



# Augustana

## Lutheran Church



## The Parish Visitor

The Monthly Newsletter of Augustana Lutheran Church Hobart, IN

January 2023

### Services

Sundays

10:00 am

Live on Facebook and In-Person

### Sunday School

9:15-9:45 am

### Church Office

#### Hours

Mon - Fri

9am - 1pm

219-942-3574

Rev. Scott Mauch  
Pastor

Roger Emig  
Organist

Melinda Reinhart  
Choir Director

Kristin Sturgeon  
Handbell Director

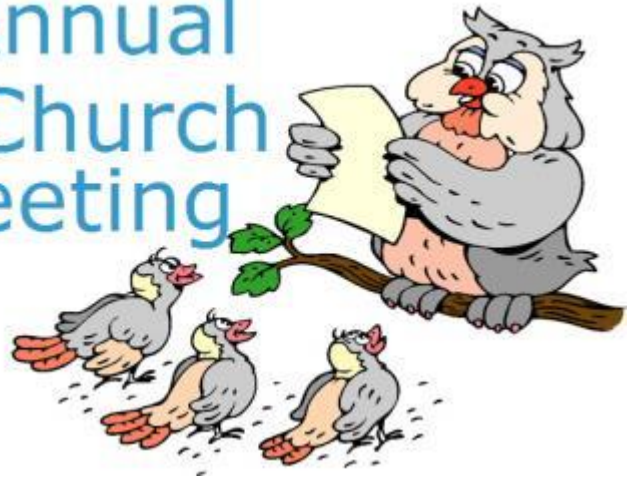
Jackie Fitzgerald  
Office Manager

Christian Education Coordinator  
Position Open

Bruce Wilkinson  
Property Manager

Sue Sutton  
Custodian

## Annual Church Meeting



**The Annual Church Meeting will be January  
29th at 11:30am**

**We will have a pot-luck before the meeting  
(Please bring a dish to share)**

**Also**  
**January 8<sup>th</sup> – Congregational meeting upstairs after  
service to vote on an Updated Constitution**

## Thoughts from the Pastor...

Dear Friends in Christ,

First let me say that I pray that all of you had a joyful holiday season, and that you are ready to face 2023 with a renewed sense of commitment to life in our world. With that said I would like for a part of that commitment to involve you returning to church if you have not been here in a while. I know that these past two years have been filled with a lot of changes that have stifled your ability and willingness to gather as the church. Having to deal with a global pandemic and a new pastor at the same time is a lot of the twists and turns for anyone to have to navigate through.

However, now is the time to change your course and focus on the straight and narrow road ahead. Your presence and the presence of your children in church is vital to the life and to the mission of Augustana. As Jesus said, "You are Peter and upon this rock I shall build my church", and that is what we are called to be. The church on the corner of Kelly and Hickey built through faith in Christ by Christ for the sake of the world in this community. Our primary job as Christians is to be witnesses to the gospel that Jesus came to grant forgiveness of sins and eternal life. It is as simple as that.

We do this in gathering for worship, in love for our neighbor, and in service to our community as opportunity arises. But we cannot not accomplish all that Christ lays in our lap without you. Without your presence we are like a ship without a motor drifting as the winds of the world guide us. I think all of us would prefer a church with an engine firing on all cylinders and Christ at the helm guiding us through the messiness of life. You are that engine, and we need you to return, repaired and ready to roll.

I know that change puts people off and gives them an excuse not to show up but change also brings new opportunities to serve Christ in different and meaningful ways. Come and see anew. Who knows, you may find yourself in new and refreshing ways.

Peace,

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

Richard (Dick) Freckelton

### Baptisms

None in December

### First Communion or Confirmation

None in December

### Weddings

None in December

### Hospitalized

Monica Deck  
Tory Krause  
Bud Hart  
Robert Boer

### New Members

None in December

### Visitor Deadline

Deadline to get articles into the February 2023 visitor is

**January 18th**

### 2023 Pledge Update

**77 Pledges \$173,251.19**

# Committees & Gatherings

## Confirmation

Confirmation only meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, January 18th at 7:00 pm in the Narthex

## 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 January

Sheila Ellis, Tomi Valdez & Heidi Moore

## Offering Stewards

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

## Birthday Offerings

Joan Wineinger, Carol Kannooski, Sheila Ellis, Debbie Hosek, Betty Soderstrom, Ron Deck, Julia Morales, Donna Roth, Tim Zorn

## Donut Angels

We are looking for **someone** to be the Donut Angel in **January.** Call the church office if you're interested. It's a lot of fun blessing people with donuts!!!

## Sunday School

Sunday School meets every Sunday from 9:15-9:45 am in the Social Hall. Grades Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome.

## Worship & Music

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

## 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 January 17<sup>th</sup>.** We helped **9** families in the Month of December and **1 walk-in.** 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.

## 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**

## Save The Date's

**January 8<sup>th</sup> –** Congregational meeting upstairs after service to vote on an Updated Constitution.

**January 29<sup>th</sup> – Annual Meeting!**

There will be a pot-luck and Congregational Meeting to elect new officers.

# Please Try To Attend These Meetings!!

## 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

All ages are welcome to join! If you are interested please contact:

Choir-Melinda Reinhart  
219.413.1213.

Bells-Kristin Sturgeon  
219.730.8939

January 1<sup>st</sup> –

January 8<sup>th</sup> – Bell Choir

January 15<sup>th</sup> – Cancel Choir

January 22<sup>nd</sup> – Bell Choir

January 29<sup>th</sup> – Special

## Building Fund A/C Payback

Help to repay the Building Fund loan that funded our two new A/C units and Air Handlers in the Sanctuary. We owe ourselves \$17,000. A member of Augustana has generously offered to match all future giving up to \$5,000. So please give today and see your gift doubled.

\$17,000



\$8,305.40

\$0.00

## Council Notes

### Council Notes

Council Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm, a quorum was present.

### Staff Reports:

Pastor Scott shared that 50% of the average in person attendance has returned for services.

Office Manager – Jackie conveyed that the bulletins have been prepared up to January 8th. She has begun working on the Annual Meeting materials. Starting on January 1st, members will be using the hymnals again to save money on paper copies. The elevator passed the inspection.

### Financial:

Income was lower in November due to the one-time expenses that needed to be paid. The 2023 Budget has a 1.8% increase in total expenses. There was a motion to approve the 2023 Budget, seconded and passed.

### Property:

Estimates were provided for gutter cleaning and snow removal.

### Worship & Music:

Signs may be made and posted to reinforce spiritual meditation in the Sanctuary.

### Communication:

The new microphones have arrived. Facebook posts are still very active.

Next Council meeting is January 12th

## Foundation News

Our Augustana Foundation is a separate charitable organization from the church. The donations received are invested to minimize risk and maximize return. The contributions received by the Foundation live on in perpetuity to generate dividends and interest that fund the grants issued during each year. Due to the poor and volatile performance in the stock market this year, we do not have the investment proceeds to fund any additional grant requests for 2022. Letters were sent to all of the organizations who requested grants from the Foundation this fall to inform them of this situation. We will continue to monitor the market and hope for a turnaround in our investment performance in 2023. Sincerely ~ Augustana Foundation

**Foundation's next meeting is right after the Annual Meeting, January 29, 2023**

## Thank You

My Augustana Family,  
Thank you for the Christmas gift bag. I liked all of the goodies inside. A special thank you to Jenny Roberts., she was a joy to see. We had such a nice visit. Have a Blessed Christmas. Love to all!!  
Nancy Baker

My Augustana Family,  
Thank you for the Christmas gift bag! I loved everything inside it. Especially the cards!  
I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year!  
Lorraine Isakson

Dear Augustana Family,  
I want to sincerely thank you for all you did for the Augustana Food Pantry and our Angels. We collected over 25 Advent Boxes. We were able to help 9 families with food and gift cards. We also helped 3 of those families with gifts for their children. It was overwhelming. You are always so generous whenever we ask for anything. Your kindness is so appreciated by the families as well as all of us on the committee.  
Yours truly,  
Food Pantry Committee.

## January Birthday's

- 1 -Mrs. Laura Kinder,  
Ava Ladd
- 2 - Nicolas Lindy
- 3 - Mrs. Lisa Crizer  
Joshua Edmond
- 4- Mrs. Diane Isakson
- 5 - Mrs. Marci Cooper
- 6 - Mr. Jeffrey Edmond  
Mrs. Tammy Hoggard, Mrs. Lila Johnson
- 7 - Mr. Rocco Pavese
- 9 - Victor Morales
- 10 - Mr. Carl Sims  
Peyton Griffith
- 11 - Thea Burt  
Mrs. Rebecca Soboleski
- 12 - Mrs. Shelley King
- 13 - Mr. Paul Allen
- 15- Mr. Will Davis,  
Mrs. Carrie Brown  
Leland Garcia
- 19 - Tracy Eustace
- 20 - Mr. Gregory Roberts  
Brianna Roark
- 22 - Mr. David Wilson, Sr.  
Mrs. Joyce Daniels  
Baylee Dopiriak
- 23 - Claire Brown  
Julie Sudroff
- 24 - Mrs. Kay Rieck  
Mrs. Mary Kelm  
Mrs. Sue Sutton
- 25 - Jacob Deck  
Olivia Gonzalez  
Christian Morales
- 29 - Mr. Fred Larson
- 30- Mrs. Shannon Palichuk  
Mr. Justin Claussen
- 31 -Mr. Joseph Dennis

## New Address

Dorothy Eaton  
Room 2212 Spring Mill  
101 West 87<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Merrillville, IN 46410

## Thank You

### **Dear Augustana Lutheran Church,**

Thank you for your generous gift! Your donation will create nutritious meals for people suffering from hunger and malnutrition in your community and around the world. Locally, the meals you have created will fill shelves of food pantries, fill backpacks for students and create programs that educate students about hunger. Internationally, the meals you have created will be served in nutrition clinics, schools and community food distribution centers.

Thanks to your support, we remain hopeful that our work to hunger will provide lasting impact for individuals and communities in need.

On behalf of the entire Pack Away Hunger team,  
*thank you.*

Sincerely,

Abigail Harlan  
Executive Director

### **Donation Details:**

Date Received: 12/1/2022  
Donation Amount: \$100.00  
Meals Created: 323

### **Dear Augustana Parishioners,**

You're a lifesaver! Thank you for joining us in our mission to build and strengthen pet families. You truly are essential to the life-saving work at Humane Society of Hobart.

We received your generous gift of \$45 on October 11, 2022. Your kindness inspires us to continue the work at HSH that your support makes possible. We look forward to keeping in touch to keep you updated on the lifesaving work we do together. Be sure to visit our website at [www.hshobart.org](http://www.hshobart.org) to see what events are upcoming and view the adorable animals looking for their second chance.

With Gratitude,

Jenny Webber  
Executive Director

## 2023 Flower Chart

The New Flower Chart is up!

I just wanted to remind everyone, that 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!

## First Communion

First Communion Classes will be held whenever necessary.

All children are welcome at their parents' discretion.

If you feel your child is ready to participate in the Lord's Supper, they are welcome to attend classes. Contact the pastor to schedule a time best suited for your family's needs.

## Important Congregation Meeting

On January 8<sup>th</sup> there will be a Congregational meeting upstairs after service to vote on an Updated Constitution. There's a change being made to church Council that's important to vote on!

**Please plan to attend this special meeting!**

## Caring Committee

The Caring Committee is collecting the following items:

(New or gently used for children and/or adults):

-hats

-gloves/mittens

-scarves

-blankets

-sheets

The blankets and sheets will go to the Hobart Humane Society.

Thanks,

Andrea Rucinski

## Scrapbooking

There will be a "no-frill" crafting day held on Saturday, January 14th, from 10am to 6pm hosted by Julie Olsted, Creative Memories Advisor. Come and scrapbook, make cards, organize your photos or work on whatever craft you want. There will be scrapbook supplies on sale as well, feel free to stop and shop if you can't stay the day. The cost is \$20 to craft with lunch included. Contact Julie at 219-688-1300 for registration details.





**The Annual Church Meeting will be January 30th at  
11:30pm  
We will have a pot-luck before the meeting  
Please come out and vote!!**



**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](http://osvhub.com/augustanahobart/funds)

**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.

**Free Magazine's**

Did you know that we have free Lutheran magazines in the hallway by the church office for you to pickup? There's Living Lutheran, The Lutheran Journal, The Lutheran Message & Christ in Our Home (Quarterly Devotion Book)

# Recipe from the Church Kitchen

## TOUCHDOWN TACO DIP

**THIS THREE-LAYER DIP IS BAKED UP HOT, THEN TOPPED WITH A COLORFUL ARRAY OF FRESH TOPPINGS.**

### INGREDIENTS:

1 can (16 oz/450 g) refried beans	½ cup (125 mL) shredded cheddar cheese
8 oz (250 g) cream cheese, softened	1 medium plum tomato
1 cup (250 mL) sour cream	3 green onions with tops
2 tbsp (30 mL) taco seasoning mix	2 tbsp (30 mL) snipped fresh cilantro leaves or parsley
2 garlic cloves, pressed	
½ cup (125 mL) sliced pitted ripe olives	
Additional sour cream and tortilla chips (optional)	

### DIRECTIONS:

Preheat the oven to 350°F (176°C) . Spread the beans over the bottom of deep dish pie pan. Combine the cream cheese, sour cream, taco seasoning, and garlic, mix well. Spread the cream cheese mixture over the beans. Bake for 15–18 minutes or until hot. Remove the baker from the oven to a cooling rack, top with the cheddar cheese. Return to the oven and bake an additional 2–3 minutes or until the cheddar cheese is melted.

Meanwhile, slice the tomato in half lengthwise, scrape out the seeds. Dice the tomato and thinly slice the onions. Snip the cilantro or parsley. Sprinkle the olives, tomato, onions, and cilantro over the dip. Garnish with additional sour cream and serve with tortilla chips, if desired.

My favorite Pampered Chef Recipe – Jackie

Send me your favorite recipe!!! Augustanahobart@gmail.com

**Augustana Lutheran Church**  
**207 N. Kelly St.**  
**Hobart, IN 46342**  
**219-942-3574**

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To the Family of: