



# Augustana Lutheran Church



## The Parish Visitor

The Monthly Newsletter of Augustana Lutheran Church Hobart, IN

May 2026

### Services

Sundays

8:00 & 10:00 am

Live on Facebook and In-Person

### Sunday School

9:00am – 9:45am

(Sept. thru May)

### Church Office Hours

Mon – Fri

9am – 1pm

219-942-3574

Rev. Scott Mauch

Pastor

765-343-2275

Chaplain Chris Williams

Youth & Family Lay Minister

219-798-9483

David Wilson

Council President

219-712-9800

Daniel Grayvold

Pianist

Melinda Reinhart

Choir Director

Kristin Sturgeon

Handbell Director

Jackie Fitzgerald

Office Manager

Vacant

Property Manager

Sue Sutton

Custodian

## “Walking with You Through Life’s Sacred Moments”



During Lent



Baptism Gianna



Gods Work Our Hands



Confirmation 2025



Trunk or Treat



Baptism Rosemary Siena



First Communion

## Thoughts from the Pastor...

Dear friends in Christ

As we step into the month of May, we are greeted by signs of renewal all around us—flowers in bloom, longer days, and a deep sense of hope. This year, however, May also brings with it a meaningful transition in the life of our church family. I find myself reflecting with deep gratitude on the journey we have shared together. This will be my final month serving as your pastor, as I prepare to retire on May 22. It is not easy to put into words what this time, and each of you has meant to me.

Serving this congregation has been one of the greatest honors of my life. Through seasons of joy and sorrow, growth and challenge, we have walked together in faith. I have witnessed your kindness, your resilience, and your love for one another, and I carry those memories with me as a lasting blessing. Ministry is never the work of one person alone. It is a shared calling, and I am grateful for every volunteer, every prayer, every conversation, and every act of service that has shaped this church into what it is today. You have been more than a congregation you have been sojourners on our shared journey of faith.

As I step into retirement, I do so with a heart full of peace and confidence in what lies ahead for this church. God's work here will continue, and I trust that new leadership will bring fresh vision and energy for the future. I encourage you to remain rooted in faith, united in purpose, and open to the ways God will continue to move among you. While this chapter is coming to a close, the relationships we have built will always remain close to my heart. I look forward to seeing from afar how each of you continues to grow and serve in the days ahead.

I hope you will join us on my final Sunday May 17 as we gather not only in worship but also in thanksgiving for all that God has done in our time together. It would mean a great deal to me to share that moment with you. As it is written, "To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven." This season calls us to celebrate, to give thanks, and to step forward with hope.

With heartfelt gratitude and love,

Pastor Scott

**Pastor Scott's Last Service is May 17<sup>th</sup> at 10am**

**There will be a Pizza Party & Donuts at 11:30am**

**Please RSVP for the Pizza Party**

**There's a sign-up sheet on the board in the hallway**



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

Vernon Stangebye  
Fred Larson

### Baptisms

Rosemary Siena  
Meneghetti  
Jayce Clayton  
Edmonds

### First Communion or Confirmation

None in April

### Weddings

None in April

### Hospitalized

Linda Wozniak  
Penny Allen

### New Members

None in April

### Visitor Deadline

**Deadline to get articles into the June Visitor Is May 24<sup>th</sup>**

## Committees & Gatherings

### Altar Guild for May

Heidi Moore & Patty Snyder

### Offering Stewards

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

### Birthday Offerings

Joyce Crizer, Herb Johnson, Walt Yovanovich, Jenni Roberts, Anne McDonald, Karen Brenner, Marilyn Pearson, Nancy Ferris

### Worship & Music

Worship & Music meets May 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. Come join us. We are always looking for new members!

### Bible Study

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

### Altar Guild

Altar Guild is looking for metal cans the size of what pineapple juice or tomato juice come in. No more plastic coffee cans.

### Sunday School

Sunday School meets every Sunday from 9:00-9:45am, in the Social Hall. Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome.

**Work/Clean-up Day is  
Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup>  
from  
8am-12noon  
We need Your Help!**

### Augustana Food Baskets

Next food pantry is **May 19<sup>th</sup>** we helped 12 families in the Month of March & 2 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.

**Please try to help if you are able.**

**We also need Monetary Donation's!**

**Thank You for all you do!**

### Augustana's Website

**Visit our WEBSITE!**

**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**

### 2026 Flower Chart

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! If you could help sign up for flowers in **May & June**, it would be greatly appreciated!

### Please Call

Please call the church office to make us aware if you or a loved one has been admitted to the hospital. Although some hospitals ask about your church affiliation during the admitting process, they do not always call to let us know that you are there.

