Augustinian

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

NOVEMBER 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ.

I hope you are staying safe and keeping well. We certainly live in a strange time. Nothing seems permanent. Change is all around us. As a consequence of the chaotic times in which we live, I would like to inform you of two (2) significant decisions made by the Vestry that affect the Annual Meeting and the Christmas Eve services.

Annual Meeting – November 8, 2020 @ 12:30 PM

The Annual Meeting to approve the 2021 budget and elect Vestry members will be held on Sunday, November 8, 2020. This meeting will be held entirely online through the online Zoom meeting program. After November 1, 2020, a new web page will be added to our web site (www.augustustrappe.org) where you can download the Agenda and Proposed 2021 Budget and access the Zoom meeting. I would ask all of our members who may be unfamiliar with Zoom to please ask for help from your family so that you can take part.

Why an online Annual Meeting?

The Vestry thinks it is highly unlikely that we will be able to get the quorum of 50 Confirmed Members at an in-person meeting after the 10:30 AM service. The Synod has advised us that under current Pennsylvania law, we can have either an entirely in-person meeting or an entirely online meeting. A hybrid meeting, in which some participants are present at Augustus and others participate online, poses problems with respect to voting procedure. Therefore, the Vestry has chosen to use the online format. We thank you for your flexibility and good humor during these difficult times.

Christmas Eve - December 24, 2020 @ 5:00 PM, 7:00 PM, and 9:00 PM

In order to maintain proper social distancing,

attendance at all Christmas Eve services will require prior registration.

Registration will open on December 1, 2020. You may register either online on the special Christmas Eve web page on our web site (www.augustustrappe.org) or by telephoning the Parish Office after December 1, 2020.

5:00 PM – Family Service of Lessons and Carols in the Old Church

7:00 PM – Family Service of Lessons and Carols in the Brick Church Nave

9:00 PM – Candlelight Carol Communion in the Brick Church Nave

DON'T FORGET YOUR MASK. Please note that the Brick Church Nave will be disinfected after the 7:00 PM service and before the 9:00 PM service.

If you are unable to attend our services in person this Christmas Eve, we will live stream one (1) service from the Brick Church Nave. We would appreciate if you would mail in your Christmas Eve offering or use the DONATE button on our web site to give online.

We are never alone during this stressful time. Jesus walks alongside us every step of the way.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Weleck



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

It was so wonderful to see everyone and meet each other's pets at our Blessing of the Animals on October 4th! We're now looking forward to our next in-person gathering which will be a scavenger hunt in the grave-yard on All Saints Day, November 1st, at 11:45 a.m. These outdoor gatherings give us a chance to safely reconnect with each other while we eagerly await the return to in-person Sunday school. Meanwhile I am delighted every Sunday to join a group of our wonderful children on Zoom to continue to learn our Bible stories, sing and pray together.

Being able to finally be part of Confirmation and First Communion at the end of September was also a boost to the spirit. We have fantastic young people at Augustus. Pastor Weleck and I met with our incoming First Communicants and Confirmands via Zoom recently to discuss the delayed start to their classes and it was great to see some faces I've been missing.

Our church has never stopped doing the work of Christ in the world, even when the rest of the world stopped. It's been interesting to learn new technologies and new ways of doing things, but that doesn't keep me from praying for a vaccine! May God's love and comfort be with you all.

Grace & peace,

Sonya Sowards Director of Christian Education

From the Bench

November 2020

Although some stores are already playing Christmas music, it won't even be Thanksgiving when you read this. And what a strange Thanksgiving Day this will be. My family used to have a tradition of going to the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. We stopped going years ago, but I guess no one will be there this year. Over the years, my own Thanksgiving celebration went from my childhood home, to traveling back to my childhood home, to somewhere in NYC after the parade, to my sister's home in King of Prussia, to my mom's residence at Frederick Living, and back to my sister's after mom died. But this year, my sister is moving to Lancaster in early November, and we're not supposed to gather anyway. It seems pretty depressing.

