced under the direction of Mildred Stuffle. The quilts will be given to Lutheran World Relief for distribution to the less fortunate in countries all over the world. The full-sized afghans will be taken to Laurel House, a shelter for abused women and children, in Norristown, and the baby afghans will be taken to the St James Outreach House in Collegeville. The prayer blankets will be given to Doylestown Hospital for end-of-life patients. Producing and distributing quilts and afghans to those in need is a tangible way to express love to our neighbors in need.

In honor of Thankoffering, envelopes will be distributed for your donation which support the life-changing ministries of Women of the ELCA by covering the costs for 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!

Christian Education

Our program year is in full swing with a lively bunch of Sunday school kids, delightful confirmation students and a great group of senior high youth!

In Sunday school we've been learning about the apostle Paul as we lead up to Reformation Sunday and Martin Luther, who read one of Paul's letters and changed the world! We still need some Sunday school teachers in order to be able to separate into age groups. Augustus requires two teachers in each classroom so the more teachers we have, the more we can increase the number of classrooms in order to cater to the needs of each age group. You can teach every single Sunday or just sometimes. You can prepare lesson plans and activities like crafts or science projects or just be an extra pair of hands in the room. We welcome anyone who has a lot or a little time to give to our children—and the free snacks are a bonus!

Our confirmation kids are enjoying yummy dinners—especially those provided by our youth group on the first Sunday of the month! Pastor Weleck is teaching the students about the sacraments and we always end with ice cream.

I'm very much looking forward to the trunk or treat organized by our senior high youth group. Many thanks to the SHYG and their dedicated leaders.

Please contact me at education@augustrappe.org or (904) 476-4409 if you have any questions. Thank you for your prayers and support for the children and youth of Augustus!

Blessings,

Sonya Sowards
Director of Christian Education



ALL ATTENDEES
TO THE
CHRISTMAS
NATIVITY
PROGRAM
SERVICE
WILL RECEIVE
A SPECIAL GIFT,
COURTESY OF
AUGUSTUS
LUTHERAN
CHURCH!



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 Pageant during the 10:30 AM service on Sunday December 21, 2025 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!

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP NEWS

The Senior Youth Group would like to thank all those who attended Rally Day in September. We'd also like to thank all who decorated their cars and all that attended this year's Trunk or Treat. After the event, the senior youth group (SYG) went to the Bates Motel for a night of spooky fun. In November, we'll be having our annual apple pie sale. Stop by our table in the Muhlenberg Center to place your orders. The pies are made from scratch by the senior youth group. Other fund raisers throughout the year will include the soup sales and the annual Easter Candy sale. The money made from our fund-raisers will be used toward the group activities and the year-end mission trip.

*Thank
You!*

The SYG meets on the first Wednesday and the third Sunday of each month (September through May), as well as various other days for activities and fund raisers. 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 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

Happy Thanksgiving!

What are you thankful for?

Top your Thanksgiving dinner off with a homemade apple pie that will impress both your family and friends. The pies come fully assembled and just require baking them prior to serving. The pies also freeze well, so you can buy an extra one for your Christmas dinner! Don't wait to order yours. They sell fast every year. Sales benefit Augustus' Senior Youth Group. To place your order, contact gtwess@comcast.net.

Augustus Senior Youth Group's **HOMEMADE APPLE PIE SALE**

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 23, 2025
(after the 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM Service)

----- *Order Now* -----
SUNDAY OCT. 26 *thru* **SUNDAY NOV. 16**

Only \$ 12.00

To place order, contact: gtwess@comcast.net



Brian O'Hara © 2025
brianohara24@gmail.com

Graceful Generosity

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

Stewardship begins with gratitude ... gratitude for who we are in Christ, gratitude for the salvation he has won for us on the Cross, and gratitude for who he is and all his gifts to us. As stewards, we recognize that we are completely dependent on God for all we have and need and that, as we offer thanks for God's gifts, we also strive to use them in ways that please him.

Testing your knowledge of Scripture

Can you identify who from Scripture is in the Sycamore tree?



If you said Zacchaeus, you were right. Do you remember how Jesus changed his life and his attitude toward his wealth (Luke 19:1-9)? Prior to meeting Jesus and experiencing Jesus' love and the forgiveness of his sins, he lived for his money. After Jesus changed his heart, Zacchaeus lived to please the Lord. This was demonstrated when he gave away half of what he owned to the poor and four times the amount to those he had cheated. Are you handling your resources in such a way as to reflect a relationship with Jesus?

Does God Need Stewards?

As stewards, we acknowledge God as the creator and owner of all things. What God has entrusted to us, we are to manage for him according to God's purpose. Because we are merely caretakers of God's property, we, through our giving, are simply returning to God what he has already given to us. The Psalmist wrote, "... every animal of the forest is [his] and the cattle on a thousand hills" (Psalm 50:10). With God's vast resources, God does not need our offerings. "I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens" (Psalm 50:9).