### 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.

### Donut Angel

We are looking for **2 or 3 people** to be the Donut Angel in **May**.

Jackie Fitzgerald took donuts to Centier Bank on Main St., Kathy Holland took donuts to Pain Management at St. Mary's. Karen DaVaney took donuts to CVS.

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

### Make a Change

Noisy Offering is the last Sunday of Every Month!

Our March offering was \$65.89. April offering was \$

Thank You!!

### Please Return Survey!!

Inside your March visitor was a survey to fill out. If you haven't turned in your survey, Please turn it in ASAP!!

**OUR FOOD PANTRY IS BARE, AND WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

**PLEASE TAKE A BAG**

**FILL IT WITH THE LIST ON IT RETURN IT TO THE BOX!**

Many families depend on our pantry. Please consider helping those less fortunate.

- Dry Goods
- Boxed Meals
- Canned Foods
- Household Essentials

## S.A.M. Report May 2026

### Chaplain's Report – Ministry Update May 2026

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

There is a quiet but powerful movement happening among us. It shows up in small acts of care, in shared work, and in the ways we continue to open our doors and our hearts to others.

One place we are seeing this is in the **expansion of our community garden**. What began as a simple effort to grow fresh food is becoming something more. It is a place of connection, stewardship, and shared purpose. As we look ahead, we have begun expanding the garden itself and exploring how to better use the space and encourage participation. This is an open invitation for anyone who would like to help plant, tend, or simply be part of something life-giving in our community.

At the same time, we are facing a real and urgent need in our **food pantry**. The shelves are running low, and many families in our area depend on this ministry. This is one of the most direct ways we live out who we are as a church. If you are able, please consider helping restock the pantry. Every item given becomes part of a larger story of care, dignity, and daily bread for those who need it most.

We are also beginning to look ahead to this year's "**God's Work, Our Hands**" ministry project. Rather than deciding this alone, we want to hear from you. What do you see in our community? Where is there a need? Where is God inviting us to show up? Please share your ideas as we discern together how we can serve in a meaningful and faithful way.

And finally, we give thanks for moments that remind us of the heart of who we are. Recently, we celebrated **two baptisms** in our congregation. In these moments, we see the promise of God made visible. New life. New identity. A belonging that does not depend on anything we achieve, but on what God has given.

These baptisms also point us forward.

We are called to be an **inviting, welcoming, baptizing church**. A place where people encounter grace. A place where those who are searching, hurting, or simply curious can find a community that receives them as they are. A place where the waters of baptism continue to flow and new life continues to begin.

Thank you for the ways you are already part of this shared life. Your presence, your generosity, and your willingness to serve are what make this ministry possible.

Together, we continue to be a church of **Recovery, Renewal, and Relationship**.

In Christ,  
Chaplain Christopher Williams



**Chaplain Chris Williams & Brandi Arcuri are Getting Married June 13<sup>th</sup> at 4pm and everyone is invited!**  
**Please RSVP if your family plans on attending the Reception!**  
**There's a sign-up sheet on the board in the hallway**

## May Birthday's

- 1- Mrs. Beth Gruett,
- 2- Mrs. Kathleen Winovich
- 2- Mrs. Deborah Turley, Mr. Maxx Johnson
- 3- Mrs. Colette Williams
- 4- Mrs. Margie Stratton, Mrs. Sue Fay
- 5- Mr. Charles E Freville,  
Ms. Alicia MacMillian
- 8- Ms. Mikaela Valdez
- 10 – Ms. Monica Deck
- 12- Mr. Rodney Johnson Jr.
- 15 – Ms. Angela Camarata
- 16- Mrs. Lori Galbraith,  
Mr. Michael Whiteman
- 17- Jamie Sikora
- 18- Mr. Frank Richardson,  
Mrs. Abigail Speidel,
- 19- Mr. Nick Dopiriak
- 21- Mrs. Kaitlin Barbur
- 22- Mrs. Sharon Brandush
- 25 – Lennyn Arndt, Mrs. Jean Johnson
- 26-Mr. Lee Orosz, Ms. Lyndsay Johnson,  
Mr. Robert Boer Jr.
- 27- Mr. Ethan Whiteman,  
Ms. Gianna Morales
- 28- Ms. Nancy Wedig, Walter Podrebarac
- 29- Mr. Clarke Crizer



## Council Notes April 2026

### Staff Reports

**Pastor-** Pastor Scott shared that nearly 200 people were in attendance for the Easter service. Online viewing has increased over the past three months. There will be a baptism this upcoming Sunday.

**Chaplain/SAM-** Chris conveyed that some of the new visitors are from the recovering programs that are hosted at the church. He believes that people are viewing the church website and are connecting to the message that “Everyone is welcome”. He also thinks that many people are attracted to the various programs that are happening at the church as well. He shared that the ad that was created and posted on the Augustana Facebook page and website has received over 14,000 views. Chris found a program called Zeffy for visitors or anyone else to use to donate money to the Church.

**Office Manager** – Jackie conveyed that the church has saved \$33.00 so far by either emailing or having members pick up the visitor this month.

### Ministry Reports

**Serving-**The Caring Committee is hosting a Bunco fundraiser on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm to help contribute to the cost of the new windows. There is a \$30.00 donation. There may be a blood drive held at the church this summer using The Red Cross or Versiti.

**Building-**There will be a Spring Property Work Party Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am. Items starting to be moved away from the windows so they can be installed in June. Two more garden bins have been purchased for the garden.

**Next Church Council Meeting:  
May 13, 2026 at 6:30 pm**

## AUGUSTANA'S FOUNDATION 2026

### **Educational Grant Applications**

The Lindholm Burke Grant Applications can be found on the bulletin board outside the church office or on the church website at [augustanahobart.com](http://augustanahobart.com). We welcome applications from anyone in the congregation that is a graduating senior in high school with plans to attend college or trade school, a returning student to college or trade school and those members planning on returning to school later in life. The deadline for turning in a completed application is **Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> 2026**.

The following criteria will be used to select the educational grant recipients.

- 1 – Active Participation within Augustana Lutheran Church
- 2 – School Performance and Activities
- 3 – Community Service

There will be one Lindholm/Burke Grant recipient named in 2026 who will receive a \$1,500 grant renewable for 3 additional years or the duration of their studies if less than 3 years. This recipient must simply submit a letter each year summarizing their college experience and activities by the application deadline.

Special Educational Grants of \$750 each may be given out at the discretion of the Foundation. These recipients are welcome to reapply each year during their studies.

## AUGUSTANA'S FOUNDATION

### **Lutheran Foundation,**

Thank you so much for your contribution to Gary Harm reduction, with your help we were able to serve 2,100 people! When the world feels like it's falling apart, groups like yours operates as a place of hope & give us spirit & fuel to keep giving.

With love,

Kristen Martin

### **Augustana Lutheran Church Foundation,**

On behalf of St. Jude House, thank you for your generous support. Your contribution of \$2,000 makes it possible for us to provide safety, support, and healing to individuals and families affected by domestic violence.

Your generosity directly supports life-changing services such as emergency shelter, counseling, advocacy, and prevention programs. We are deeply grateful for your partnership in this mission.

With gratitude,

Anna Schoon

Executive Director

## The Caring Committee Ministry

### Hobart Humane Society

The Hobart Humane Society is a great place to volunteer. Dogs benefit from volunteers assisting the staff with walking and playing. Volunteers do need to be 18 years or older. Please call ahead at 219-942-0103 to schedule a time.

The animals are in need of the items listed below. Please drop off items directly to the Hobart Humane Society at 2054 IN 130, Hobart which is open Monday through Wednesday 11:00 to 4:00, Thursday closed, Friday through Sunday 11:00 to 4:00.

gently used blankets

gently used towels

bleach

dog and cat food

paper towels

Caring (Committee) Ministry

### 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 (Committee) Ministry

**MAY**  
your kindness save a life

### Donate Blood

**Thursday  
May  
21**

**3:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

**EVERY 2 SECONDS**  
in the U.S., someone  
needs blood.  
Your donation provides  
hope, healing, and life to  
patients in our  
community.



### **AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**WE NEED \*24 DONORS\* TO REACH OUR GOAL!**  
Every donation can save up to 3 lives.

AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH  
SOCIAL HALL  
207 Kelly Street  
HOBART, IN 46342

#### **\*GOVERNMENT PHOTO ID REQUIRED\***

Appointments appreciated; Walk-Ins welcomed! To schedule, go to [www.versiti.org/IL](http://www.versiti.org/IL), load the Versiti Donor app, call (800) 7TO-GIVE, or scan the QR code.

**As a thank you, all attempting  
donors with a valid email will  
receive a \$25 e-gift card**



 **versiti**  
Blood Center of Illinois

## Thank You

### Dear Friends at Augustana,

Many thanks for the kind, welcoming hospitality you showed our family at Vernon's funeral. Pastor Scott and Jackie Fitzgerald were so caring, and the church folks put on such a nice luncheon.

Our family is so appreciative of all you folks did for us.

Sonja (Stangebye) Anderson

To everyone at Augustana who helped with our brother Vernon Stangebye's funeral, I would like to thank you all so much for all you did to make our brother's funeral so beautiful. You all were so welcoming. Thank all of you who served and made food for the luncheon. We will always remember your kindness.

Love,

Cindy Razo and the rest of the family of Vernon Stangebye.

### Augustana Church Family,

Thank you SO much for all the cards, texts, calls & Prayers while Jim is still on his Cardiac Recovery journey.

Jim & Sue Fay

## April Baptism's

### Jayce Clayton Edmonds



### Rosemary Siena Meneghetti





## **Venture to VU by Colette Williams**

Spring has sprung and the final performances of this VU season are taking place in May. All events are free to the public unless otherwise noted. Come enjoy the Arts at your local college campus.

### **Sousa Tribute Concert**

Saturday, May 2, 4:00 p.m.

Chapel of the Resurrection

### **Student Recital: Emilio Cantu, trumpet, and Chris DeGard, soprano**

with Nicole Lee, piano

Sunday, May 3, 2:00 p.m.

Duesenberg Recital Hall

### **Musica Viva**

Tuesday, May 5, 2:00 p.m.

Duesenberg Recital Hall

### **Chamber Choir and University Singers Recital**

Tuesday, May 5, 7:30 p.m.

Duesenberg Recital Hall

### **Musica Viva**

Thursday, May 7, 2:00 p.m.

Duesenberg Recital Hall

### **Abendmusik**

Thursday, May 7, 7:30 p.m.

Duesenberg Recital Hall

### **Bach Institute presents: Maura Janton Cock and Friends in Recital**

Saturday, May 9, 5:00 p.m.

Duesenberg Recital Hall

# Birth Announcement



**On Saturday, March 28th Megan and Brett Eriks welcomed Graham William Eriks into the world.**

**Proud grandparents are Mark and Colette Williams and great grandparents Dennis and Sidsel Lindborg.**



**Easter Morning 2026**

## News from the Property Committee

The property committee has been working on getting ready for the work party on May 2nd. The shed doors have been repaired and the shed has been cleaned out. We have made a list of items to work on from the top floor to the basement and outside. We are preparing for the installation of the new windows in June.

Please consider becoming a Property Committee member. We can always use an extra pair of hands to take care of God's House. The meetings are the first Thursday of the month at 4:00.

From Walt

## News from Garden Committee

"We are excited to announce that our church community garden is expanding! This year, we will be growing even more fresh vegetables to share with individuals and families in need throughout our community. If you feel called to support this effort, donations are greatly appreciated and can be placed in an offering envelope marked "**Garden.**" We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help tend the garden and serve on the garden committee—your time and dedication mean so much. If you have any questions, please contact **Brandi at 219-214-3014**. Thank you for helping us grow and give back to our community."

Best,

Brandi Arcuri

## On Line 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)

If you would like envelopes to put your offering in, please see Jackie in the office!!

If you switch to online giving, please let Jackie know so she can stop the delivery of your envelopes.

### Paper Recycling Bin

Please bring your **old newspapers, magazines and junk mail** to church with you and drop it off in the Paper Retriever Bin, located in the parking lot. It's being moved to the North side of the parking lot!! **NO MORE CARDBOARD!!**

### 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 The Lutheran Journal, The Lutheran Message & Christ in Our Home (Quarterly Devotion Book)

# Recipe from the Church Kitchen

## Strawberry Jello Poke Cake

### Ingredients:

1 box white cake mix  
1 3-ounce box strawberry Jello  
1 cup boiling water  
½ cup cold water  
1 8-ounce tub Cool Whip topping  
Strawberries for garnish, optional

### Instructions:

Bake the cake in a 9x13-inch pan according to the instructions on the box. Remove from the oven and cool the cake in the pan for 15 minutes.

Pierce the cake with a fork at ½-inch intervals.

In a 2 cup glass measuring cup, mix the dry Jello with 1 cup boiling water. Stir for 2 minutes until completely dissolved. Stir in cold water.

Carefully pour the Jello over the cake, making sure to pour over all the fork holes. Then refrigerate the cake for at least 3 hours.

After the cake has chilled, frost with the Cool Whip and garnish with strawberries. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

### Notes

Store covered in the refrigerator for up to 3 days.

## Augustana Lutheran Church

207 N. Kelly St.

Hobart, IN 46342

219-942-3574

To the Family of: