

# Augustinian

## Augustus Lutheran Church

### An Historic Church for Today's People

MAY 2023

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

#### Christ is risen!

Throughout Easter, we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord (and our promised resurrection, too). It is a time of new beginnings, a time of fresh starts. The beauty of our Holy Week and Easter Sunday services was brought about by a whole cadre of people who devoted themselves to making this part of the church year a reverent and glorious celebration of Christ.

The celebration of Palm Sunday as just Palm Sunday and not as a mini-version of Good Friday has been well-received by our members and friends. Our First Communion and Confirmation students did an admirable job leading Stations of the Cross on Good Friday. Three (3) of our young people received their First Holy Communion on Easter Sunday. Attendance at worship on Easter Sunday continues to increase slowly, though we are not at the pre-Covid level yet. We almost ran out of worship bulletins. We will have to print more than 300 next year!

Looking ahead, three (3) of our Second Year Confirmands will affirm their faith in the Rite of Confirmation on the Day of Pentecost, May 28, 2023 at the 10:30 AM service. On Old Church Sunday, June 11, 2023, we will have one (1) service in the Old Church at 9:30 AM. The Reverend Dr. Karl Krueger will return as our preacher. Following a light lunch in Fellowship Hall, Pastor Krueger will delight us with a presentation on *A Funeral and a Feud*. Since Pastor Krueger is such an engaging preacher and presenter, why not invite your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers to join you at Augustus on this day. They will be blessed by our invitation.

Looking further ahead, since 2023 marks the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the writing of the hymn *Amazing Grace*, we will have a Sunday this fall in which we will focus on this hymn and its remarkable author. Keep an eye on future issues of *The Augustinian* for more information.

Christ is risen!

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Weleck

P.S. See you on Sunday!



First Holy Communion was administered to our Communion Class today during the 10:30 am service on Easter Day. May God bless them as they continue their journeys of faith.

Ethan DePaul  
Lilly North  
Colin Smith

# Christian Education

If you missed the presentation of Stations of the Cross by our 3-in-1 students and choir, you really missed something! Thank you to everyone who participated. Our adult helpers were Melissa & Shane Elison, Ann Walker, Kelly Stalker, Chilly Lyaro & Jen Wentworth. We also had some fantastic senior high youth group members that we could not do without on the stage crew: Abigail Stalker, Thomas Lyaro, & Ethan Depaul. But a special thank-you is due our confirmation students who took part: Graham Anderson, Liam Depaul, Gavin Elison, Julianne Fishell, Arianna Judisch, Katie Kerr, Abi Leigl, Wes Long, Erick Lyaro, Devyn Parker, Charlie Richvalsky, Andrew and Gracie Schlegel, and Colin Smith. Many of our students played multiple roles, but Katie Kerr wins the prize for having played FIVE roles. Her cousin Julianne Fishell was a close second with four roles. Emily Brandt was out of town for the presentation, but filled MANY roles during rehearsals when others were absent, allowing practices to run smoothly. **I've said it before and I'll say it again: We have a wonderful group of young people at Augustus!**

As our program year winds down, I'm looking forward to our Vacation Bible School, which will take place June 26-29. Our first job is to make sure we have enough adult volunteers to present a safe and lively VBS, so if you would like to help, please contact me! Clearances are required but are easily obtained.

Thank you for all you do to support the children and youth at Augustus.

Grace & peace,

Sonya Sowards

Director of Christian Education



## Augustus Book Club

The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 15  
at 7:00 pm in the Vestry room.

**We'll discuss**

**Paradise by Toni Morrison**

**New Members always welcome!**

Contact Karen McClain 610-489-9625 or [office@augustustrappe.org](mailto:office@augustustrappe.org)

### Altar Servers at 10:30 am

Date	Acolyte	Lessons	Prayers	Communion Assistant	Altar Guild
5/7	Devyn Parker	Alanna Jessee	Sonya Sowards	Gary Wessner	Jim L. & Mike V.
5/14	Charlie Richvalsky	Sonya Sowards		John Kochel	Jim L. & Mike V.
5/21	Arianna Judisch	Martha Kriebel	Connor Elison	Sherry Jessee	Jim L. & Mike V.
5/28	Grace Schlegel	Jennifer Wentworth	Alanna Jessee	Ethan DePaul	Jim L. & Mike V.

### Intercessors

It's OK to walk up to the lectern during the Creed.

Please be sure to be in position at the lectern so you can begin reading right away.



*The Norristown Chorale*

Ross Boerner, Artistic Director  
Laurie Mueller, Accompanist



*Our 46<sup>th</sup> Season*

# *All Things New*

SONGS OF HOPE, LOVE, AND RENEWAL

**Saturday, May 6, 2023**  
**4:00 PM**

First Presbyterian Church at Norristown  
113 E. Airy Street  
Norristown, PA 19141

**Tuesday, May 9, 2023**  
**7:30 PM**

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
132 E. Valley Forge Road  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

*Free parking is across the street in the county juror's lot:  
47 E. Airy Street, Norristown, PA*

# Gracious Givers

## *Lay Reader Message*

### Giving Sacrificially

A husband and wife who were traveling around the world saw a boy in Korea one day pulling a crude plow in a field, while an old man held the plow handles and directed it through the rice paddy. The husband was amused by the sight and took a snapshot of the scene.

"That's very curious," he remarked to the missionary who was their interpreter and guide. "I suppose they are poor."

"Yes," said the missionary. "That is the family of Chi Noui. When the church was built they were eager to give something to it, but they had no money, so they sold the only ox they had and gave the money to the church. This spring they are pulling the plow themselves."

The husband and wife were silent. Then the wife said, "That was a real sacrifice."

"They did not call it that," said the missionary. "They thought it was fortunate they had an ox to sell."

The two tourists had little to say, but, when they reached home, they took the photograph to the church and told their pastor about the incident. "We want to double our pledge to the church," they said, "and give us some plow work to do. We never knew what gratitude or joy or sacrifice really meant until now."

God spoke to this couple through their experience in Korea about the joy that comes from giving. In his Word, God speaks to all of us about the importance of giving. Jesus said, "*It is more blessed to give than to receive*" (Acts 20:35). He also said, "*Freely you have received, freely give.*" (Matthew 10:8). If we choose not to give faithfully and generously, we forego the blessings that God gives to those who give cheerfully. There is no better time than now to examine your level of giving, and, if need be, to take a leap of faith and increase your giving. In the words of Winston Churchill, "We make a living by what we give; we make a life by what we give."

## From the Bench

# May

Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed!

So many people helped make our Holy Week and Easter Sunday truly meaningful for all who attended or viewed. Many thanks to the singers, bell ringers, soloists, instrumentalists, worship leaders, ushers, those who set up and cleaned up; to Karen who printed all the bulletins, and to Jim for recording and posting the services. A shout-out to student organist Connor Elison who often plays during communion and played the postlude on Easter Sunday. I was so happy to see so many people on Easter Sunday, especially Leesa Shunk and Dottie Luft – we've missed you! I'm so joyful being the organist when the pews are full and so many people join the song: Jesus Christ is Risen Today – Alleluia!

As our choir year enters its last full month, there is one more concert to tell you about. On **Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>**, the handbell group Philadelphia Bronze will play a concert here at Augustus. There are no tickets and no charge, but a free-will offering will be received for Philadelphia Bronze. The concert begins at **7 pm** – come and bring friends!

You know, the church continues its Easter celebration for seven Sundays – fifty days. Why is this? After his resurrection, Jesus spent forty days on earth before his ascension, and ten days later was the feast of Pentecost (a harvest festival) when the Holy Spirit came - everyone heard the gospel in their native language. So the Great Fifty Days are a celebration of the Resurrection of Christ and all that it means for us, leading to the launching of the Christian Church and its mission on Pentecost, to tell the whole world the good news.

If you like telling the good news in music and song – please speak with me about joining a choir or offering some solo music in church sometime! There are lots of open Sundays this summer for special music offerings.

See you in church!

~Laurie Mueller



# Geranium Sunday

*Flowers can now be ordered for Pentecost!* All members of the Congregation are invited to order Red Geranium Plants as a memorial to or in honor of Loved Ones/Friends to decorate the Church Sanctuary in celebration of Pentecost, May 28, 2023. The Women of ELCA will take responsibility for their planting on church grounds. Please include payment with your order. *Make Checks payable to: AUGUSTUS FLOWER FUND*

**Last day to order is May 14, 2023**

*Mail to:* Karen Lachenmayer, 412 Dartmoor Rd., Schwenksville, PA 19473

*Phone:* 610-287-2827    *E-Mail:* [karenlachenmayer@gmail.com](mailto:karenlachenmayer@gmail.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity                      \$5.00 each                      Total:

\_\_\_\_\_



I would like the bulletin acknowledgement to read:


## ***YOUTH GROUP NEWS***

The Senior Youth Group would like to thank the congregation for supporting our fund raisers throughout the 2022/2023 year. We would also like to thank the youth and their parents for all their efforts. The proceeds from any fund raiser go towards our monthly activities, our outreach projects and our annual mission trip.

Our year end activity is chosen by the seniors in our group. We only have one this year, Liz Wentworth, and she chose Hershey Park. We'll be heading there the first weekend in June. It will be sad to see her leave, but we look forward to the new youth joining us.

The SYG will be going to Camden, NY again this year from July 23-29. The annual golf outing fund raiser for the trip is being held on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you're interested in golf, please pick up a brochure in the Muhlenberg Center.

If anyone is interested in becoming a leader in the SYG, contact one of the current leaders. New people bring new ideas and that is always appreciated.

If you are in need of work or you know someone that is, please let us know. The three churches that make up the One Dream Mission Team would like to help where we can. Please contact any of the leaders or contact the office with a message.

Chris Dogonniuck, [bulldog7224@comcast.net](mailto:bulldog7224@comcast.net)    Cathy Meeley, [tcmeeley@verizon.net](mailto:tcmeeley@verizon.net)  
Joe Schaffer, [joe.schaffer.44@gmail.com](mailto:joe.schaffer.44@gmail.com)    Gary Wessner, [gtwess@comcast.net](mailto:gtwess@comcast.net)

  
**2023**  
**One Dream**  
**Mission Team**

**9th Annual**  
**Golf Outing**

**Friday**  
**June 2, 2023**  
**1:00 P.M.**  
**Shot Gun Start**  
**Butter Valley Golf Port**  
**3243 Gehman Road**  
**Barto PA**  
**One Dream Mission Team**  
**First UCC &**  
**Trinity Lutheran**  
**(Quakertown, PA)**  
**Augustus Lutheran**  
**(Trappe, PA)**

**Tournament**  
**Information**  
**Friday, June 2, 2023**  
**12:00 registration**  
**1:00 Shot Gun Start**  
**4-Person Scramble Format**

**Butter Valley Golf Port**  
**Barto, PA**

**\$90 per golfer**  
**Greens fees, cart, food at**  
**turn, beverages, soda,**  
**water, steak dinner and**  
**gift bags**

**Dinner Only**  
**\$40 (6:30 PM)**  
**Can't join us for golf?**  
**Then please join us for the**  
**dinner and festivities.**

**Contests**  
**Closest to the Pin**  
**Longest Drive (Men)**  
**Longest Drive (Women)**  
**Straightest Drive**  
**50/50 Pot of Gold**  
**Putting Contest**  
**Raffles and Auction**

**(Check website for updates.)**  
**www.firstucc.net**

**Sponsor Information**

**Gold Sponsor \$725**  
**2 foursomes, 2 Hole Sponsorships,**  
**your name & company information**  
**listed on a cart.**

**Silver Sponsor \$400**  
**1 foursome and 2 Hole Sponsorships**

**Hole Sponsor \$75**  
**Sign at Tee Box**  
**Name/Company Name**  
**Company Information**

**Cart sponsor \$75**  
**Name/Company Name**  
**Company Information in every cart**

**Hole and Cart Sponsor Combo \$125**

**Monetary Donation**  
**We are happy to accept any amount**  
**that you can contribute.**

**Raffle/Auction Donation**  
**All items donated will be used for**  
**our Raffle/Auctions**

**\*\*\* All Sponsors will be able to**  
**provide promotional materials to**  
**be placed in each golfer's gift bag.**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

**Mail this form and check to:**  
**First UCC—Mission Group**  
**151 S. 4th Street,**  
**Quakertown, PA 18951**

**\$90 per golfer**  
**Register by May 21, 2023**

**\*Checks must be sent with your entry form**  
**to hold your spot and be made payable to:**  
**First UCC—Mission Group.**

**Contact:**

**Linda Friday at missiontrips@firstucc.net**  
**or call 215-538-0328**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City/State/Zip** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Additional Golfers:**  
**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Dinner Guests:**  
**(Dinner Only - \$40 each)**  
**Number of Guests** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Sponsorship Level \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total amount enclosed \$** \_\_\_\_\_

The goal of our Mission Group is to help families improve their everyday lives by making needed improvements and modifications to their homes. At the same time, teaching the teenagers in the group, valuable skills that they can use throughout their lives. The Mission Group includes teenagers, as young as 8th grade, and adults from three churches. We have come together as one group to share this dream with families in need.

Removing nails  
 from roof,  
 replacing with  
 screws



Removing  
 poorly-installed  
 siding



**2022 Mission Group**

**First United Church of Christ and**  
**Trinity Lutheran Church—Quakertown, PA**  
**Augustus Lutheran Church—Trappe, PA**



Using power tools to  
 repair deck



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> Janet Lauman	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Joseph Brennan Brittany Cornish John Niskala Megan Williams	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Amanda Christy Barbara Cornish Jonathan Price	<b>6</b> Kevin Millheim
<b>7</b> Michael Stokes	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Alexa King Linda Romano	<b>10</b> Pamela Kunasz	<b>11</b> Ben Dogonniuck Nancy Ehret Gary Halteman Devyn Parker	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Quinn Perkins Zoe Perkins Dawn Schmitt Terri Yetter
<b>14</b> Emma Raupp	<b>15</b> Dylan Funk Jessica Krauter Walter Mills	<b>16</b> Sarah Allen Daniel Garton Garrett Halteman	<b>17</b> William O'Boyle	<b>18</b> Sam Gabel Faye Jenkins	<b>19</b> Lindsey Allebach Jeffrey Althouse Tyler Schwirian	<b>20</b> Colby Davis
<b>21</b> Denise Althouse	<b>22</b> John Robinson Peyton Shaffer R. Walter Slauch	<b>23</b> Dennis DeWane Scott Halteman Dave Rheiner	<b>24</b> Cooper Demark	<b>25</b> Jaime Nelson Riley Smith	<b>26</b> Dylan Crothers Lucy Olsen Charlie Richvalsky Ryan Sellman	<b>27</b> Tim Anderson
<b>28</b> Gus Frisco Jennifer Kuklantz Mya Schiller Riley Schmidt	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Anita Halteman Dustin Keim Mason Stephan	<b>31</b> James DeNucci Ethelyn Perkins			

**May Birthdays!**



## Get Out in God's Creation

Where can you learn about God? In the Bible. In the fellowship of believers. In creation. If we want our children to know God, then we need to get out in God's natural world with them. That doesn't mean taking an expensive vacation. God's world can be found in a yard, a vacant lot, or a neighborhood park. You don't have to plan an expedition, or a picnic. Even fifteen minutes will give you a chance to observe and marvel, thank and praise.

What can you learn about God from creation? Look at all the different leaves. God loves variety. Find a spider web. Catch a snowflake. God has built patterns into our world. Watch an ant carrying a heavy load. God makes the weak powerful. Listen to the rustle of the leaves and the singing of the birds. God loves music. The smallest parts of creation can teach us big truths about our creator and our life.

Out in God's creation, we can teach our children about God and help them experience the renewal, peace, and joy of being in God's presence.

From Family Newsletters on Disk, copyright 1995 Augsburg Fortress.



# Graceful Generosity

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

## Run the Race

*"...let us throw off everything that hinders... let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us" (Hebrews 12:1),* exhorts the writer to the Hebrews. Perhaps that writer was the Apostle Paul, for running a race is a phrase he often used. In Acts 20:24, he declared that he wanted to *"finish the race and complete the task ... the task of testifying to the Gospel of God's grace."* That task belongs to us as well as to Paul. We have been chosen by God to run the race for the sake of the Gospel. Like Peter and John, we *"cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard"* (Acts 4:20).

Certainly our words testify to the Gospel of God's grace, and so do our lives. That's why we are also involved in the race of holy living. In this race, we put aside the hindrances of sin and self-interest that would keep us from a close relationship with our Savior and that would give ammunition to those who wish to disparage the Christian faith.

Our race is by no means all downhill. Competing in this race requires strict discipline and a focus on the goal. Scripture urges us to keep our eyes on *"Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith"* (Hebrews 12:2). Like the faith heroes of old, we run the race for those who will follow not in our own strength, but by the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament.

Perseverance is key in our race. Scripture challenges us to stand firm, knowing that our labor for God is not in vain. We're commanded to hold fast to our faith and to keep to God's ways. As we run the race with perseverance, we are filled with *"inexpressible and glorious joy"* (1 Peter 1:8) in our Savior in whom we believe, even though we haven't seen him. Although the race is long and difficult, we have an eternal perspective and consider any suffering or distress but *"light and momentary troubles"* (2 Corinthians 4:17).

## On the Lighter side

Garrison Keillor tells of a letter written from a local church to one of its members who was not present on pledge dedication Sunday, and therefore, did not fill out a pledge card:

*"Dear Anne and Joe: We missed you last Sunday, Pledge Sunday. Since you were not present to fill out your pledge card, and to make it easy for you, we have completed a pledge card for you. Thank you for being so generous. Your Finance Committee."*

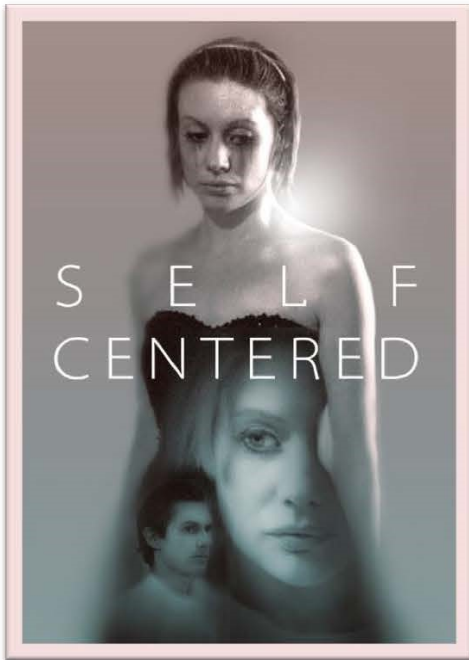
Our culture now has "lite" everything on the market: butter, cheese, syrup, even beer. A suggestion arose regarding what a "lite" church might look like: perhaps a 45-minute worship service, a seven percent tithe, and only eight of the Ten Commandments. And you get to choose which eight!

## Self-centered or God Centered

At different times throughout our lives, we all make the choice whether to serve ourselves or to be servants to others. If we make a practice of putting ourselves first, we will spend life joyless and empty, wondering why fulfillment escapes us

Even though God never abandons us, we can elect to turn away him. God wants the best for us, and his best for us is that we deny ourselves

and follow him. If we focus only on our earthly possessions and make it our top priority to take care of ourselves only, we push God out of our lives. Putting our own interests first, we become selfish and self-centered.



The Apostle Paul wrote that, as people redeemed by God's mercy, we are to offer our bodies as living sacrifices. He further said in Romans 12:2, *"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by*

*the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is ... his good, pleasing and perfect will."* Paul revealed the secret of the transformed mind to the Galatians. *"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me"* (Galatians 2:20). Joy comes into our lives when God, instead of self, is the object of our love and worship. It was joy that compelled Jesus to endure the Cross (Hebrews 12:2).

The stewardship life is a life dedicated completely to God through faith in Jesus Christ. Jesus said that if we would follow him, we *"must deny [ourselves] and take up [our] cross[es] and follow [him]"* (Matthew 16:24). The reward outweighs by far the sacrifice, for Christ promised in Matthew 16:25, *"Whoever loses his life for me will find it."* Martin Luther said, "If anyone would rap at the door of my heart and ask, 'Who lives here?' I would answer, 'Martin Luther once lived here. But Martin Luther has moved out and Jesus Christ has moved in.' " When Jesus has permanent residence within us, he can use us to build his kingdom among men.

Through God's grace, we are transformed into "new creatures" (2 Corinthians 5:17) willing to live lives that honor him with all that we are and have. God's love and generosity are seen through us as we recognize the opportunities God places before us to share our time, talents, and treasures in the building up of his kingdom.



*Blessings on Your Stewardship Journey!*



# BASKET BASH

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2023 | 5PM - 9PM  
DOORS OPEN 5PM RAFFLE AT 6:30

FRIENDSHIP FIRE HOUSE | ROYERSFORD, PA  
PARKING ENTRANCE ON 3<sup>RD</sup> AVENUE

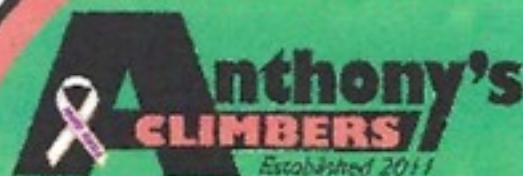
Over 100 Baskets  
50/50 Raffle  
Grand Prizes

GET 5 FREE RAFFLE TICKETS WHEN  
YOU BRING A BAG OF  
Non-Perishable Food OR Toiletries



Purchase Tickets Online  
[www.anthonysclimbers.org](http://www.anthonysclimbers.org)

HOSTED BY



PROUD SUPPORTER OF

LEUKEMIA &  
LYMPHOMA  
SOCIETY



Daily Bread  
Community  
Food Pantry



# Children's CHOIR CAMP



**July 5-8, 2023**

**JULY 5-7: 9 AM - 3 PM**

**OPTIONAL EXTENDED CARE 3 - 5 PM**

**JULY 8: 9 AM - 12 PM**

**CHILDREN WILL HELP LEAD ALCM  
CONFERENCE WORSHIP ON JULY 8**

*Led by nationally recognized clinician Dr. Michael Burkhardt*

CAMP IS HELD AT:



1000 W. MAIN STREET, LANSDALE, PA 19446

[TRINITYLANSDALE.COM](http://TRINITYLANSDALE.COM)

HOSTED BY ASSOCIATION OF LUTHERAN  
CHURCH MUSICIANS (ALCM)

**REGISTRATION FEE: \$90 PER CHILD**

**EXTENDED CARE: ADDITIONAL \$25 PER CHILD**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER:**

[HTTPS://ALCM.ORG/2023-PHILADELPHIA/](https://alcm.org/2023-philadelphia/)

**QUESTIONS? EMAIL ANDREA BAXTER:**

[ABAXTER@TRINITYLANSDALE.COM](mailto:ABAXTER@TRINITYLANSDALE.COM)

