Augustinian

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



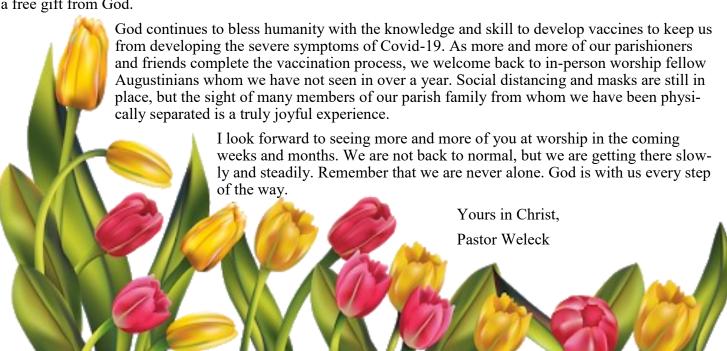
MAY 2021

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Christ is risen!

As I write this monthly letter to you, I am looking out the window at the beauty of the blooming forsythia, daffodils, tulips, and hyacinths on campus. These flowers seem to have a more intense meaning for me this year.

After more than a year of Covid-19 restrictions, they symbolize new life, new beginnings. We, too, have been given new life through our baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made a new creation as a free gift from God.



Live-Streamed Service Location Change



The live streamed service on YouTube will be moving to a new home; a new YouTube channel. If you 'tune in' to the service from the website, www.augustustrappe.org, nothing will change, you won't even know the difference. However, if you are one of the people who likes to go directly to YouTube, the address you have been using will no longer work but Jim will provide you with an updated address as soon as we make the transition.

The easiest way to see the service is to go to the church website and click on the white button: Click here to see the (DATE) service.

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead," - 1 Peter 1:3

Sharing God's Bounty

Keeping Our Eyes on the Prize

If a runner in a race takes his eyes off his goal for even a fleeting moment, he risks losing his focus and, along with that, the race. So it is with the Christian who must be diligent to keep his focus on his stewardship. If he takes his eyes off his heavenly goal and directs them toward his possessions, his worldly aspirations, or his temporal difficulties, he loses his focus and risks losing the race. The words of Paul provide encouragement for us: "Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13). Focusing on our Earthly circumstances can lead us in two directions ... both of them deadly! We may either find things

of the world to be so attractive, they become the prize toward which we strain, or we find things to be so dismal that we despair.

Our Chief Steward, Jesus, our Savior, focused on the prize. We are exhorted to follow his example: "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:2). Talk about keeping focus! "Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart" (Hebrews 12:3). Talk about running a race! And he did it for us, "so that [we] will not grow weary and lose heart."

And look at the prize he won! He ascended into Heaven and now sits "at the right hand of the throne of God." Heaven is our prize, too ... a prize beyond compare. Christ's promise is this: "Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will



give you the crown of life" (Revelation 2:10b). Should we falter, as we are certain to do, we claim another of his promises: "The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it" (1 Thessalonians 5:24).



"I have learned to manage on whatever I have. I know how to be poor and how to be rich...

There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength."

St. Paul

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

Whistle, Clap, and Sing

Music is one of God's most amazing gifts. Think about it: what would it be like to live in a world where the birds never sang, the wind never whistled through the trees, and people never sang or clapped their hands? What would life be like without music and rhythm and dance? When he got older the composer Beethoven could no longer hear; but he still heard music deep inside his head. That's how powerful music is! It helps us express things that words alone cannot say.

There is one book in the Bible filled with nothing but songs: the book of Psalms. That book is one of the oldest hymnals there is. People have been singing the psalms for over 3000 years! There are all kinds of psalms. Some are psalms of praise and thanks to God. There are psalms written by people who were sad, afraid, and even angry. Those psalms ask God to fix things immediately!

In church we use many different kinds of music. We also use many different instruments, like the organ, piano, guitar, flute, drums, bells, and the human voice. Sometimes one person sings; sometimes a choir sings; and sometimes the whole congregation sings. What instruments make music at your church? After worship ask the church musician to show you how to make different sounds on an instrument. Maybe you and the musician can sing another hymn together!

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From the Bench

May 2021

Come, Holy Spirit!

On May 23, we will celebrate the festival of Pentecost. This is the day we remember the sending of the Holy Spirit to the disciples following Jesus' resurrection and ascension to heaven. The Greek word Pentecost means fifty; Pentecost is celebrated fifty days after Easter.

Ten days after Jesus ascended into heaven, many disciples gathered together in Jerusalem for the Jewish harvest festival Pentecost, which was celebrated on the fiftieth day of Passover. While they were indoors praying, a sound like rushing wind filled the house and tongues of fire descended and rested over each of their heads. This was the outpouring of the Holy Spirit promised by God through the prophet Joel (Joel 2:28-29). The disciples were suddenly empowered to proclaim the gospel of the risen Christ. They went out into the streets of Jerusalem and began preaching to the crowds gathered for the festival. By a miracle of the Holy Spirit, they spoke in the native languages of the people present, who had come from all corners of the Roman Empire. This created a sensation. The apostle Peter seized the moment and addressed the crowd, preaching to them about Jesus' death and resurrection for the forgiveness of sins. About three thousand converts were baptized that day. (You can read the Biblical account of Pentecost in Acts 2:1-41). We sometimes call Pentecost the birthday of the Christian church: the day when the gospel was first proclaimed to people of all lands in all languages.

How will the Holy Spirit come to us today? I find a lot of meaning in the text of the hymn, "Come Down, O Love Divine." Written by Bianco da Sienna in the late 14th or early 15th century, it was translated from Italian by Richard Frederick Littledale in the 19th century:

¹Come down, O Love divine, seek thou this soul of mine

And visit it with thine own ardor glowing;

O Comforter, draw near; within my heart appear,

And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

²O let it freely burn, till earthy passions turn to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;

And let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight,

And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

³And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long

Shall far outpass the power of human telling;

For none can guess its grace till Love create a place

Wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

The Holy Spirit is a gift of God, promised to us at our baptism. Take some time this month to meditate on good texts, asking God to fill you with his Spirit – and then watch for the signs that the Spirit is with you, as God promised!

See you in church (in person or digitally!)

~Laurie Mueller

(portions of this article credited to https://www.zionhampton.com/pentecost)

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.

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 23. 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 16, 2021

<i>Mail to:</i> Karen Lachenr	mayer, 412 Dart	moor Rd., Schwenksville, PA 19473
<i>Phone:</i> 610-287-2827	E-Mail: <u>ka</u> l	412@comcast.net
Name:		
<u>Quantity</u>	\$5.00 each	<u>Total:</u>
I would like the bulletir	n acknowledgen	nent to read:

Augustus Book Club

Our Next Book Club meeting will be on May 17th at 7:30 pm via Zoom

We'll discuss: Where the Dead Sit Talking by Brandon Hobson

New members are always welcome!

Questions? Want the Zoom code? Contact Karen McClain 610-489-9625 or office@augustustrappe.org

Christian Education

The Sunday school is planning two IN-PERSON outdoor events in May.

- On May 9th please gather with us at 9:00 a.m. to chalk messages to our mothers (and fathers) on the walk leading into church. We'll have some fun outdoor activities too!
- On May 23rd join us for our end-of-the-year Pentecost party outside at 11:45 a.m. Again, lots of fun activities and a chance to see each other in person!

Also, don't forget to register for Vacation Bible School which begins on June 28th. This will also be an all outdoor event, which allows us to have some messy fun J. A registration form is included with in this letter or you can go to the Augustus website to register. Please fill out a different form for each child.

We will follow COVID-19 prevention protocols at all events, including masks.

Grace & peace,

Sonya Sowards Director of Christian Education



CREATION STATION

In Psalm 104 God is praised for creating the earth and all that lives upon it. God has created a majestic world, yet we so often take it for granted. God has charged us to care for creation. The ideas below can help your family develop appreciation for God's marvelous creation and explore ways to care for it.

Take a walk in your neighborhood or at a park. Pause to listen to the sounds in nature. Take along magnifying glasses and binoculars to look for the detail in God's creation.

Read aloud Psalm 104 or portions of the chapter. Craft a creation banner based on the psalm. Provide a large piece of fabric for a background. Supply fabric and trim scraps, scissors, and fabric glue. Invite older family members to help younger ones fashion sky, rivers, grass, animals, trees, and people. Staple or glue the top of the banner around a dowel to hang it.

Create a fabric-backed praise poster that combines leaves, dirt, and other natural materials with a Bible verse from the Psalm. Choose a verse and copy it onto a piece of construction paper. Arrange the natural objects and the verse as you want them on the fabric, glue them down, and display the poster in your home.

Share the beauty of God's creation with others by making flower or spice sachets to give as gifts. Cut 5" circles of fabric with a pinking shears. Place spices (cinnamon, cloves, allspice) or flowers and leaves (lemon verbena, roses, lilacs) in the center of the fabric. Gather the edges of the circle to the top and tie them together with ribbon. Print the reference Psalm 104:1 on a small tag and attach it to the ribbon.

Talk with your family about ways to pursue ecological concerns from a Christian standpoint. Organize a recycling center at your home or church. If your congregation has a coffee hour, encourage members to bring their own ceramic cups to use. Make a sculpture from recyclable materials. Glue it to a wooden or cardboard

base, and print Psalm 104:31 on the base as a reminder to care for creation.

Pray a litany prayer based on Psalm 104. Have one family member read one line at a time from Psalm 104. After each line the rest of the family can respond, "Thank you, God, for your marvelous creation."

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Augustus Lutheran Church

Vacation Bible School

Monday-Thursday, June 28-July 1, 2021, 9:00 a.m.--noon

Registration Form

(Please complete a form for each child attending)

All children must be potty-trained in order to attend without a parent

Name:Ge		nder Parents/Guardians		
Address_				
	ail:			
	is fall			
We are:	☐ members of Augustus	☐ interested in joining Augustus ☐ just visiting		
Does your child attend Sunday school or CCD? If so where?				

Please return completed form to Sonya Sowards, Director of Christian Education by any of the following methods:

- Hand deliver to Sonya's mailbox in the church office
- Mail to 717 W. Main Street, Trappe, PA 19426
- Email to education@augustustrappe.org

Please complete reverse →



MEDICAL RELEASE AND GENERAL PERMISSION FORM

Please complete fully. Write "none" if a particular section does not apply to the participant. You must also include a copy of the participant's insurance card (front and back) with this form.

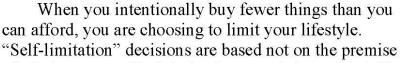
Partici	pant's Physician's Name _			
Hospit	al/Clinic and Address			
1.	1. Participant is allergic to (including food):			
2.				
3.	. Does the participant have any special needs or medical history? If so, please list:			
4.	Are there any over the cou	nter medications the participant cannot receive	?	
5.	Is the participant on regula	r medication? If so, please list the drugs, dosa	ges, frequency and any instructions:	
	Please note tha	t no drugs are to be brought to VBS other th	nan those listed above	
In cons	sideration of being accepte	RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS ed for participation in Vacation Bible School	,	
the em death, child/p	ree to forever hold harmle ployees, and agents there as well as property dama	selves) and on behalf of my child/participan ess Augustus Lutheran Church and the Sou eof, from any and all liability, claims and der age and expenses of any nature whatsoeve said child's participation in the synod spo ivities.	utheastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA, mands for personal injury, sickness and er which may be incurred by me or my	
unders	al injury, sickness, death stand that staff and volunte	ehalf of our child/participant under 18 years , damage and expenses as a result of pa eers are not responsible for the administrat s for any medication taken on a daily sched	articipation as above set forth. I also ion of prescribed medication and I (we)	
hospita	r to participate fully in said al, share the above med	t(s) or legal guardian(s) of this participant, and youth events, and give my (our) permissic ical information and authorize medical treatment, and assume responsibility of all m	on to take said participant to a doctor or eatment, including, but not limited to	
anti-dia	and the second s	r the participant to receive over the counter cterial ointment, throat lozenges, eye wash	The state of the s	
related	I (we) also release the pa I entities.	rticipant's name as part of an information da	tabase for the church, synod and ELCA	
(still ar		s, the synod and ELCA unrestricted rights t n any medium without compensation.	o use, alter, and reproduce any images	
Parent	.'s/Guardian's signature: _		Date:	
Emera	ency contact·	Phone 1	Phone 2 ⁻	

Money Matters

Personal Financial Stewardship

Living Within Your Means

Since it is unlikely that you have an unlimited income, your spending must be planned so you can give generously, save aggressively, but still live comfortably. If you typically spend all of your income on your wants and desires, you will find it difficult to live within your means. Spending is easy, whereas giving and saving require self-discipline. Your ability to give and save is made possible by your willingness to control your spending. Improper spending habits are the biggest hindrances to living successfully within your income.





of what you can afford, but rather on what you need. You must ask, "Do I need this certain thing or does God have need of my money to help others and the church?"

What lifestyle does the Bible suggest? Living comfortably is not a sin. God does not condemn being rich, but speaks against the self-centered attitude wealth can cause. Living in opulence without any regard for others does not please the Lord. However, if you love the Lord and serve him and others with your money and time, you are free to live in comfort. Jesus said "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well" (Matthew 6:33). Certainly, there is a tremendous amount of diversity among Christians and what they own, but your lifestyle should reflect your relationship with Jesus.

According to Russ Crosson in his book A Life Well Spent, we have increased our standard of living at the expense of our lifestyles. He points out:

"We have increased our lifestyles, but in the process haven't we also lost our ability to really live?

- ♦ We have amassed wealth, not wisdom.
- ♦ We have given our children toys, not time.
- ♦ We have children who have been taught to consume rather than work.
- ♦ We have fathers who don't know their children, and marriages that do not work or last.
- ♦ We have been in a rush to run a race without understanding the finish line.

Could it be that we are being robbed of our very lives because we are not thinking correctly about why we have money and what we are to do with it?"

Our culture promotes monetary wealth. We need to spend wisely, save and give proportionally to our income and be careful not to become a victim of the foolish desires money can create.



FIRST UCC Quakertown

2021 MISSION TRIP GOLF OUTING

FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 2021

12:00 pm Registration 1:00 pm Shot Gun Start

Butter Valley Golf Port Barto, PA

\$90 / Golfer

Greens Fees, Cart, Food Beverages, Soda, Water, Steak Dinner & Gift Bags

\$40 / Dinner Only

6:30 pm Dinner and Festivities at the Pavilion

TRINITY LUTHERAN Quakertown

PROCEEDS BENEFIT 2021 MISSION TRIP

Our goal is to help families improve everyday lives by making needed improvements and modifications to their homes. Teens and adults from 3 churches will join again this summer to make a difference.

AUGUSTUS LUTHERAN Trappe

PLEASE HELP US MAKE THAT DIFFERENCE



MORE INFO: CALL FIRST UCC AT 215-536-4447



CONTESTS • GREAT SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

GOLD Sponsor • SILVER Sponsor • HOLE Sponsor • Raffles • Monetary Donations

Tournament Information

Friday, June 4, 2021
12:00 registration
1:00 Shot Gun Start
4-Person Scramble Format

9

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0

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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, a Hole Sponsorship,
your name & company information
listed on a cart.

Silver Sponsor \$390 1 foursome and two 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 24, 2021

*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:	
	F
Email Address:	-
Additional Golfers:	
Name:	Phone
Email:	
Name:	Phone
Email:	
	Phone
Email:	
<mark>Additional Dinne</mark> (Dinner Only - \$4 Number of Guest	O each)
Sponsorship Leve	



Shaving God's Bounty

Lay Reader Message

WHAT'S THE WORRY?

Jesus knows our nature. He knows we're prone to worry. Perhaps that's why he warned:

"Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your Heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?" (Matthew 6:25-27)

In spite of these words of both admonition and assurance, Christians still tend to worry. Sometimes worry about the ability to provide for our families takes over our lives to such an extent that it guides our thoughts and actions. We put off giving to the Lord through our church – "temporarily," we say – until we feel secure in our financial situations. Life, as you know, seems to throw one crisis after another at us, and, often, that financial security never comes.

We have the same worry when it comes to serving. We complain that we just don't have time. We work long hours, and then we have commitments to our families. How can we go to meetings or make meals for a family whose mom is sick?

Later, we tell God and even ourselves. Later, when the college tuitions are paid and the kids are out of the house. Then we'll have time and money. But then, after all that hard work, don't I deserve to get away and take a nice, long cruise?

We reap what we sow, we read in 2 Corinthians 9:6. What are you sowing? Proverbs 11:18 reads,

"He who sows righteousness reaps a sure reward." Matthew 6:19-21 records Jesus' words, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on Earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in Heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where you treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Is it forgetfulness of God's promises or lack of faith that keeps us stuck in this pattern of giving all for our physical, temporal lives instead of storing up treasures in Heaven. Take God at his Word: give generously, serve without reward, take time to help others, and watch him satisfy your every need.

THANK YOU!

Senior Youth Group—

Thank you for the kind thought of remembering me with your delicious soup over the winter. Sincerely,

Shirley Latshaw



Sew, Quilt, Knit, Crochet!

We now have quilting packs available in the Muhlenberg Center.

The pack each has 48 squares in it.

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

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





Each pack has instructions, and a contact email address if you have any questions. **Do you like to Knit or Crochet?** You don't need any more afghans or sweaters? Helping Hand collects

Do you like to Knit or Crochet? You don't need any more afghans or sweaters? Helping Hand collects knitted and crocheted 7" x 9" inch blocks that are sewn together into afghans. We also collect completed afghans. The completed afghans should about 49" X 56". (about the same size as the top of a double bed). Place completed blocks and afghans in the basket in the Muhlenberg Center. Please contact me if you need any yarn at jandmstuffle@verizon.net. The afghans are donated to Laurel House in Norristown.

Love on the Loose

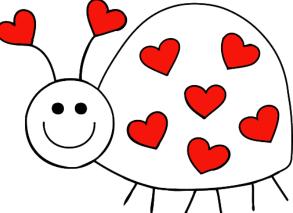
Think of someone you love a lot. How do you let that person know about your love? Do you draw pictures or use words? Are you extra helpful or kind? During Holy Week, the week before Easter, Jesus shows us how to love each other and how he has loved us. One day especially made for this is Maundy Thursday. That's the Thursday right before Easter. The word "Maundy" comes from a Latin word which means "command." So, Maundy Thursday is the day we remember Jesus' command: "Love one another as I have loved you."

In worship on that day, people often do two things to show that love. One is a special ceremony for washing feet. That action doesn't mean the same thing to us that it did for people in Jesus' time, because we usually wear socks and shoes. But in Jesus' time, people wore sandals and they walked everywhere. Their feet got very dusty and dirty. It was a servant's job to wash guests' feet when they visited someone's home. On Maundy Thursday, people's feet are washed to remind us that we show our love by serving each other.

Another way Jesus shows his love is through a special meal called Holy Communion or the Lord's Supper. It may not seem like much to eat or drink, but it's a very important meal. At this meal Jesus is present—just as he has promised. At home on this day do an act of loving kindness for someone in your family. Call or write a letter to a grandparent or to someone in the hospital or in prison.

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I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34-35



RAPPE CHARMS

CHARMING CHARMS FROM THE TINY TOWN OF TRAPPE



*STERLING SILVER

Brian O'Hara © 2020 brian.ohara24@gmail.com

- *FITS "PANDORA" STYLE BRACELETS
- *IDENTIFICATION INSCRIBED (ON THE UNDERSIDE)
- *NOW TAKING ORDERS -(LIMITED QUANTITES AVAILABLE ON HAND)
- *COLLECT THEM ALL!
 (ADDITIONAL CHARMS TO BE RELEASE AT FUTURE DATES
- *MAKES A GREAT GIFT!
- *TO PLACE AN ORDER: CONTACT BRIAN O'HARA AT: BRIAN.OHARA24@GMAIL.COM



AUGUSTUS CHARMS PROCEEDS BENEFIT CHURCH OUTREACH

Old Trappe Church \$70	Church Well	First Schoolhouse	First Parsonage	First Muhlenberg House
Brick Church \$70	Carriagehouse	Third Schoolhouse	Second Parsonage	Third Muhlenberg House

WOMEN OF ELCA CHARMS PROCEEDS BENEFIT AUGUSTUS WOMEN OF ELCA

