

Augustinian

Augustus Lutheran Church

An Historic Church for Today's People



JULY 2025

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord and Savior!

I hope you are enjoying the less hectic, less routine days of summer. For many, summer is the time for family vacations and trips. Whether you are going off to some exciting destinations or staying at home, I pray that God is blessing you with a safe and enjoyable summer with time to reconnect with families and friends, time to travel, picnic, boat, walk, as well as just relax, and, most importantly, time to reflect on God's ever-present help and blessings.

"He who watches over [you] will neither slumber nor sleep." Psalm 121:4

If you are vacationing somewhere this summer, I hope that you are making every effort to attend worship where your traveling takes you. Because your trips during the summer may prevent you from worshipping regularly with us, I want to remind you to continue to remember the financial needs of our church even if you are not here in person every week. The mission and ministry of Augustus Lutheran Church continues even while our members are on vacation.

I pray that you will continue to support the staff and me through your prayers this summer as we continue to obey the Lord's command to *"preach the Word; [and to] be prepared in season and out of season; [to] correct, rebuke and encourage – with careful instruction"* (2 Timothy 4:2).

Thank you for your generosity to God through our church. May God bless us as we labor together to be fruitful stewards in his Kingdom.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Weleck

P.S. Pastor Kochenderfer will provide pastoral coverage for Augustus while I am on vacation this month. In case of an emergency, please call the church office and speak with Karen McClain or leave a voicemail.



To the Vestry and congregation of Augustus Lutheran Church:

Many thanks to you all for the unexpected monetary gift I received on my last Sunday at Augustus. Marcia and I will certainly enjoy a great dinner and will always remember our time spent at Augustus! It has been an honor and a pleasure to return after so many years and share Music Ministry with you all.

I appreciated the encouragement and help from the Pastors, staff and the wonderful members of the singing and ringing choirs at Augustus. I trust and pray that you will start September off with a new church musician, to carry on and expand upon the Lutheran worship traditions!

Yours in Christ,

Deacon Bruce W. Tonkin



Summer Schedule through September 7, 2025, inclusive:

8:00 AM Holy Communion in our historic Old Church followed by Tea on the Lawn

9:30 AM Holy Communion in our air-conditioned Brick Church followed by Tea on the Lawn

A Thank You from Pr. Martha

June 1st – “So many to thank! So much to celebrate!” Cards! Display! Food! People – from Augustus, community, neighbors, family, former parishioners, all arranged by “Hospitality Committee and Augustus Women of WELCA” and Pastor Weleck. A glorious day with memories to last, year after year.



Pastor Kriebel's 90th Birthday Celebration
June 1, 2025

Augustus Book Club

The next meeting of the Augustus Book Club will be held on
Monday, July 21, 2025 at 7:00 pm in the Vestry Room.

We will discuss

Finding Chika: A Little Girl, an Earthquake, and
the Making of a Family

Want more info? Contact Karen McClain 610-489-9625 or
office@augustustrappe.org



Remember Augustus in your Estate Planning

We have a beautiful campus to maintain.

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



If you would like to learn more about the history of Augustus Lutheran Church, there are several books that
you can borrow from the Church library. See Mildred Stuffle, our librarian, for more information.

“A generation which ignores history has no past and no future.”

Robert Heinlein, American author (1907-1988)



Checking on our Job as Stewards

A young boy walks into a small drug store and asks the druggist, "Could I use the telephone?" The druggist replies, "You certainly can," and shows him where the telephone is. The boy calls a grocery store and asks the man who answers the phone, "Is your grocery store looking for someone to stock the shelves?" The man says, "No, we already have a stock boy." The boy inquires, "If he isn't doing a good job, maybe you need to get someone who will do a better job." The man replies, "No, we are pleased with the work the boy is doing," so the boy hung up the telephone.

The druggist hears the conversation and says to the boy, "I'm sorry you didn't get the job." The boy says, "I don't need a job, because I am the stock boy. I was checking to see what they thought of my work."

What if we could call God to ask about the job we are doing as his stewards? If it were possible to call, what kind of response would you expect to hear? Would God see you as a person who acknowledges all that you have as having been given to you by him and yourself as a manager, not an owner? Would God tell you that you are using your time, talents, and treasures in ways that please him? Would God commend you for feeding the hungry, for sheltering the homeless, for giving generously to those in need? Would God be pleased with what you are giving to his church? Would God tell you, "Well done, good and faithful steward?"