Neither are we sharing "our" talents. Those, too, are gifts from God. The most eloquent preacher cannot work faith in the heart of the believer (1 Corinthians 12:3). The most skilled doctor cannot heal (Psalm 103:3). Each believer possesses at least one gift to be used serving others, but these gifts "he has received" (1 Peter 4:10) from God's gracious hand.

Does God need our gifts to accomplish his will? Did He need Moses' staff to part the Red Sea or Joshua's army to fell Jericho? Hardly! Does God need the preacher or teacher to impart his Word or the researcher to find a cure for cancer? Not really. "For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength" (1 Corinthians 1:25).

Even time is something over which we have no control. "My times are in your hands" (Psalm 31:15). We cannot choose the time of our births or our deaths (Hebrews 9:27). James tells us that all our plans are boasting and bragging. He wrote, "Instead you ought to say, 'If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that'" (James 4:14-16).

God is not bound by time. *"For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night"* (Psalm 90:4).

No, God does not need our money, our gifts, or our time. However, we are privileged to be chosen by God to be his stewards. God has called us to give of "our" resources, "our" money, gifts, and time.

He calls us to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, provide hospitality to the stranger, clothe the needy, and care for the prisoner (Matthew 25:38-40). We are to comfort as we have been comforted (Luke 11:4).

Let us, as stewards in this age, humbly consider the privilege God has given us by calling us to serve others with his gifts.



Being Stewards of God's Light

As God changes night into day, so he brings us out of spiritual darkness into his light. *"You, O Lord, keep my lamp burning; my God turns my darkness into light"* (Psalm 18:28).

As God's redeemed people, we find courage in the words of Psalm 27:1, *"The Lord is my light and my salvation - whom shall I fear?"* God's light outshines all other light: His light guides us, his light protects us, and his light saves us.

Being a light means more than going to church. It means more than busyness in church work. Being a light means to share Jesus so

others will come to know Christ as the way, the truth, and the life.

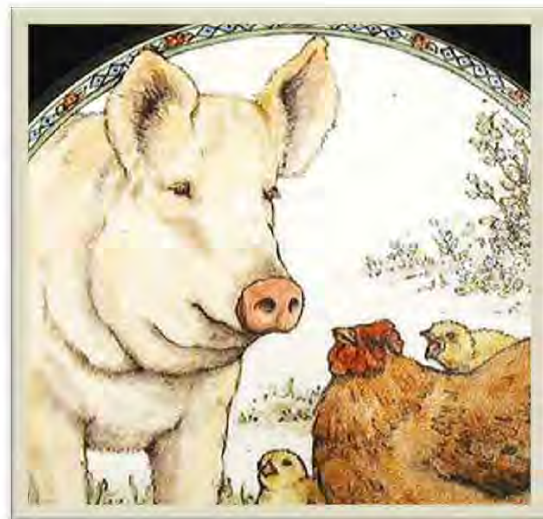
A Stewardship Illustration

A pig and a hen were strolling amicably down the street when they saw a sign in a lunchroom window reading:

DELICIOUS HAM AND EGGS.

"Isn't it grand," said the hen, "that together we can give human beings something that delights them?"

The pig frowned, "Yes," he said, "but you're giving out of surplus; for me, giving is a real sacrifice."



From that point of view, most of us have not reached the point of sacrificial giving. At times God asks us to give until we can truly feel the giving. Giving sacrificially usually includes one of the following:

- ✠ *A rearrangement of priorities.*
- ✠ *A change in lifestyle.*
- ✠ *A forfeiture of something valued.*

Blessings on Your Stewardship Journey!



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 November 30, 2025. Be present to receive yours!



***SOMETHING NEW *** Outreach Social Activity

Grab your partner or come alone! The Outreach Committee is hosting a Square Dancing event on Friday, November 14th. The event is open to people of all ages, and no prior experience is necessary. Our instructor, Anna, will teach you everything. The Outreach Committee will provide light refreshments. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. It is a fantastic opportunity to socialize with fellow congregants!!!

QUILTING GROUP

The Quilting group makes tie quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Quilting meets the first Wednesday and third Tuesday of each month from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM.



We now have quilting packs available in the Muhlenberg Center. Each pack has instructions, and a contact email address if you have any questions. Each pack has 48 squares in it and makes a 60" X 80" quilt top.

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

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

KNITTING & CROCHET GROUP

Do you like to Knit or Crochet? You don't need any more Afghans or sweaters? The knitting 'n croch group members work on their own projects or work on one of the projects described below.



Knitting 'n Crochet meets the second and fourth Monday of each Month from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

The Hearts and Hands Committee of Augustus Women of the ELCA collects knitted and crocheted 7" x 9" inch blocks that are sewn together into Afghans for Laurel House, a shelter in Norristown for abused women and children.

We also collect completed Afghans. The completed full-sized Afghans should about 49" X 56" (about the same size as the top of a double bed). These Afghans are also donated to Laurel House. Baby Afghans should be about 36" X 36" or 36" X 45" in pastel colors. These Afghans are donated to Genesis Pregnancy Care Center in Pottstown.

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

Holy Redeemer Hospital's Maternity Ward: Knitted/crocheted/quilted blankets -- 60" x 50" -- Pastel colors. The blankets will be distributed to mothers who lost their babies.

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

Brian O'Hara © 2019
brian.ohara24@gmail.com



Women's Ministries

A member of Women of the ELCA

FOURTH TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 7:00 PM

*** ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND ***
FOR MORE INFO: oharadvd@aol.com

2025 Augustus Lutheran Church Directory
(first since 2009)

Dates: November 10th and 11th, 2025 from 2:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Sign Up: Beginning September 14th, after each service

If you are unable to sign up in person, please contact
Tracy Wessner (484-955-8059 / Tracyrinslandwessner@gmail.com)

Or

Linda Romano (215-498-5600 / Linda.L.Romano@gmail.com)

*Dear Church family,
It's time for a New Directory!*



*Celebrating faith.
Connecting families.
Sharing hope.*

When people enter the doors of our church they are looking for a place to belong. Our directory brings us together to develop new relationships, connect with our own families, and reconnect with those we haven't seen in a while. Join us for this "Connections Event" and be part of what God is doing right here at our church!

Directory Committee

Connections Event

Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album.

- Schedule your professional photography session when you stop by the sign-up table at the church
If we don't see your name on our list of appointments, you will receive a phone call inviting you to participate.
- Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory!
- Universal provides a complete professional portrait studio right here at our church! You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finish and framing options AND have the opportunity to purchase portraits to give to family and friends.



2025 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 7, 2025

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:

Augustus Book Club

The next meeting is Monday, November 17, 2025 at 7:00 pm in the Vestry room.

We'll discuss The River is Waiting by Wally Lamb

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



Congregational Meeting Part II

The Fall Congregational Meeting will be held on
November 9th
following the 10:30 am service.

All members are invited and encouraged to attend this meeting. On the agenda is the approval of the 2026 Church Budget as well as Vestry Elections for 2026.

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

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



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

PREPARE AUGUSTUS LUTHERAN CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

Annual Christmas Decorating Party



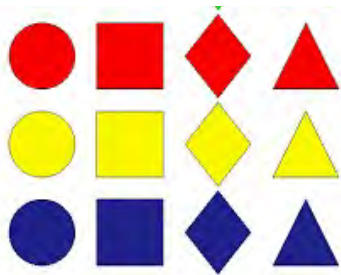
**13
DECEMBER
SATURDAY**

**at 9:30
am**

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



Gracious Givers

Lay Reader Message

Making a Difference

Do you find it interesting, as I do, that God has made us different in so many ways? Looking around the church I see that some of us are short, others tall; some of us wear glasses, others don't, some of us like sports, some of us like to fish and hunt, others like computers. Some of us like and are good at music while others aren't. God has given us different interests, talents, desires, and gifts. God also gives us different careers. God made us carpenters, business people, doctors, plumbers, teachers, etc. We don't look or sound alike, but as Christians we do have much in common. As God's children, we believe that he has created us and loves us so much that he sent his son to die for each of us. We know that God calls and knows us by name, and we are united in our faith.

As God's people, we also have a common task as Ephesians 4:12 states, *"that the body of Christ may be built up."* God in his infinite wisdom allows us to choose how to serve him best. As we contemplate how best we can serve the Lord, it is good to remember that God will empower us so we can faithfully use our God-given talents for his kingdom. God didn't make us and give us so much without giving us, as well, the ability to make a difference in our church, community, and the world. God will always equip us for the tasks he gives us to do. Think of the account of the tongue-tied Moses whom God equipped to be the leader of a vast nation. Study the life of David, an obscure shepherd boy, whom God prepared to be king. Marvel at God's patience with Gideon who asked for test after test before he was confident enough to undertake the task God entrusted him. We might find new situations and challenges to be a bit risky or uncomfortable, but just as God was with Moses, David, and Gideon, he will be with us all the way. With God's help, we will find ways our time and talents can make a difference.

Ephesians 4:16 reads, *"From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."* It is important and essential that we do our parts to support the body of Christ. We could easily compare this to a basketball team, which requires the contribution of each player. The guards need to bring the ball down the court, run the offense, make the correct passes and contribute in scoring. The forwards need to rebound and score, along with the center. All of the positions have to contribute on defense. Each team members plays a unique role and is valuable to the team. If one of them fails to contribute, the whole team suffers. We each have a part to contribute on God's team. We can be effective in reaching the unchurched and building up the church when we all contribute. God gives us talents and gifts so we can use them to his glory in his church. When we let God work through us, we can make a difference.



September 2025

Dear friend,

Each year, Gemma creates holiday joy by providing gifts and gift cards to children and families who we are honored to accompany across our programs and our Martin Luther School. Thanks to the generosity of many friends like you, we are able to help parents like Ms. Johnson*, a single mother of three who works hard to provide her family with essentials, and does not have extra money to buy holiday gifts. Also, we are able to help youth like ten-year-old Michael*, who came to our Residential Treatment Program after experiencing traumas earlier in his life, and who will spend the holidays with us and not with his family.

You can help make special holiday memories possible! Any gift you provide means a child will have a new toy to unwrap with excitement on Christmas morning. A gift card you donate will help a family buy the perfect present for their child, or provide their family with a holiday meal. Most importantly, your generous support is a tangible reminder that every child and every family matters!

Here are ways you can help:

- ★ **Make a financial gift** to Gemma in the spirit of the holidays to assist children and families this year.
- ★ **Encourage friends or family to make a donation** 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, & 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>. **All gifts should be new and unwrapped.**

We will be receiving deliveries of gifts to Gemma's Plymouth Meeting location by appointment only Monday, December 1st to Wednesday, December 10th. Please contact Amanda Bryant at (610) 825-4440 x3307 or abryant@gemmaservices.org to **schedule a delivery time.**

Thank you for helping Gemma create holiday joy this year for children and families from throughout our shared community!

With appreciation,

Amanda Bryant
Director of Donor & Volunteer Engagement

*Names changed to protect privacy



www.gemmaservices.org





2025 Gift Wish List

Toys

- Large and medium-sized stuffed animals
- Small and medium-sized Squishmallow stuffed animals
- Weighted stuffed animals
- Games – Checkers, Chess, Jenga, Connect 4, UNO, Scrabble, Trouble, and Sorry are favorites
- LEGO sets
- Pokémon cards and toys
- Superhero action figures
- LOL dolls and Rainbow High dolls
- Remote controlled vehicles (battery operated, please)
- Playing cards and card games
- Rubik's cubes
- Handheld electronic games (battery operated, please)
- 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
- Hairstyling mannequin heads

Clothing & Personal Care

- Pajama sets for boys and girls – youth sizes M-XL and adult sizes S-L
- Toiletry gift sets for boys or girls. Dove, Axe, and Bath and Body Works are favorites.
- Personal care items including body wash, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, and toothbrushes. Plastic bottles only, please!
- Plastic water bottles
- Hooded sweatshirts for girls and boys – youth sizes 12-18 and adult sizes S-L. Nike, Adidas, Champion, and Under Armor 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
- Hairbrushes and combs
- Nail stickers, press-on nails, lip gloss, lip balm, and makeup
- Winter coats – youth & adult sizes
- Winter hats & gloves – youth & adult sizes
- Children's weighted blankets

Arts & Crafts

- Craft kits (sand art, sun catchers, etc.)
- Crayola art kits
- Diamond or crystal art kits
- Paint by number
- Gel pen sets
- Stickers and sticker sheets
- Crayons, markers, and colored pencils
- 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!
- Small and medium art canvases
- Air dry clay
- Light up drawing pads

Sports

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

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
November						1
2 All Saints Sunday 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Holy Communion	3	4 7:00 PM Vestry Meeting	5 9:00 am Quilting 2:00 pm Staff Meeting 6:00 pm 3-in-1	6 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Vocal Choir	7	8
9 Annual Meeting 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	10 1:00 pm Directory Photos 7:00 pm Knitting	11 1:00 pm Directory Photos 7:00 pm Community Club	12 9:00 am Soup Kitchen 6:00 pm 3-in-1	13 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Vocal Choir	14 4:00 pm Chili Cook Off/ Square Dance	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 9:00 am Quilting	19 2:00 pm Staff Meeting 6:00 pm 3-in-1	20 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Vocal Choir	21	22
23 Thankoffering 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Holy Communion PIE PICK UP after services	24 1:00 pm Directory Photos 7:00 pm Knitting	25 7:00 pm Committee Night	26 NO 3-in-1	27 Office Closed Thanksgiving	28 Office Closed	29
30 Advent I 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Holy Communion						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November Birthdays						1 Joe Firth
2 Diane Krasley	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 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	15 Brittany Kitchens
16 Ed Drummond	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 McCrear Matthew Quirk
30						