



# Augustana

## Lutheran Church



## The Parish Visitor

The Monthly Newsletter of Augustana Lutheran Church Hobart, IN

May 2022

### Services

Sundays

10:00 am

Live on Facebook and In-Person

### Sunday School

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday

9:15-9:45 am

In The Social Hall

### Church Office

#### Hours

Mon - Fri

9 am - 1 pm

942-3574

Scott Mauch

Pastor

Roger Emig

Organist

Melinda Reinhart

Choir Director

Kristin Sturgeon

Handbell Director

Jackie Fitzgerald

Office Manager

Christian Education Coordinator

Bruce Wilkinson

Property Manager

Sue Sutton

Custodian



**If you feel that your child, grandchild, great-grandchild**

**Is ready to participate,**

**Look inside for more details**

## Thoughts from the Pastor....

Greetings All,

During the month of April, we experienced some pretty warm days, and then some pretty cold and rainy ones. It reminds us of our time together as a church and as a member of our community. Some days our spirit seems sunny and warm, while others are dark and rainy. The question is that when our spirit is dark and storms are evident, what do we do? Many would say that the answer is easy, and we should look to God. But how do we see God through the darkness? How do we know where to look? How do we know where to look for the answer when we are not sure of the question? How do we.....? You fill in the blank.

One of the things we can look to for clues to answer these questions is creation. After all, creation is God. Every aspect of creation reflects the creator. When storms abound, calmer days follow. While taking to a survivor of hurricane Katrina in Mississippi, one of the comments was that the days that followed the storm were unusually calm and bright. Rain is followed by sunshine. Darkness is followed by light. Looking to creation teaches us that the sun is always in the future. It also teaches us where to look for that sun. Each night of darkness is followed by the dawn of light. The beams of the sun's light break through every storm cloud. This should convince us that the same would be true of our personal storms.

Instead of looking for the sun to break through our spiritual darkness, we need look for the Son. Jesus revealed to us that God is interested in our lives and seeks to be the source of healing and reconciliation. Tomorrow will follow today, and tomorrow brings the opportunity for the light of the Son to shine through our darkness. Hopefully, this is something we have learned through our journey with Christ and the church that Christ established. We know where to look, and for whom to look for.

Unfortunately, there are many people in the world who have no idea where to look for the Son. They are overcome with darkness and do not know that light is on the way. It is sad that we live in an age where communication is so readily available, and yet we still fail to communicate at times. I hope and pray that we can become a church that will take every opportunity we have to communicate to all that the Son is coming, and that the Son is near. The darkness will be overcome, and the hope for tomorrow is bright.

God bless you all,

Pastor Scott



We remember in prayer our brothers and sisters in Christ, our shut-ins, our hospitalized, ill or recovering, and all our men and women serving in the military.

### Deaths

Dale Shurr

### Baptisms

Camden and Carson Ritter

### First Communion or Confirmation

First Communion  
Charlie Ratcliff  
Max Ratcliff

### Weddings

None in April

### Hospitalized

Mark Williams  
Bob Rodgers  
Linda Petkovich

### New Members

None in April

# Committees & Gatherings

## Confirmation

Confirmation meets the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 7:00 pm.  
Pentecost Sunday is June 5, 2022.  
There will be 4 Confirmands that will be Confirmed on June 5<sup>th</sup>; Jena Burton, Emily Cicillian, Grace Griffith & Elly Gruett

## Hope Circle

Hope Circle has decided to dissolve along with W.E.L.C.A. Thank you all who have belonged to these Circle's and participated in many good Bible Studies, luncheons and various out-reach programs.  
We will continue to have funeral luncheons for church members.

## Needlers

Needlers will meet the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month, in the social hall room downstairs, at 7:00 pm.  
All are invited.

## Altar Guild for May

Melissa Gonzalez & Carol Trethewey

## Offering Stewards

Jenni Roberts, Monica Deck, Chuck Daniels, Walt Yovanovich & Paul Allen

## Birthday Offerings

Herbert Johnson, Walt Yovanovich, Loraine Isakson, Penny Allen & Nancy Larson

## Donut Angels

We are looking for someone to be the Donut Angel in May. Call the church office if you're interested.

## Bible Study

Pastor Scott has a Bible Study that meets every Wednesday morning at 9:00 am. All are welcome!

## Augustana Food Baskets

Next food pantry is May 17<sup>th</sup>. We helped 10 families in the Month of April and 3 walk-ins.

Augustana Families,  
There are food pantry bags available anytime to be picked up or you can pick one up on Sunday leaving church and we are accepting monetary donations too. We are giving gift cards and non-perishable food to our food pantry people. We appreciate all of the support we receive from our Augustana family.

**Food pantry is in need of paper Bags!!**

## Augustana's Website

**Visit our WEBSITE!**

**[augustanahobart.com](http://augustanahobart.com)**

(A great way to view the worship service and weekly news, if you can't make it to church).

**Also, look us up on Facebook @ Augustana Lutheran Church ELCA. It's a great way to communicate and stay connected. (This is our private page.)**

**Watch Sunday morning services at 10:00 am on Facebook – AugustanaLutheranChurch-Hobart**

## Sunday School

Everyone is welcome! Pre-K – 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Read the Bible-Learn the Lesson - Live the Life!

Sunday School in May will be May 8 & 22 9:15 – 9:45 am.

We are looking for others to help teach Sunday school, so we can have it more than twice a month.

If you are interested in helping teach Sunday school, please contact Amber Ratcliff at 219-292-8784 or Teague Sanders at 219-315-9674 or Pastor Scott at 765-343-2275.

## Worship & Music

Worship & Music's next meeting is May 4th, at 5:30 pm.

## Puppy Pantry

I am expanding the help for Hobart Humane Society and Cat Society. I have a container by the entryway next to the food pantry bin. It has a list of needs for cats & dogs. If you can't get to either shelter to donate, I will be glad to take donations. Just place it in the blue container by the food pantry box.

## Music Schedule

### May

1 - Chancel Choir  
8 – Bell Choir  
15- Bell Choir  
22- Chancel Choir  
29- Special Music

The Bell & Chancel Choir are in need of more people!! All ages are welcome to join the choirs!  
If you are interested please contact:

Choir-Melinda Reinhart  
219.413.1213.  
Bells-Kristin Sturgeon  
219.730.8939

## Kitchen

**We are in need of empty, clean plastic containers.**

## Funeral Luncheon's

If you are interested in helping with Funeral Luncheons:

Setting-up  
Serving  
Clean-up  
Bringing food

Please sign-up on the sheet located in the Hallway at the top of the stairs or call the church office and let them know.

## Council Notes

### Council Notes

Council Meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm, a quorum was present.

#### Pastor:

Pastor Scott was delighted that the Lenten Soup Suppers were able to happen this season, and that they were well attended.

#### Financial:

Chuck conveyed that there was an increase in offering during March. Donations to the Lutheran World Relief fund totaled \$1,085.00 this month. Also, the Church's Edward Jones Time Capsule account decreased by 5.02% in March.

#### Youth & Family:

Amber Ratcliff has stuffed around 500 eggs for Easter. The eggs will be hidden while breakfast is being set up. Sunday School has been attended well.

#### Property:

There was a power surge in the Church and now the alarm system panel and possibly sensors need to be replaced. An insurance claim was submitted and a repair quote was provided for \$4,895.00. The Church's deductible is \$2,500.00. There are also two roof leaks. A call was made to a local company for an estimate. Bruce and Terry are replacing flush levers in the Ladies' restrooms.

#### Worship & Music:

Many positive responses have been made about the easier to follow bulletins and the "Trials of Jesus" sermons.

Foundation – The following people are the new officers for the Foundation Committee: Collette Williams-President, Andrea Rusinski-Vice President, Paul Palichek-Treasurer, Jen Roberts-Secretary and Nancy Wedig-Finance Secretary. The Lindholm/Burke scholarship recipients will be announced on the first Sunday in June.

Next meeting is May 12<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm

## The Augustana Lutheran Church Foundation

There Foundation will be awarding the Educational Grants on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at the 10:00am service!!

**Next Meeting May 16, 2022 @ 5:30 pm**

## May Birthday's

- 1- Ms. Beth Ksenak, Mrs. Beth Gruett,  
Mrs. Kathleen Winovich
- 2- Mrs. Deborah Turley, Mr. Maxx Johnson
- 3- Mrs. Colette Williams
- 4- Mrs. Margie Stratton, Mrs. Sue Fay
- 5- Jacob Hamer, Mr. Charles E Freville
- 7- Mrs. Nancy Pahr
- 8- Ms. Mikaela Valdez, Leah Lindborg
- 9- Mr. Bruce Riffle
- 10 – Ms. Monica Deck
- 12- Mr. Rodney Johnson Jr.
- 15- Mr. Neil Yovanovich
- 16- Mrs. Lori Galbraith, Mr. Michael Whiteman
- 17- Jamie Sikora, Amber Anderson,  
Mr. Thomas Guzek
- 18- Mr. Frank Richardson, Mrs. Abigail Speidel,  
Mrs. Norma Sims
- 19- Mr. Nick Dopiriak, Jade Ratcliff
- 20- Ms. Erica Nush
- 21- Mrs. Kaitlin Barbur, Mr. Richard Yates,  
Mrs. Catherine Brown
- 22- Mrs. Sharon Brandush, Mr. Alex Yovanovich,  
Mrs. Sarah Anderson
- 23- Mr. Adam Ritter, Ms. Alaina Orchard
- 25 – Mrs. Michelle Alexander, Lennyn Arndt,  
Mrs. Jean Johnson
- 26-Mr. Lee Orosz, Mrs. Judy Riba,  
Ms. Lyndsay Johnson
- 27- Ethan Whiteman, Gianna Morales,  
Mattheu Popenhagen
- 28- Ms. Nancy Wedig
- 29- Mrs. Peggy Keen, Mr. Clarke Crizer
- 31- Mrs. Kerry Anderson, Mr. David Rhyne

## Thank You

Thanks to Augustana!

My wife Gail and I have lamented many times about our grandsons Camden and Carson. Neither was Baptized and it seemed like that was not going to change soon. It was a total surprise this past Easter Sunday when Pastor Mauch announced that two boys were going to be Baptised. When he said their names and called them to the Baptismal Font we were shocked. Gail started crying and the youngest asked, "Grandma, aren't you happy?" She immediately told him that the tears were tears of joy.

Thanks to Pastor, the Altar Guild, all others involved with the service, and all in the church who had kept the secret from us. You all made Easter 2022 the most glorious of our lives.

Mike & Gail Ritter

Thank you!

Maundy Thursday was a special time for all of us who shared in it:

A ministry of Word and Sacrament

Reunions of many "Seniors"

A feast of tasty foods

More reunions among us "Old Timers"

Roger's leadership as we sang ourselves with many favorites.

It was a very SPECIAL DAY and we want to share our THANKS with those who made it possible and the precious memories and personal renewals we shared.

THANK YOU ONE AND ALL!

Ronald & Darlene Deck



### **Online Giving:**

If you are interested in Online Giving please sign into the link below and create an Account. Please **ONLY USE CHECKING ACCOUNTS** when setting up Online Giving.

Augustana will be charged additional fees if you use a debit or credit card, so we encourage you not to use these.

[osvhub.com/augustanahobart/funds](https://osvhub.com/augustanahobart/funds)

## New Flower Chart 2022

The New Flower Chart is up!

Please try to sign up for flowers, because if nobody signs up, then we won't have flowers on the altar for Sunday!

Just a reminder to everyone, when you sign up for flowers please sign up on the flower chart in the hallway as well as fill out the white paper located below the flower chart. Return the white paper into the church office, so it can be put into the church bulletin correctly! Also, please take a flower fund envelope to be used to put the money in for the flowers.

Thank you for your cooperation

## Paper Recycling Bin

Please bring your **old newspapers, magazines and flattened cardboard** to church with you and drop it off in the Paper Retriever Bin, located in the parking lot. It's been moved next to the trash bin.

## Pop Tabs, Old Glasses & Cell Phones

We are still collecting pop tabs, old glasses & cell phones. Please bring them in and put them on the table in the hallway by the coat racks.

## A Note from Ceci

Hello and love to all,  
Spring is here-hurray!

Trees are budding and blooming. Daffodils almost done here. Tulips and grape hyacinths in bloom. Lots of windy days. Our Father has given us such a beautiful world to live in.

I am having some health problems – pinched nerve in back but otherwise ok. Enjoying soup suppers & Lenten services on Wed. as are you, I'm sure. Ladies bible study is on Thursday AM and we go out for lunch afterwards. I love Pastor, Stephen & Deacon Lisa our loving leaders.

Read monthly Visitor from you – cover to cover and pray for you all daily. Take care of each other and pray for our sinful world and all those victims of war. I cannot imagine the strength it takes to recover after your country has been Pulverized like that.

I love and miss you all.

Ceci

## Continued Thank You's

Pastor Scott and the people of Augustana,

Thank you for sharing your love and generosity with our neighbors in Ukraine. You are bringing hope to the people in the form of cash assistance, food, medical supplies and quilts and kits. Please look for email updates and I look forward toward our continued partnership in God's promised future.

Grace & Peace,  
Tim Krick

To our Augustana Family,

Thank you so much for keeping Mark in your thoughts and prayers during his extended hospital stay. We are also thankful for the get well wishes and the visits from Pastor Scott. St. Mary's Hospital provided such a talented medical team and excellent care to help Mark heal. His recovery will take a while, but he is headed in the right direction. Prayer is Powerful and God is Good!

Sincere Thanks ~ The Williams Family  
Mark, Colette, Jacob and Megan

Thank you to everyone involved with "The Trails of Lent". The Journey this Lent was wonderful and people really enjoyed the different voices they heard each week. Also, it was great to have soup suppers on Wednesday's and everyone really enjoyed the mid-week services in the Social Hall.

Palm Sunday and Holly Week up to Easter Sunday was AMAZING!

The Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt was Fantastic and Easter service beginning with the Church Choir & Bell Choir was Beautiful along with the Baptism and just the whole service was truly AMAZING!!

Your Augustana Church Family



## First Communion

Holy Communion in the ELCA is understood as a “Means of Grace”. In my words, it is solely an act of God, and needs no involvement from us except to be present to receive this most wonderful gift. Therefore, it is my understanding that anyone can receive this gift as a means of God’s extraordinary grace. With that said, I encourage parents to discern and guide your children to participate in the Lord’s Supper. My part is to partner with you for such a time when you feel your child is ready. I will offer First Communion classes throughout the year to assist you in this endeavor. I teach that this Amazing Grace comes to us in Holy Communion from the God who creates, the God who invites, the God who forgives, and the God who sends us in service to God’s creation.

My next class session will be held on Monday May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm & Thursday May 5<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm. First Communion will be conducted on Sunday May 15<sup>th</sup> during our regularly scheduled worship service. If you feel that your child, grandchild, great-grandchild is ready to participate then I encourage you to be at the church at 6:00 pm on Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Peace,

Pastor Scott

# CRISIS IN UKRAINE

The needs of our neighbors in Ukraine and the number of refugees are growing every hour. Your continued love will get cash directly into the hands of refugees and support the incredible partners, including other Lutheran congregations near Ukraine, that are welcoming neighbors in with loving arms.

LWR teams are on the ground meeting immediate needs and planning a longer-term response as families rebuild their lives after destruction. But we can’t do it without you. Please continue to give – and to inspire your congregation – to give generously - until your love reaches every neighbor!

Augustana Lutheran Church has pledged \$4000.00 through donations from the Food Pantry and Foundation, and we are asking the members of Augustana to help grow our pledge.

## HOW CAN I GIVE?

- Give to Augustana – Please write LWR Ukraine on your check or envelope
- Give directly to LWR at [www.lwr.org/matc](http://www.lwr.org/matc)

# Recipe from the Church Kitchen

## Rhubarb Dump Cake

### Ingredients:

1 lb. fresh rhubarb, chopped (about 4 cups)  
½ cup sugar  
1 pkg. (3 oz.) Jell-O Strawberry Flavor Gelatin  
1 pkg. White or yellow cake mix  
1 cup water  
1/3 cup butter, melted  
¾ cup thawed COOL WHIP Whipped Topping

### Directions:

Heat oven to 350 degrees  
Place rhubarb in 9x13 inch baking dish, sprinkle with sugar & dry gelatin mix  
Beat cake mix, water and butter with whisk until well blended. Pour over rhubarb and spread to completely cover rhubarb  
Bake 45 min. or golden brown. Serve warm topped with COOL WHIP

Cake is excellent served cold. Cool cake completely, then refrigerate until ready to serve.

Augustana Lutheran Church  
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To the Family of: