

Augustinian

Augustus Lutheran Church

An Historic Church for Today's People



APRIL 2025

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This April is a month filled with special promises. On Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025, we commemorate Jesus entering the Holy City in triumph, fulfilling the Old Testament prophecies. On Maundy Thursday, April 17, 2025, we commemorate the Institution of Holy Communion at Jesus' Last Supper before his death and his abandonment by even those closest to him. On Good Friday, April 18, 2025, we gather with our First Communion and Confirmation students to commemorate the Stations of the Cross. On Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025, we celebrate Jesus' victory over sin, death, and the devil by his glorious resurrection.

Augustus will also host the final 2025 Colleagueville-Trappe Mid-Week Lenten Service on Wednesday, April 9, 2025.

| 2025 Holy Week and Easter Schedule | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Date | Service | Time (and Place) |
| April 9, 2025 | Mid-Week Lenten Service | 7:30 p.m. (Nave) |
| April 13, 2025 | Palm Sunday | 8:00 a.m. (Chapel) 10:30 a.m. (Nave) |
| April 17, 2025 | Maundy Thursday | 7:00 p.m. (Nave) |
| April 18, 2025 | Good Friday | 7:00 p.m. (Fellowship Hall) |
| April 20, 2025 | Easter Sunday | 8:00 a.m. (Nave) 10:30 a.m. (Nave) |

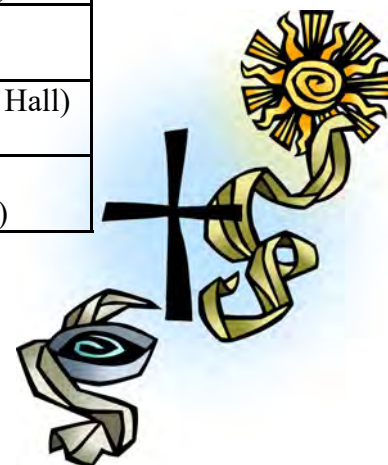
There will also be a few changes to our Sunday worship beginning on the Second Sunday of Easter, April 27, 2025. We will return to sharing the Peace of the Lord by greeting those around us. Please observe whether or not each person wishes to receive a handshake along with the verbal greeting. After Covid-19, some people no longer shake hands. That is OK. A nod of the head and the words "Peace be with you" are enough.

We will also have available by request special hosts which "meet the FDA set limit of less than 20 ppm (parts per million) for the unavoidable presence of gluten in foods that carry this label. That is the lowest level that can be consistently detected in foods using valid scientific analytical tools. Also, most people with celiac disease can tolerate foods with very small amounts of gluten. This level is consistent with those set internationally." (Source: fda.gov) These gluten-free hosts will be available only if requested in advance by 12:00 Noon on the Friday before you will commune. Please call the Parish Office (610-489-9625) to request a gluten-free host.

See you in church.

May God shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage,
and ✝ give you peace.
Amen.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Weleck



Augustus Lutheran Senior Youth Group Easter Fundraiser

Homemade Peanut Butter Eggs, Coconut Crème Eggs
and Thin Mints

Orders due by Wednesday, April 16th
Order Pick up on Easter Sunday, April 20th



Name: _____

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Peanut Butter Eggs | Coconut Crème Eggs |
| \$5.00/half pound _____ | \$5.00/half pound _____ |
| \$10.00/pound _____ | \$10.00/pound _____ |

Thin Mints \$5.00/dozen _____

Total: \$ _____

- I will pick up after the 8:00 service
- I will pick up after the 10:30 service

Thank you for supporting the Senior Youth Group!

COLLEGEVILLE-TRAPPE MINISTERIUM

LENTEN SERVICES

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT, 7:30 PM

- 12**
MAR St. James Episcopal Church
PREACHER: REV. ANDREW WEBER
- 19**
MAR Thomas Payne UUF
PREACHER: REV. BETTY WRIGHT-RIGGINS
- 26**
MAR Trinity Reformed Church UCC
PREACHER: REV. DEBRA STEVENS
- 2**
APR Evansburg United Methodist
PREACHER: REV. WARREN WELECK
- 9**
APR Augustus Lutheran Church
PREACHER: REV. MIKE SOWARDS

A Lenten
Journey
Through
the Psalms



FREE-WILL OFFERING
WILL BE COLLECTED TO BENEFIT
OUTREACH EFFORTS OF THE MINISTERIUM



The
Collegeville-Trappe
Ministerium
the churches of the historical mile



JOHN 11:25-26
 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

EASTER SUNDAY
RESURRECTION Sunday
 APRIL 20TH, 2025 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
FESTIVE WORSHIP WITH SPECIAL MUSIC

ad design: Brian O'Hara © 2025

717 W. MAIN STREET WWW.AUGUSTUSTRAPPE.ORG 610-489-9625
AUGUSTUS LUTHERAN CHURCH
 Sunday Services: 8:00 AM Communion * 9:00 AM Sunday School * 10:30 AM Communion

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP NEWS

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP NEWS



The Senior Youth Group would like to thank everyone who made soups for us this year and to all that purchased our soups. The profits from our fund raisers are used for the SYG activities throughout the year and the annual mission trip. We'd also like to thank all who attended the Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner. Your donations were much appreciated. Next up is the annual Easter candy sale. We'll be taking orders through mid-April (see the order form in this newsletter).

Our March activity was a trip to Splitting Edge Axe Throwing in Pottstown for an afternoon of axe throwing. A great time was had by all. Our hopes are to get to Phillies game in April. The SYG will be making Easter baskets for the Daily Bread Food Pantry for those in need.

The SYG meets on the first Wednesday and the 3rd Sunday of each month (September thru May), as well as various other days for activities and fund raisers. All youth in 9th -12th grades can take part in the SYG. If you're new to the congregation and have a teen in high school, reach out to one of the leaders and we'll make sure you get information on our group.

The SYG is looking for a couple of new leaders to help in future years. Please let us know if you are interested. It's a very rewarding experience and we'd like to pass on our knowledge to a new group of leaders. New people bring new ideas and that is always a good thing.

Cathy Meeley, tcmeeley@verizon.net Joe Schaffer, joe.schaffer.44@gmail.com

Liz Wentworth, lizwentworth@yahoo.com Gary Wessner, gtwess@comcast.net

Christian Education

On the first Sunday of Lent, Sunday school children received “lamb boxes” to collect funds for Lutheran World Relief. One of LWR’s ministries is to respond to natural disasters, helping people recover and rebuild. With this past year’s fires and floods, I’m sure LWR needs our help more than ever. The lamb boxes will be returned on Palm Sunday, and I hope we’ll have a sizable donation to send to LWR. You can donate online at give.lwr.org, even if you don’t have a Sunday school student!

Our Sunday school children are also learning some of Jesus’ parables and thinking seriously throughout Lent about how we can bring the kingdom of God to earth and do Jesus’ work in the world. To teach Jesus’ parables, we’re using a Montessori method of Christian education called “Godly Play.” This method uses items that children can touch and manipulate to reinforce the stories. These items can be expensive, but ours were donated to us by Laurie Mueller. Thanks! Laurie!

On Easter Sunday we’ll rejoice with our annual Easter egg hunt, movie, and other fun activities. AND two of our 3-in-1 students will be confirmed during the 10:30 service!

Meanwhile, our confirmation students are practicing for Stations of the Cross, which will be presented on Good Friday, April 18th at 7 p.m. Senior high youth serve as stage crew for this presentation. If you haven’t seen Stations of the Cross at Augustus, you’re missing something special! Please plan to join us on the 18th.

Thank you for supporting the children and youth of Augustus!

Blessings,

Sonya Sowards



Vacation Bible School is coming!

June 23-26, 2025

Planning your child(ren)’s summer activities? Don’t forget VBS at Augustus! Join us for *Camp Firelight*; a Summer Camp Adventure with God from June 23-26, 9a-12p. Scan the QR code to register or email Sonya at education@augustustrappe.org.



WANTED

Portrait Committee Members



Augustus Lutheran would like to publish a Portrait Directory in 2025.

Committee members are needed to organize this.

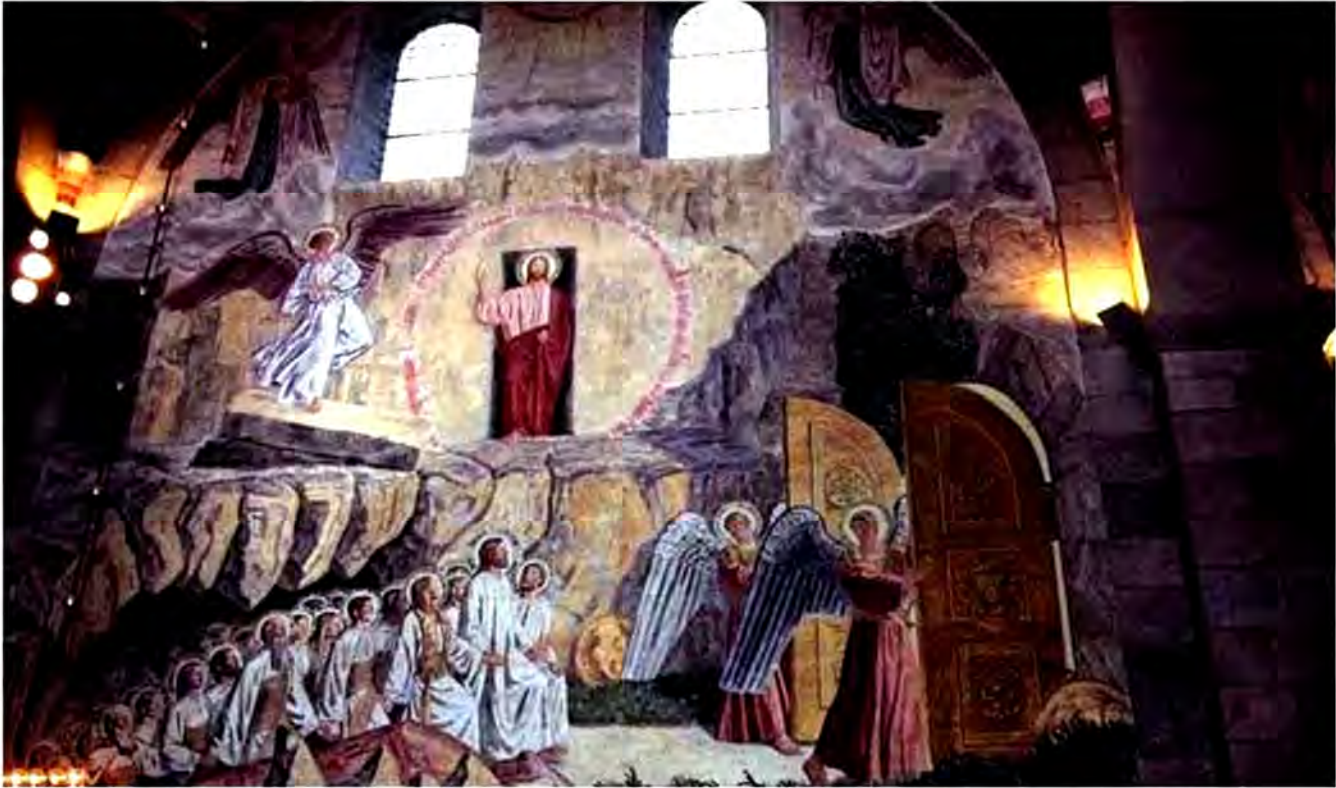
Please contact Gary Wessner at

gtwess@comcast.net

if you are interested.

Ten Important Dogmas of the Lutheran Church

By Bo Kristian Holm, Associate Professor, Systematic Theology, Aarhus University



8. The doctrine of justification

A human being is justified by faith, not by works. The doctrine of justification by faith has been formulated by the reformer Martin Luther and partly anticipated by the church father Saint Augustine (354-430). Justification depends on God's grace and a human being cannot deserve it by doing good works. Luther was convinced that human beings were created to do good works for the benefit of their neighbor. However, these works are for one's neighbors and we cannot justify ourselves by them. Salvation is to be received from God who graciously receives the sinner. See Article VI of the Augsburg Confession.

Augsburg Confession: [VI. Concerning the New Obedience]

"It is also taught that such faith should yield good fruit and good works and that a person must do such good works as God has commanded for God's sake but not place trust in them as if thereby to earn grace before God. For we receive forgiveness of sin and righteousness through faith in Christ, as Christ himself says [Luke 17:10]: "When you have done all [things] . . ., say, 'We are worthless slaves.'" The Fathers also teach the same thing. For Ambrose says: "It is determined by God that whoever believes in Christ shall be saved and have forgiveness of sins, not through works but through faith alone, without merit."



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.



2025 Easter Flowers

Flowers can now be ordered for Easter!

Please include payment with your order.

Make checks payable to: Augustus Flower Fund
Orders can be left in the church office or mailed to:

Karen Lachenmayer, 412 Dartmoor Road, Schwenksville, PA 19473

Phone: 610-715-4850

E-Mail: karenlachenmayer@gmail.com

ORDER DEADLINE: April 6, 2025

Name:

(Please Print)

QTY

| | | | | |
|----------|-------|-------------|---|-------|
| Lily | _____ | @ \$15.50 | = | _____ |
| Daffodil | _____ | @ \$11.00 | = | _____ |
| Tulip | _____ | @ \$5.50 | = | _____ |
| | _____ | Order Total | | _____ |

Check One:

I will take my flowers AFTER the Easter Service

Please distribute my flowers to others

I would like the bulletin acknowledgement to read: *(PLEASE PRINT)*

I believe in Christ, like I believe in the sun – not because I can see it, but by it I can see everything else.

-C.S. Lewis



| 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 | scrabbie1@aol.com |
| Jennifer Wentworth | Old Church Committee | jawentw@aol.com |
| Matthew Vera | Cemetery Committee | Matthew vera@verizon.net |

PROCEEDS BENEFIT MISSIONARY WORK

Craft & Vendor Fair

CRAFTERS AND VENDORS NEEDED: AUGUSTUSCRAFTSHOW@GMAIL.COM

ONLY \$20 FOR SPACE / \$25 WITH TABLE

SAVE \$5 WITH THE PURCHASE OF A TURKEY DINNER TICKET !!!

ad design: Brian O'Hara © 2025

SATURDAY MAY 03, 2025 2 PM to 6 PM



Spring Turkey Dinner

CRAFT & VENDOR FAIR

RAFFLE

LIVE MUSIC: Sunset Skyz Music Duo 2:30-6 PM

TAKE-OUT ONLY

self-service seating will be provided

3 TO 6 PM

\$ 20 Presale w/ Payment

\$ 22 at the Door

**ROAST TURKEY, POTATO STUFFING
SEASONAL VEGETABLES
PEPPER CABBAGE, CRANBERRY SAUCE
ROLL, DESSERT**

TO RESERVE TICKETS:

(a limited number of tickets available at the door)

PHONE 610-489-9625

ONLINE: AUGUSTUSTRAPPE.ORG

CRAFT & VENDOR FAIR:

2 TO 6 PM

FREE ADMISSION

crafters and vendors needed:
AugustusCraftShow@gmail.com

SATURDAY MAY 03, 2025

Proceeds benefit: **Dr. Stephen and Jodi Lynn Swanson, Missionaries in Tanzania**

Sponsors: WordFM Radio, Great Songs of the Faith Radio, Trappe Tavern, Thrivent Financial, Phoenixville Federal Bank & Trust, Brandywine Assisted Living, Risher Van Horn

717 W. MAIN STREET
AUGUSTUS

WWW.AUGUSTUSTRAPPE.ORG
LUTHERAN

610-489-9625
CHURCH

Sunday Services: 8:00 AM Communion * 9:00 AM Sunday School * 10:30 AM Communion

Graceful Generosity

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



Using our Time Wisely

In order to live as God-pleasing stewards, we will want to use the time that God entrusts to us wisely. We can start by asking the question: "Lord, what can I do with my time that will please you and give you the glory you deserve?" First and foremost, God wants us to spend our time in serving and glorifying him. In speaking to the Corinthians, the Apostle Paul wrote,

"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31).

We can give God glory by dedicating our daily tasks to him. Our hands and feet can be doing routine and mundane things, but our hearts and minds can be focused on the Lord. To the Colossians Paul wrote,

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men" (Colossians 3:23).

In all that we do, God is to be part of our activities.

God equips and enables us through the working of the Holy Spirit to use our time doing his will. We demonstrate God's grace at work within us as we do his will by serving him through serving others. With the words of the psalmist we pray,

"Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom" (Psalm 90:12).

God's wisdom enables us to use well the time he has given us. As Paul wrote,

"Be very careful, then, how you live - not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:15-16).

By wisely using our time to the glory and honor of God, we can live this life abundantly.

"I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts."

Will Rogers

"Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. and if it stops moving, subsidize it."

Ronald Reagan

Good Works

The Apostle Paul wrote, *"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work"* (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Thanks to the working of the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacraments, we have been equipped for every good work. *"We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do"* (Ephesians 2:10). God places within us a desire to do his work, and he

equips us to do it. We are the channels through which God seeks the lost and helps those in need. We are blessed to be a blessing. *"This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God"* (2 Corinthians 9:12).

Some Bony Observations

It has been said that the "body" of a church has four kinds of bones:

1. The Wishbones ... who spend all their time wishing somebody else would do all the work.
2. The Jawbones ... who do all the talking, and very little else.
3. The Knucklebones ... who know everything anyone else tries to do.
4. The Backbones ... who get under the load and get the work done.

What kind of bone are you?

The Grace of Giving

Through our own personal efforts, we are not going to be able to increase our level of giving. We grow in the grace of giving as the Holy Spirit, working through God's Word, instructs and empowers us to be more generous. As we spend time reading and studying God's Word, we will grow in faith and, as a result, grow also in our generosity. The Apostle Paul wrote,

"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:8).

It is only by God's grace that we have money to give, and it is only by God's grace that we have the desire to give.

Giving Is an Act of Worship

A little boy was fidgeting in church one Sunday morning during the pastor's sermon. Finally, he leaned over to his mother and asked, "Mom, if we give the money now, do you think he'll let us go?" If this boy expresses our idea of stewardship, we are missing the true meaning, purpose, and joy that are associated with giving. Our giving should express our thankfulness for who God is and what God does for us. Through our giving, we worship and honor our heavenly Father. We give not because God needs our gifts, but because we have a need to give. God in his sovereignty chooses to bless us as we give (Acts 20:35).



Blessings on Your Stewardship Journey!

Augustus Book Club

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

We will discuss The War that Saved My Life and The War I Finally Won
by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

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

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| | | 1 Christi Redeyoff | 2 Pat O'Hara Joseph Schaffer John Schwirian Kelly Stalker | 3 Susan Adams Randolph Riegner | 4 Carol Shaheen Tracy Wessner | 5 Mikey Ries |
| April Birthdays | | | | | | |
| 6 Taylor Halteman | 7 Kevin Beattie Kenneth Gold | 8 Emily Allebach Tessa Clark Nathan Kutteroff | 9 David Judisch Thomas Wessner | 10 Hailey Kane | 11 Luca Jagers Viviani | 12 |
| 13 | 14 Jeff Scholl | 15 Thomas Brown Richard Holcombe Olaf Markert | 16 Jeannie Funk Teresa Niemann | 17 Caroline Antrim Anna Jacobs Andrew Tartar | 18 Stephen Holcombe Jace Viviani | 19 Nicole Long Gary Wessner |
| 20 Kara Camuso Alice Franks Brielle Pribbernow Janet Stokes | 21 Jason Mulle Evan Napier Olivia Perkins Liz Wentworth Carter Wickersham | 22 Frances Ivarson Ashley Smith | 23 Ginger Oscapinski | 24 | 25 David Halteman Jon Lewis | 26 Linda Schweitzer Bern Wagenseller |
| 27 Paula Garton Maria Kochel Alice Rodenberger Grace Schlegel | 28 Erick Lyaro | 29 Deb Scholl | 30 Michael DeNucci Frank DePaul Kevin Hynes | | | |



PALM SUNDAY
APRIL 13
8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

MAUNDY THURSDAY
APRIL 17
Stripping of the Altar
7:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY
APRIL 18
Stations of the Cross
Led by Augustus Youth
7:00 PM

EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 20
He Is Risen!!!
Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt
9:00 AM
Festive Worship
8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Please join us to celebrate
Holy Week

*He is not here!
He has Risen
Just as he said*
Matthew 28:9

ad design: Brian O'Hara © 2025

presented by:
augustus lutheran church confirmation students

featuring:
senior choir of
augustus lutheran church

all are welcome

Stations
of the
Cross

GOOD FRIDAY
APRIL 18, 7:00 PM

art design: Brian O'Hara © 2025

Gracious Givers

Lay Reader Message


The Fields Are Ripe

Easter is the most joyous, the most victorious celebration of the church year. It is an opportune time for us as stewards to "*Declare his glory among the nations; his marvelous deeds among all peoples*" (Psalm 96:3)! What deed can be more marvelous than the resurrection of our Lord from the dead? Yes, "*Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep*" (1 Corinthians 15:20), and we, too, shall be raised from the dead to live with him forever in Heaven.

As stewards of the Gospel, we have this good news to tell. Jesus reminded us of the urgency of the proclamation of his redemption. We read in John 4:35 that Jesus said, "*Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.*" There is a need for us to tell this message effectively, passionately, clearly, and with perseverance so that all may be led by God's grace to respond to Christ's gift of salvation.

Along with pronouncing this good news with our own lips, we have a responsibility to give. We respond to the needs of others by taking groceries to our food banks, by contributing funds to be used for helping families with various financial difficulties, by sending money to areas hit by natural disasters, such as floods and hurricanes. What greater need is there than to provide financial support for those who minister to the greatest need of all ... the spiritual needs of Jesus' lost sheep? Our giving should be done willingly, cheerfully, generously, even as God in Christ has given to us.

Jesus promised that, as we carry out his commission to "*... make disciples of all nations ...*" he will be with us "*... to the very end of the age*" (Matthew 28:19, 20). Paul reminded us that "*God is able to make all grace abound to [us], so that in all things at all times, having all that [we] need, [we] will abound in every good work*" (2 Corinthians 9:8). Every day, the Holy Spirit provides opportunities for us as stewards to tell the good news and to give according to our abilities that the message of God's love in Christ may be spread throughout the world. Easter is our reason: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | |
|---|-----|--|--|--|---|---|----|
| April | | 1 7:00 pm Vestry Meeting | 2 9:30 am Quilting 2:00 pm Staff Mtg 7:30 pm Lenten Svc | 3 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Vocal Choir | 4 | 5 Grange Private Event | |
| | | 6 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Holy Communion | 7 | 8 9:30 am Quilting 7:00 pm Comm. Club | 9 9:00 am Soup Kitchen 7:30 pm Lenten Svc at Augustus | 10 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Vocal Choir | 11 |
| 13 PASSION/PALM SUNDAY 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Holy Communion | | 14 7:00 pm Knitting | 15 7:00 pm Comm. Club Board Meeting | 16 2:00 pm Staff Mtg | 17 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Vocal Choir 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Svc | 18 Office Closes at 1:00 pm 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross | 19 |
| 20 EASTER 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Holy Communion/ First Holy Communion | | 21 Office Closed 7:00 pm Book Club | 22 7:00 pm Committee Night | 23 | 24 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Vocal Choir | 25 | 26 |
| 27 8:00 am Holy Communion 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Holy Communion | | 28 7:00 pm Knitting | 29 | 30 |  | | |

WELCA ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER & CRAFT FAIR

LIFE SAVERS

This annual fundraiser helps support medical missionaries Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson to save infants and children at the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center in Tanzania



WILL YOU BE A LIFE SAVER, TOO?



Food Prep * *Food Service* *Set-up/Clean-up* *Craft Fair
*****Parking and SO MUCH MORE*****

The Turkey Dinner Committee would greatly appreciate early commitments to plan for this year's fundraiser. If you are able to provide an early commitment, please reach out to Nancy Loughery (nancy.loughery63@gmail.com) or Dale O'Hara (oharadvd@aol.com)

Mark your calendars now and plan to help for
Saturday May 3rd

WE SIMPLY CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!