Unfortunately, we all fall well short of God's standards, but, because of what Christ did for us on the cross, we are forgiven for all the times that we have failed to be faithful stewards. With God's grace given to us through his Son, we can be molded and transformed into God-pleasing stewards. In Christ, we can be stewards who do God's work well.

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Food Pantry Donations Needed!

The food pantry serves families all year long, and is always happy to accept donations of food, cleaning products, pet food, and personal hygiene products. Please consider donating:

Crackers	Canned Peas/mixed veggies	Tomato products	Jelly	Broth
Tuna/canned meat	Cream Soup	Baked Beans	Fruit/fruit juice	Rice

For an ongoing list of needs, go to dailybreadcommunityfoodpantry.org.

Feel free to drop your donations at the food pantry or in the basket in the Muhlenberg Center.

School Supplies Needed too!

Once again we are asking for your support of our school supplies drive for the children of the clients we serve at our food pantry. We would sincerely appreciate any help you are able to provide. As you can imagine the number of clients we serve at the food pantry is increasing all the time so your help is very much needed and appreciated! Please consider donating:

Large backpacks for high school girls	Dry erase markers
Medium backpacks for girls in 5th through 8th grades	Sharpie markers of any color
Plastic pencil boxes for elementary school children	Packs of loose leaf filler paper
Colored markers in packs	Highlighters in colors other than yellow
Colored pencils in packs of 24	Dividers for binders
Pencil cases for binders for 5th through 12th grades	1" binders

Christian Education

At this writing we're looking forward to Vacation Bible School which begins on June 23rd! It's always a great week.

Sunday school will resume on September 14th. If your family is a member of Augustus, your kids are registered and expected at Sunday school and you don't have to do a thing. However, if you're not sure or want to make sure Karen has all the correct information in our database, please scan the QR code or go to



https://docs.google.com/forms/1_6GoYjdfBtCofHbnxNJ_wPkDaKEwqcnjn0AAqcm3kws/edit

to fill out the registration form. We hope to see all Augustus children aged 3 through 6th grade in Sunday school this year!

Of course, **we'd love to add some new teachers** when our Sunday school resumes in the fall. Several of our teachers began when their children were in Sunday school and have faithfully continued even though those kids are in college and careers now. 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 program** will begin with registration on the evening of September 7th. All youth who have participated in a first communion class are ready to begin the two-year confirmation process.

Please contact me at education@augustustrappe.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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Jessica Kunasz	2 Cameron Tartar	3 Tamara Griggs Rose Swan	4	5 Pia Lari
6 Brittany Snyder	7 Terry Benner Paul Niemann Amy Noonan	8 Linda Buckmaster William Garton Gail Martin	9	10 Brandon Kitchens Braden Tighe	11 Nancee Clelland Bruce Tempone	12 Amanda Jacobs Morgan Nelson Cora Van Alstine
13 Laura Peljae	14 Turner Collins	15 Lewis Christy Alleyna Gaunt Karen Lachenmayer Heather Mullaney	16	17	18 Laurel Beattie William Fluck Austin Kitchens Benjamin O'Hara Kiley Veleber-Schmitt	19 Brian Funk Robert Williams
20 Amanda Halteman LaVonne Johnson	21 Alison Fishell Courtenay Kerr Rosemary McNeal	22 Bryan McClain	23 Rebecca Quirk	24 Tripp Miller Hannah Pearson Andrew Schlegel	25 Gina Christy Arianna Judisch	26 Erich Franz Dean Perkins Sonya Sowards
27 Benjamin McElhannon Anna Schweitzer Allison Wessner	28 Summer Allen Bryce Atherholt Jayden Smith Cynthia Snyder	29 Colleen Demark	30 Stacie Missimer Sherry Stufflet	31 Jonathan Brull Sean McClain Aubrey Nicholson		

July Birthdays

Graceful Generosity

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

Blessed to be a Blessing

Many times in Scripture we are promised that the one who gives will receive.

"Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap" (Luke 6:38).

"Bring the whole tithe ... Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it!" (Malachi 3:10).

What happens when we emphasize the latter instead of the former is the development of a "name-it-and-claim-it" type of religion in which we give only so we can get.

First Timothy 6:5-10 warns us of the dangers of this attitude. Paul wrote that false teachers *"think that godliness is a means to financial gain."* We know from Scripture that we have been blessed that we might be a blessing to others. Therefore, we share our wealth—our monetary wealth (Romans 12:13), our wealth in talents and responsibilities (1 Peter 4:10-11), our wealth in experiences (2 Corinthians 1:4), and our wealth in time (James 1:27).

God blesses us so we can be his instruments to support the needy and extend his church.

"You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God" (2 Corinthians 9:11).

Money Will Buy Things

Money will buy ...

A bed, but not sleep.

Books, but not brains.

Food, but not appetite.

Finery, but not beauty.

A house, but not a home.

Medicine, but not health.

Luxuries, but not culture.

Amusements, but not happiness.

A Crucifix, but not a Savior.



*The church is like a bank ...
The more you put into it, the more
interest you have in it!*

A Thief Has Broken into Our Church

He has done considerable damage. Even the casual observer may see evidence of the break-in. What has he taken?

He has taken strength from our Sunday School. Every Sunday his thievery deprives the congregation of about one-fourth of its membership. He depletes the offering potential of the church. There is no insurance that will cover the damage caused by this thievery ...

except the safeguard of spiritual commitment. The culprit's fingerprints are much in evidence. From this his identity has been established.

His name is MR. INDIFFERENCE. This criminal in our midst has weakened the educational arm of the church, depleted the attendance at worship, and looted the tithes and offerings. Most interesting of all is the method by which he initiates his crime. He begins first in the home.

BEWARE OF THIS THIEF!

Cell Phone vs. Bible

I wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone?

- What if we carried it around in our pockets?
- What if we flipped through it several times a day?
- What if we turned back to get it if we forgot it?
- What if we used it to receive messages from the text?
- What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?
- What if we used it when we traveled?
- What if we used it in case of emergency?

Oh, and one more thing: Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected because Jesus already paid the bill, and, one more thing ... there are no dropped calls!

Are You Willing?

"Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your

means. For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have" (2 Corinthians 8:11-12).



There is so much need around us. Daily we are interrupted by telephone calls soliciting our donations to well-deserving causes. We hear of elderly people in nursing homes who never have visitors and children in need of mentors. Committees within our congregations seek to add to their boards in order to carry out the ministry of our churches.

We may become overwhelmed. Where do we start? How can I ... one person ... fill all these needs? Often guilt accompanies these questions. What is God asking of us? According to the Apostle Paul, we are expected to give according to what we have. He was speaking here of monetary offerings, but his admonition relates to the sharing of our time and abilities as well. The key, Paul seems to say, is to be willing. *"If the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable."*

Blessings on Your Stewardship Journey!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
July		1	2 9:30 am Quilting	3	4 Office Closed	5
6 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:30 am Holy Communion	7 7:00 pm Knitting	8 9:30 am Quilting 7:00 pm Comm. Club Board Meeting	9 9:00 am Soup Kitchen	10	11	12
13 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:30 am Holy Communion	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:30 am Holy Communion	21 7:00 pm Book Club 7:00 pm Knitting	22	23	24	25	26
27 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:30 am Holy Communion	28	29	30	31		

Please note that the church office will be on
“Summer Hours” in July and August
Monday—Friday 9:00 am until noon.
The church office will be closed July 25—July 30th.

2025 Vestry		
Member	Special Area	E-mail Address
Gary Wessner	President/Property	gtwess@comcast.net
Dick Allebach	Vice President	Doot44@gmail.com
Alison Fishell	Secretary	alisonhfishell@gmail.com
Jeannie Funk	General Treasurer	jeanniefunk@gmail.com
Sherry Jessee	Trust Fund Treasurer	dsajessee@hotmail.com
John Kochel	Parish Life	John.kochel@thrivent.com
Karl Stefan	Mutual Ministry	kssurf@verizon.net
Chilly Lyaro	Christian Education	chillylyaro@yahoo.com
Brian O'Hara	Outreach	Brian.ohara24@gmail.com
Shane Elison	Christian Education	selison76@gmail.com
Jennifer Wentworth	Old Church Committee	jawentw@aol.com
Matthew Vera	Cemetery Committee	Matthew_vera@verizon.net