But the reading in church a few weeks ago from Philippians said, "Rejoice in the Lord ALWAYS. Again I will say, Rejoice!" Paul was in circumstances that would not have inspired contentment, let alone rejoicing. But he told us to rejoice. Not to rejoice ANYWAY, but just REJOICE – there is no condition on it. I remember reading "The Hiding Place" by Corrie Ten Boom many years ago. She was held in a concentration camp after her family was discovered to be providing refuge to Jewish residents of Holland. Most of her entire family, including her beloved father and sister, died in the Holocaust. Corrie told the story of a dwelling she shared with others where the fleas were so very bad, you could hardly think. They flew and bit and left no one alone. But Corrie's sister encouraged her to give thanks for the fleas. Corrie could not imagine anything crazier than giving thanks for fleas – but she did. She and her sister held Bible studies in that dwelling, and it was only later that they discovered that the reason the guards never interrupted or bothered their Bible studies was because of the fleas! The fleas enabled them to share God's word with the others who were suffering.

We may not feel like there is much to be thankful for this November. But when we rejoice in the Lord, and thank him for ALL of it, we are more likely to see his hand guiding us. And on Thanksgiving, we can sing wherever we are:

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing; He chastens and hastens His will to make known; The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing; Sing praises to His Name; He forgets not His own.

(Anonymous, 1597; translated by Theodore Baker, 1894)

A blessed Thanksgiving to all!

~Laurie Mueller





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

Gloria Olsen
Charles Beishl
Dolores Webb
David MacPhee
Herbert H. Michel, D.D.
Katherine Beattie
Judi Lien
Elizabeth Middleton

GRAFI & VENDOR END

Dear Friends of the Spring Turkey Dinner,

Despite the global pandemic, Stephen and Jodi Lynn Swanson and their family, missionaries whom we have supported for several years, have decided to stay in Tanzania and continue their roles as healthcare professionals. We would still like to support these missionaries and the wonderful work that they are doing to train Tanzanian health professionals, develop a neonatal intensive care unit and establish a feeding program for malnourished children.

Because of the cancellation of the 2020 Turkey Dinner and Craft show, we were unable to raise funds for missionary work. As a result, Augustus Women of the ELCA have initiated a Prayer and Pledge Drive to engage the local community to help missions on a global level. With your support, we can raise over \$3,000 to financially support our pediatric missionaries, and to foster health and wellness education in parts of the globe that are less fortunate than ours.

Would you consider contributing a faithful prayer, financial pledge, or both to help us work toward our mission? ALL DONATIONS RECEIVED BY 11/08/2020 WILL BE MATCHED by three generous gifts: a generous gift from the Augustus Women of the ELCA (up to \$1,000), a generous gift from Pastor Kochenderfer (up to \$1,000), and a generous gift from Pastor Martha and Pastor Howard Kriebel (up to \$1,000). So every dollar you contribute will be increased four-fold! And as an added bonus, you will be eligible to be entered in a drawing on November 22, 2020 for an afghan. The afghan is 48" x 54" and is crocheted with soft, bulky, polyester yarn.

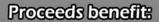
On behalf of the Swansons, the Augustus Women of the ELCA, and the Christian community at Augustus Lutheran Church, we would like to thank you in advance for your support. For your convenience, you can make your contribution by one of the following two ways:

- Donating online at <www.augustustrappe.org>. Just follow the "DONATE" prompts under the "GIVING" tab. Don't forget to add "WELCA-Turkey Dinner" and your phone number in the comments box so we can add you to the drawing.
- 2. By mailing-in your financial commitment. Checks and money orders can be made out to 'Augustus Women of the ELCA'. Additionally, please write "Turkey Dinner" on the memo line. Send your donation to the following address to ensure your donation is delivered to the applicable location:

Augustus Lutheran Church

c/o Women of the ELCA 717 West Main Street Trappe, Pa, 19426

Thanks again for your support of the Augustus Women of the ELCA pledge drive, and for helping to ensure the long-term sustainable future of the children in Tanzania.



Dr. Stephen and Jodi Lynn Swanson Missionaries in Tanzania



RESPOND BY

11/08/2020

to be ENTERED in an

ervices: 8:00 AM Communion * 9:00 AM Sunday School * 10:30 AM Worship

A NEW WAY TO WORSHIP!

We are happy that our beloved church is again open for 'in-person' worship, albeit with some guidelines and restrictions. This said, there are many people who feel uncomfortable venturing out due to the threat of COVID-19 or their physical condition limits their ability to attend church in person. You can now 'attend church', either LIVE or view on-demand thanks to the new state-of-the-art video streaming & recording system we installed which was funded by the memorial gifts for Judi Lien.

The 10:30am Sunday service is streamed LIVE on YouTube if you want to watch as it happens and is also available as a recording throughout the week so you can view at your convenience. In either case, go to the church website: https://www.augustustrappe.org/ and click on the white button.

Our 10:30 am service is recorded and available Sunday afternoon here.

CLICK HERE TO SEE THE SEPTEMBER 20th SERVICE

Service will be streaming live at 10:30 am Sunday morning

NOTE: When watching LIVE, there will be a delay, from 20 seconds up to a few minutes until you see the service start. Be patient! The service is not starting late, all digital technology has 'latency'. The streaming system needs to process the signals, which takes time. The stream will start just prior to the Prelude so you will not miss anything, though you may not see it until a few minutes after 10:30am.

In addition to the weekly services, special events such as weddings, funerals, special services, and concerts may also be streamed LIVE! We were honored to live-stream Eric Schwirian's ordination service to his new parish and ELCA Synod in Minnesota.

Would you like to learn more about this? Contact Jim Lien, he will be happy to have you visit the 'Control Center' in the balcony and show you the 'nuts and bolts' of how this all works.

Regards,

The Communication and Technology Committee

HELP WANTED!

Have you ever wanted to work in, or are thinking of a career in audiovisual or television? Or are you a techy who just loves to play with 'toys'? While Jim loves doing this, there will be times he is not available and will need a back-up person. Contact Jim Lien: jimlien@comcast.net or 610-909-3268 and he will make you a TV producer/director in no time! Well... that may be a stretch, but he may be able to point you down the right road.

NOTE:

If you reached out to Jim and he did not reply to you, please contact him again, he lost some emails.

ALTAR GUILD VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Have you ever wondered about the drapes on the altar? What do the colors mean? What are the pieces for? Who puts them there, anyway? What about the candles? There are many important pieces that make up our weekly worship at Augustus! The people who make sure everything is where it needs to be, that communion is available, and that the candles are ready to be lit are a group of volunteers called The Altar Guild.

These folks are well trained and serve usually one month each year—in pairs. It takes a few minutes each week to set things up, and you don't even have to be present for the church service to participate during these crazy times.

If you're interested in learning more about this very important opportunity to help with our weekly worship, please <u>contact Deb Scholl at schollde@aol.com</u>. She'd be happy to give you more information and show you what's involved.





Tenth Annual Thanksgiving Apple Pie Sale Sponsored by the Senior Youth Group

Pies can be picked up on Nov. 22nd after both services or delivered after the late service. Pies will be frozen.

Baking instructions will be provided.

Cost: \$10.00 per pie.

Name:
Phone Number:
Number of Pies:
Pick up on 22-Nov-2019 (check one)
After the early Service (8:00 am):
After the late Service (10:30 am):
Address for delivery:

Christian Parenting

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

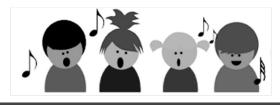
Sing!

Ephesians 5:19 tells us to sing hymns and psalms to the Lord. Singing is one of the easiest ways to teach our children how to praise God.

Most young children love to sing. It is good to encourage their singing. How many adults don't sing because someone discouraged them from singing when they were a child? Most children aren't music critics. They don't care what your voice sounds like. Invite your children to teach you the songs they learn in church school. Teach them the songs you learned. Help them learn familiar hymns that are sung in your church. Make up your own spur-of-the-moment songs to praise God.

God created us to be praising people. When you encourage your child to sing his or her praises to God, you're helping him or her become the kind of person God intended him or her to be.

From Family Newsletters on Disk, copyright 1995 Augsburg Fortress.



Can I Be Trusted with Much?

Oswald Chambers wrote, "Not every man can carry a full cup. Sudden elevation frequently leads to pride and a fall. The most exciting test of all to survive is prosperity." This quote provides a clear warning: Those who become prosperous are also very likely to become filled with pride. Pride can cause inflated egos and selfworthiness. Agur, a writer of proverbs, gave us this warning: ". . . give me neither poverty nor riches but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, 'Who is the Lord?' or I may become poor and steal and so dishonor the name of my God" (Proverbs 30:8-9). When our bills are paid and we have money in the bank, we may feel secure and depend only on ourselves. In speaking about the curse of success, someone once said, "Ninety-nine people out of 100 can handle adversity whereas only one out of 100 can handle prosperity." The wealth that many seek can be more of a curse than a blessing.

God blesses us with work and the ability to earn our incomes. Unfortunately, we may foolishly begin to believe that we are solely responsible for the success we've achieved. As Moses wrote, "You may say to yourself, 'My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.' But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth . . . " (Deuteronomy 8:18). We should understand that only by God's grace are we able to have a place to call home, a savings account, and a retirement plan. God's Word is clear that we are managers, not owners. "The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it" (Psalm 24:1).

Even though it is difficult to pass the test with money, the Holy Spirit, working through the Word, enables us to understand that all we are and have are gifts from God. Joseph provides us a good example of stewardship. Separated from his home and family, he still trusted God and feared him, refusing to give in to the temptations that came with the position God enabled him to fill. As second in command in Egypt, one of the most powerful kingdoms of his day, he retained his humility, realizing that he was only the manager of Egypt's resources. But he managed those resources well, working at it "with all [his] heart, as working for the Lord, not for men" (Colossians 3:23). Just as God empowered Joseph in his stewardship, so he does for us today, whether our resources are vast, as were Joseph's, or small.



November Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Joe Firth	Diane Krasley	Maura Cunningham	John Kochel	Clifford Sifton	Brandon Barish	Hazel Giera
4	HAPP	Y NAY	Mary Saylor Abigail Snear	Brandon Snyder	Lillian Catagnus Edward Cushine Jim Herr Nate Long Kiersten Markert Minetta O'Boyle	Richard Opperman
	20 W 20 W 21 W 20 W 20 W	P 67 78 82			•	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Ruth Frazier	Lorna DePaul Isaiah House Landon Pribbernow	Mike Van Blaricum Summer Watts Tristan Watts	Douglas Cornish Curt Reiser Beth Vida		Cheryl Ludwig	David Hess
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Kenneth Imes		Matthew Meeley Hogan Millheim		Kevin Dubeck Brook Gabel	Dolores Allebach Jacob Keim Harold Nelson	Tony Garro Martin Sweeney
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Joseph Cooney Joshua Martin	Sarah Interrante Sean Whitman	Heather Lilienthal		Jack Cooney Brian O'Hara Madeline Reiser	Matthew Cooney Ashley Tighe	Piper Clark Moira Gallagher
29	30					
Shirley Heist Lucas McCrea Matthew Quirk			000		0000	

It's the Same Old Story

Genesis 6-8 tells about the covenant, or promise, God made with Noah. Do your kids ever say, "We've heard that Bible story a million times?" Here are some suggestions for how to make "the same old story" come alive. Try the techniques with other Bible stories, too.

Invite older family members to create a narration of the Noah story. Then have your family choose parts they would like to play. Collect props for making sound effects for the wind and water and other occurances. Tape record the narration. Act it out.

Make a "movie" of the story. On long strips of shelf paper, draw panels depicting scenes from the story. Cut a hole in a cardboard box large enough to show the shelf paper pictures. Cut slits on either side of the box and carefully pull the shelf paper "movie" through the box.

Individual movies may be made using shoe boxes. One or two family members can work together to create their own versions of the story. Gather as a family and watch each others' productions. Use puppets to tell the story. Make characters from paper plates attached to sticks, or paper bags, or socks to create the characters. Fashion an ark from cardboard. Stretch a sheet across a doorway to form the stage. Have family members hide behind the sheet and hold up the puppets at the proper time in the narration.

Invite family members to assume the roles of various animals that would have been on the ark. Have another family member interview the animals, getting their perspectives on what happened. A ball of foil glued to a paper towel roll makes an excellent makeshift microphone. The interviewer can ask the animals what they think and feel. Take turns interviewing and being interviewed.

Make a clay diorama of the story. Fashion animal and people models from play clay or make your own. Play

clay recipe: Mix and 2 cups flour, 1 cup salt, and 1 cup water. Form desired shapes and bake at 350 degrees for about 30 minutes or until golden. When cool, decorate and spray the forms with acrylic craft spray.

Produce a "Noah's Gazette" newspaper. Write articles and advice columns, dress in costumes and take instant photos, design advertising, and include comics and a sports page. Put it all together in a newspaper to share with friends and family.

Read a Noah story from a story Bible, or if it is available, read a book called "Noah's Ark" by Peter Spier—a translation of a 17th-century Dutch poem about God's grace in saving Noah. Thank God for new ways to explore God's word.



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Christian Parenting

Christian Fellowship

Perhaps you've heard that the family that prays and plays together, stays together. That's true for church families as well. Christian fellowship not only strengthens the body of believers, but it also strengthens the faith of each member. Although a child's faith usually begins in the home, its continued growth is dependent upon his or her lifelong involvement in church. In Effective Christian Education: A National Study of Protestant Congregations (1990) Search Institute found that church involvement was one of the most important factors in determining the faith maturity of adults.

A child's faith will mature when he or she is an adult if he or she is involved in the life of the congregation.



Attend church school and worship. Take part in congregational service projects and fellowship events. Fellowship with Christians outside of worship times. Share meals together. Plan recreational activities and service projects. If Christian fellowship becomes a natural and enjoyable part of your children's lives when they're young, they'll continue to seek it as adults.

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WOMEN / ELCA NOVEMBER 2020

As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit - we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, society, and the world.

<u>Augustus' Thankoffering/Quilt & Afghan Sunday</u> will be held on November 22, 2020, at both the 8:00am & 10:30am church services. We are blessed to have our Honorary Assistant of Augustus Lutheran Church and the former Pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ in Collegeville, the Rev. Dr. Martha Kriebel as our guest speaker. As our ongoing theme WELCA is celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women.

As one of the pioneers of women's ordination, the Rev. Dr. Martha Kriebel is greatly admired for her many contributions to both the church and the community in which she belongs. Additionally on this day, we will also be serenated by the vocalist Kyra McFadden. Kyra is a case manager at the Norristown Hospitality Center. Mark your calendars, plan to attend, and please extend a warm Augustus 'welcome' to both Pastor Martha and Kyra. You won't want to miss this service!!

Thankoffering Sunday is an opportunity to appreciate the quilts and afghans made by the Hearts and Hands Committee of Augustus' Women of the ELCA. In the upcoming weeks, the quilts will be sent to Lutheran World Relief to be distributed to countries all over the world for those people less fortunate. The afghans will be taken to Laurel House, a shelter for abused women and children, in Norristown. The committee is under the direction of Mildred Stuffle. If you are interested in helping this group in their endeavors, please feel free to reach out to Mildred for more information.

Lastly, it has been a tradition on Thankoffering Sunday to take up a special offering which will benefit the life-changing ministries of the Churchwide Women's Organization of the ELCA. All proceeds collected will be sent directly to the churchwide organization of the Women of the ELCA. Your donation supports programs, resources, leadership training, and operational expenses to facilitate the long term success of the WELCA program. It is the only collection of the year that we do for our National Organization. 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! There is so much to be thankful even during this very difficult time of the Covid-19 Pandemic. Please make checks payable to Augustus Women of the ELCA. If you wish to have your contribution recorded on your quarterly statement from Augustus Lutheran Church, please include your congregational # on your envelope. If you are unable to attend the church service in-person, you can still donate to the ministries of the Women of the ELCA by one of the following two ways:

Donating online at <www.augustustrappe.org>. Just follow the "DONATE" prompts under the "GIVING" tab. Don't forget to add "WELCA-Thankoffering" in the comments box so that your donation gets contributed to the appropriate cause.

By mailing-in your financial commitment. Checks and money orders can be made out to 'Augustus Women of the ELCA'. Additionally, please write "Thankoffering" on the memo line. Send your donation to the following address:

Augustus Lutheran Church

c/o Women of the ELCA 717 West Main Street Trappe, Pa, 19426

We would like to thank you in advance for your support of the Women of the ELCA.



Thankofferings date back to the 1800's when Christian women formed "mite" or "cent" societies to fund mission. When others in the church said there was not enough money to carry out projects, the women believed otherwise. In these societies, each woman collected offerings at home. They would then gather as we do today to worship and combine their offerings and offer them up with thanks and praise. Together, we can do more than we could ever do alone.

Augustus' Turkey Dinner Prayer & Pledge Drive is coming to an end. Please refer to the attached flyer for more details. Get your donations in before it is too late!!! In order to be included in the afghan raffle, all entries must be received no later than November 8. The winner will be drawn on Thankoffering Sunday, November 22. The afghan is 48" x 54" and is crocheted with a soft, bulky, polyester yarn. This afghan is on display for your viewing in the Muhlenberg Center of Augustus. Many thanks to Mildred Stuffle for crocheting and donating this beautiful, warm and cozy afghan. It is sure to be a welcoming addition to anyone's home. We would also like to give our most heartfelt thanks to Print Copy Design Solutions for their financial and direct mailing donation which made the mailing campaign possible. If you have any printing needs, please reach out to Augustus' own Laura Schlegel to see how she can help fulfill your needs. We would also like to thank the financial backing and support of Thrivent, Pastors Martha and Howard Kriebel, and to Pastor Thomas Kochenderfer for their matching funds raised up to \$1000. We would also like to thank the community and congregation for their donation of time, talent, and treasure. No contribution went unnoticedDale O'Hara.....

Need a Prayer?

The Augustus Prayer chain welcomes your calls with prayer requests. If you need a prayer or know someone in need of a prayer, please contact Carol Oelschlager at 610-489-3109.

If no one is available to take your call, please leave a message and Carol will call you back.

Augustus Book Club

The next meeting of the Augustus Book Club will be held on Monday, November 16, 2020 at 7:30 pm via Zoom.

We'll discuss: 1984 by George Orwell

New members are always welcome!

Questions? Contact Karen McClain610-489-9625 or office@augustustrappe.org



20 21 27 28 Office Closed	26 Office Closed	25	24	16 7:30 pm Book Club 23 30	8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Communion 22 CHRIST the KING 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Communion THANKOFFERING 29 ADVENT I 8:00 am Holy Communion 10:30 am Holy Communion
13		9:30 am Soup Kitchen Outreach	10	9	8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Communion
			7:00 pm Vestry Meeting		8:00 am Holy Communion 10:30 am Holy Communion 11:30 All Saints Sunday School "In-Person" Activity
6	5 6	4	3	2	1 ALL SAINTS DAY
FRIDAY	THURSDAY	WEDNESDAY	TUESDAY	MONDAY	SUNDAY