December 14, 2025 Weekly Parish Visitor

Sunday 12/14

Worship Service 8am & 10am

Live on Facebook

Augustanalutheranchurch-hobart Also Sunday afternoon posted on our website augustanahobart.com

Sunday School 9:00am

Monday 12/15

- **Daily Devotion with Pastor** Scott
- Homemakers 1pm
- <u>N/A 7pm</u>

Tuesday 12/16

- **Daily Devotion with Pastor** Scott
- Food Pantry 10:30am
- Bell Choir 6:30pm
- Chancel Choir 7:30pm

Wednesday 12/17

- Daily Devotion with Pastor Scott
- Bible Study 9am
- Al-A-non 9:30am
- Confession 10:15am

Thursday 12/18

- Al-Anon 9:30am
- Worship 4pm
- Boy Scouts 6:30pm

Friday 12/19

Saturday 12/20

Social Hall Reserved 12pm

Sunday 12/21

- **Worship Service 8AM &** 10am
- Live on Facebook

Augustanalutheranchurch-hobart Also Sunday afternoon posted on our website augustanahobart.com

Sunday School 9:00am

HYMNS 8:00am

Entrance Hymn	264
Hymn of Praise	435
Hymn of the Day	620
Sending Hymn	254

HYMNS 10:00am

264
435
620
742
966
737
254

3rd Sunday of Advent

Food Pantry

Next food pantry is December 16th

Augustana Families,

You can pick up food pantry bags or drop off Monday-Friday every week 9-1, and we are also accepting monetary

donations. 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. Stay Safell

Please try to grab a bag in the Narthex and get what's needed!!

We Need Paper Bags with Handles!!

Online Giving:

If you are interested in Online Giving please sign into the link below and create an Account. Please ONLY USE

<u>CHECKING ACCOUNTS</u> 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

Pastor Scott & Chris Contact Info:

If outside of office hours M-F 9am-1pm please call Pastor Scott's cell 765.343.2275 or call Chaplain Chris Williams at 219-798-9483

David Wilson President Contact Information (219)712-9800

Communion

In the middle of the communion trays is white grape juice for those of you that would prefer non-alcohol.

Gluten free wafers are available.

Lessons & Carols

Join us December 28th for Lessons & Carols at the 10am service. (There will only be one service on the 28th). Sherry Mauch, Pastor Scott's wife, will be the Lector. Hope you can join us!

Last Week's Attendance Sunday

December 7, 2025 8am (17) 10am (49)

Week of December 7, 2025

Financial Update Week 49 Received 12/07/2025 \$5,712.00 Required Weekly: \$5,300.00

2026 Pledges so Far

67 for \$166,350.00

207 N. Kelly St. Hobart, IN 46342 (219)942-3574

Birthday Dec. 14th – 19th

15 –Ms. Kayla Husted,

Mrs. Christine Gray,

Mrs. Candice Burton.

Mrs. Christine Kostbade

16 -Mrs. Juli Whiteman

18 -Mrs. Donna Roth,

Mrs. Amy Mariani

19 - Ms. Renee Shannon.

Mrs. Betty Soderstrom

Noisy Offering

On the last Sunday of every month the Sunday school children will be collecting loose change from the congregation during the offering. The money collected is used to for Evangelism and to promote Augustana's ministry to our community.

Make a Change

Noisy Offering is the last Sunday of Every Month! Our October offering was \$50.00 Thank You!!

Donut Angel

Ken & Heidi Moore took donuts to Physical Therapy at Powers in Hobart. Elaine Belt took donuts to USS Crane Repair & Merrillville Police Dept.

Would you like to be a donut Angel? See Jackie in the church office. It's a lot of fun!!

Serving This Week:

Musician

Sidsel Lindborg

Presiding & Preaching

Chaplain Chris Williams

Assisting Minister Nancy Wedig

Communion Steward David Wilson

Tech Minister

Anne McDonald

Sunday School Teacher

Chaplain Chris

Altar Guild - Lois & Sarah MacMillan

Flowers:

Given By: Jan & Phil Buzolitz in Celebration of Our Many Blessings Given By: Christine Gray in Celebration of My Birthday!

Music: Chancel Choir

December 14, 2025 3rd Sunday of Advent

Congregation welcomes everyone-and yes, we do mean everyone.

Blessing Box

Peyton Griffith brought the blessing box to Augustana with the idea of providing food for individuals who are living in their vehicles or do not have access to kitchen appliances. When donating please consider items that can be opened easily such as soup cans with **pop tabs**, pouches of tuna, and items that can be resealed. We appreciate your continued support. Caring Ministry

<u>Thursday Evenings at Augustana – 4:00 PM</u> <u>Advent Devotion to Divine Mercy and the Divine Child Jesus</u>

This Advent, come and rest in the loving presence of Christ. Join us Thursday December 4th, 11th and 18th at 4pm in the sanctuary for prayer, song, Scripture, and reflection as we turn our hearts toward the mercy of God made flesh in the Holy Child of Bethlehem. Together we will lift up the needs of our families, our community, and the world, entrusting all things to the One whose compassion has no end. In the quiet beauty of this season, we will learn again how to wait with Mary, how to trust God's promises, and how to welcome the coming of Jesus with hope and humility. All are welcome to this time of peace, healing, and spiritual renewal. Come as you are and receive the grace that Advent offers.

Luther's Understanding of Confession

Martin Luther viewed confession as a vital practice for Christians, emphasizing the importance of absolution and personal reflection on sin. He believed that confession consists of two main parts: **confessing one's sins** and **receiving absolution** (forgiveness) from a pastor, which he regarded as equivalent to God's forgiveness. He articulated this in his **Small Catechism**, stating that confession should not be abolished in the Church, as it provides comfort and strength against sin and a troubled conscience. **After Bible Study at 10:15am -11:30am we will be offering Adoration of the Cross-Scripture Meditation and personal private confession in the Sanctuary.** How is your spiritual condition?

Food Pantry - Advent Calendar

If you would like to participate in the Advent Calendar:

Please take a box, (located in the Narthex) purchase the items on the Advent Calendar (which is on the back of the calendar), place items in the box and return to church by 12/31/25. The cost of the items is \$53.00. If you would like to just donate \$53.00, please put it in the offering plate and someone will shop for you!

Thank You!

Augustana Food Pantry

Save the Date!! Annual Meeting

Please mark your calendars for our Annual Church Meeting on January 25, immediately following the 10:00 a.m. service. We warmly invite all members to join us as we reflect on the past year and look ahead with hope and gratitude. In addition to our regular annual business, the Church Council and the Call Committee will present their recommendations for our pastoral call and will seek the congregation's prayerful vote. The Council will also share an update and proposal regarding the installation of new windows throughout the church.

We look forward to gathering together in faith and fellowship as we discern God's guidance for our shared ministry.

President David Wilson

Looking Ahead

As we move into this special stretch of the church year, our hearts turn toward gratitude, anticipation, and joy. The weeks ahead—Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas—invite us to slow down, reflect, and rejoice in God's steadfast love and faithfulness

Thanksgiving is a natural time to remember the many ways God has blessed our congregation this year. From worship and fellowship to outreach and mission, we have much to celebrate.

The season of Advent begins on Sunday, November 30, marking the start of a new church year. Our theme this year will be "Our Dear Christ Enters In." Advent calls us to prepare—not just our homes and schedules, but our hearts—for Christ's coming. On the last Sunday of November, we will have 1 service to highlight our ministries and to decorate the sanctuary and prepare our worship space.

Our Christmas celebrations will once again center on the miracle of the incarnation—Immanuel, God with us. Plans are underway for our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services, which will be at 5:30 pm Christmas Eve and 10 am Christmas Day. This is a time when many guests and families return to church, and we have a wonderful opportunity to extend Christ's welcome. I encourage all of us to be intentional about hospitality, both in worship and in our personal invitations.

Looking Ahead in this busy and beautiful season, let's remember that everything we do—every service, every fellowship time, and every song sung is an expression of God's grace. Thanksgiving teaches us to give thanks; Advent reminds us to wait in hope; and Christmas proclaims the joy that Christ has come and will come again.

Thank you for your leadership, faith, and service as we guide our congregation through this meaningful time of year. May God bless our preparations and fill our worship with joy and peace.



No matter how long it's been, your church home is still here.

This Christmas, come home, remember what this place means to you.

Christmas Eve Candlelight – Dec. 24 at 530 PM

Christmas Morning Worship – Dec. 25 at 10 AM

Come as you are. Come home to the love of Christ.