



Augustana

Lutheran Church



The Parish Visitor

The Monthly Newsletter of Augustana Lutheran Church Hobart, IN

July 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

Chaplain Chris Williams

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

Youth & Family Lay Minister

Vacant

Property Manager

Sue Sutton

Custodian



The Ordination & Installation of Christopher Lee Williams

Augustana Lutheran Church

July 25, 2026

11:00 am

(Pot-luck to follow)

Thoughts from the soon to be Pastor... (Ordination is July 25, 2026)

Keeping Our Eyes on Jesus

One of the greatest spiritual challenges we face is learning the difference between our responsibility and God's responsibility. As Christians, we care deeply about one another. We want what is best for our families, our friends, our church members, and our neighbors. We want people to make good decisions, grow in faith, avoid harmful choices, and experience God's blessings. But sometimes concern can quietly become control.

Fear can convince us that it is our job to manage another person's spiritual journey. We may feel compelled to correct, rescue, convince, supervise, or protect people from every possible mistake. We may begin carrying burdens that God never asked us to carry. When that happens, we often lose sight of our own spiritual condition.

Jesus said: "Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye?" (Matthew 7:3)

Jesus is not telling us to ignore one another. He is reminding us that self-examination must come before judgment. Before we attempt to fix someone else, we are called to examine our own hearts. In recovery communities, there is a simple principle: "Keep your side of the street clean." That wisdom applies to Christian discipleship as well. We cannot do another person's praying, healing, repentance or growing. Every person must walk their own journey with God. Our role is not to play God. Our role is to love, encourage, pray, and bear witness to Christ.

Fear often tempts us to step beyond those boundaries. But... "What if they make a mistake?" "What if they get hurt?" "What if they don't listen?" "What if things don't turn out the way I think they should?". Those fears are understandable. They come from our desire for safety and certainty. Yet when fear becomes our guide, we can begin trying to control outcomes that belong to God.

The truth is that God loves the people we worry about even more than we do. God is already at work in their lives. The Holy Spirit is capable of guiding, correcting, convicting, and healing in ways that we cannot. When we try to take over God's role, we often become anxious, frustrated, resentful, or exhausted. We carry responsibilities that were never ours to carry.

The invitation of Christ is different. Jesus calls us to keep our eyes fixed on Him. To trust Him. To follow Him. To allow Him to be Lord of our lives and the lives of those we love. Healthy boundaries are not walls that separate us from others. They are acts of trust. They recognize where our responsibility ends and God's responsibility begins.

We are responsible for our attitudes, our words, our actions, our repentance, our prayer life, and our faithfulness. We are NOT responsible for controlling another person's choices, emotions, recovery, spiritual growth, or relationship with God. That does not mean we stop caring. It means we care in a healthier way.

At Augustana Lutheran Church, we believe that healing happens when people are given room to encounter God's grace for themselves. We walk alongside one another, but we do not walk for one another. The Church is not a place where people are forced into transformation. It is a place where Christ meets people through Word, Sacrament, community, and grace.

As we continue our journeys of recovery, renewal, and relationship, may we remember that our primary calling is not to fix others but to follow Jesus. And when fear tempts us to defend, control, or play God, may we hear Christ's gentle invitation: "Follow me."

Yours in loving service,

Chaplain Chris



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

None in June

Baptisms

None in June

First Communion or Confirmation

None in June

Weddings

Christopher Williams
&
Brandi Arcuri

Hospitalized

Linda Wozniak
Penny Allen

New Members

Sherron Hagerty
Samantha Lawson
Linda Byers
Torie Diamond
Donna Drasich
Michelle Allen

Visitor Deadline

**Deadline to get
articles into the
August Visitor
is
July 24th**

Committees & Gatherings

Altar Guild for July

Jan Buzolitz, Jean Davis & Christine Gray

Offering Stewards

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

Birthday Offerings

Clarke Crizer, Nancy Wedig,

Worship & Music

Worship & Music is off for the summer. The next meeting isn't until September 8th at 5:30pm. Come join us. We are always looking for new members!

Bible Study

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

Sunday School

Augustana's Sunday School offerings of \$120.00 have been donated to ELCA Good Gifts. The children chose to purchase chicks, two water filters and a portion toward a cow to benefit others around the world.

Old Computers

Not Sure What to do with Your Old Computers?
I'm willing to clean and recycle old laptops, desktop computers and monitors for any members that don't know what to do with their old systems. Drop them off at Church & Jackie will get hold of me.
Call Carlos Mariani at 219-928-8453.

Augustana Food Baskets

Next food pantry is **July 21st** we helped 12 families in the Month of June & 5 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 **July & August**, 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 **July**.

Would you like to be a Donut Angel?

See Jackie in the church office. It's a lot of fun!!

Would you like to be a Donut Angel?

See Jackie in the church office. It's a lot of fun!!

Ronie Cochran took donuts to pain management in Hobart.

Make a Change

Noisy Offering is the last Sunday of Every Month!

Our May offering was \$92.98

Thank You!!

Giving Envelopes / One Call Now

Augustana's Congregation

If you are interested in receiving your own giving envelopes, please reach out to Jackie, in the church office. If you don't need church envelopes, because you give online now, please let Jackie in the church office. The office number is 219-942-3574.

If you would like to receive calls or text from the church about information in the church or prayers for members, please let Jackie know too.

Would You Like to go to a Railcat Game?

Join Us for a RailCats Baseball Outing!

Nothing says summer like a day at the ballpark—crack of the bat, the smell of popcorn, and cheering with friends as the RailCats take the field. We're putting together a group outing and want to know who's in. You can pick the game that fits your schedule—or come to both!

Game options:

- **Sunday, July 19 at 2:00 PM** — A sunny afternoon game perfect for families and a laid-back vibe. Think caps, sunscreen, and seventh-inning stretch singalongs.
- **Just Added! Friday, August 7 at 6:45 PM** — A classic summer evening under the lights. Come straight from work, grab a ballpark dinner, and kick off the weekend with baseball.

Why join?

- Great seats together so we can cheer as a group
- Easy, affordable fun with friends, family, and coworkers
- Ballpark snacks, mascots, and between-inning games that make it a blast for all ages

Tentative plan:

- Meet at the stadium gates 30 minutes before first pitch
- Group photo before the game

Interested?

- Reply with your preferred date(s): Sunday 7/19, or Friday 8/7 “either.” There's a sign-up sheet in the Hallway.
- Tell us how many tickets you'd like.
- Share any seating preferences (aisle, shade for the afternoon game, accessibility needs).

We'll confirm headcount, secure group tickets, and share payment details once we have responses. If you're on the fence, consider this your sign—come make a summer memory at the RailCats game!

If you would like to attend the game but prefer not to drive to Gary, we encourage you to carpool with fellow attendees. Carpooling is a great way to save on gas, make the trip more enjoyable, and reduce parking stress.

When signing up, simply write “Car Pool” next to your name if you are interested in riding with others or helping coordinate transportation. We will do our best to connect staff members traveling from similar areas.

Thank you for helping make the trip fun, convenient, and team-friendly!



The screenshot shows the RailCats Baseball website on a mobile device. At the top, the time is 10:09 and the battery is at 93%. The address bar shows "railcatsbaseball.com". The main header features the RailCats logo and the text "GROUP TICKETS". Below this, there are three photos: a child cheering, a player in a white uniform, and a family sitting in the stands. A large green banner reads "\$13 ALL SEATS" and "INCLUDES \$5 VOUCHER GOOD FOR CONCESSIONS OR MERCHANDISE". To the right of this banner is a diagram of a baseball field. Below the banner, a list of benefits includes: "ACCOUNT SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE", "GROUP RECOGNITION ON VIDEO BOARD", and "SEATS GROUPED TOGETHER". At the bottom, the phone number "219-882-2255" and the website "RAILCATSBASEBALL.COM" are displayed.



July Birthday's

- 3 - Mrs. Janet Buzolitz, Lorali Nush
- 4 – Ms. Tracey Pest
- 6 – Mrs. Kenzie (Krause) Vincent
- 7 – Mr. Maxwell Moore, Cash Kostbade
- 8 – Mr. Phillip Buzolitz,
Ms. Danielle Gilyan
- 9 - Mr. Erik Garcia,
Mrs. Ruth Wilkinson
- 10 - Mr. Arthur Knight
- 13 - Renee Wietbrock
- 14 – Mr. Jered Sanders
- 15 - Mrs. Kathleen Butler
- 19 - Mr. Caleb Crizer,
Mr. Nick Holmberg
- 20 –Mr. Peyton Kostbade
- 23 – Ms. Daisy Jo Johnson
- 24 – Mrs. Linda Nabhan
- 26 –Mrs. Polly Griffith
- 27 –Mrs. Brittany Arndt
- 28 - Mr. David N. Wilson
- 29 – Annalise Valk-Feeney
- 30 - Mrs. Kerry Ksenak
- 31 - Mrs. Allie Doepping



Council Notes June 2026

Augustana Church Council Notes June 10, 2026

Staff Reports

Pastor– Chris conveyed that there will be a new member orientation class for seven people on Monday, June 22nd at 5:00 pm. The Wednesday Bible Study class attendance continues to increase. There has also been a significant interest in the upcoming Revelation Bible Study, “It’s the End of the World” (As We Know It). Three short devotional videos will continue to be produced weekly for Facebook and YouTube viewing. The Thursday evening devotional gatherings have started being livestreamed. There has been discussion for the community service for God’s Work, Our Hands to partner with the local St. Jude House.

Office Manager – Jackie shared that ninety people have signed up to attend Chris and Brandi’s wedding and reception. Two quotes have been requested for a new sign in the front of the church.

Ministry Reports

Worship-We have entered the “Ordinary Time” segment and started using the liturgy that Daniel and his brother created. Anyone that would like to volunteer to sing or play music for the summer services is welcome to do so.

Next Church Council Meeting:
July 8, 2026 at 6:30 pm

AUGUSTANA'S FOUNDATION 2026



Lindholm/Burke Grant Recipients

**Sarah Griffith, Olivia Gonzalez, Gianna Morales, Paige Cooper, Jillian Wilkinson,
Kynan Krause & Kenzie (Krause) Vincent**

FOUNDATION Thank You!

Augustana Lutheran Church Foundation,

On behalf of everyone at The Night Ministry, I would like to thank Augustana Lutheran Church Foundation for your generous donation.

In partnership with supporters like you, The Night Ministry served more than 5,400 unique individuals in the last fiscal year through our youth housing and mobile outreach programs. Our agency works hard to address the increasing need for homeless services in the community. Your gift is helping us serve clients with dignity during a greater time of uncertainty.

Thank You for making a positive difference in our community. Your generosity allows our team to address the immediate needs of our vulnerable neighbors, so they have a better tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Carol J. Sharp, MPA
President & Chief Executive Officer
Carol@thenightministry.org

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.

DOES ANYONE HAVE AN IDEA HOW TO KEEP STUFF FROM ROTTING IN THE HEAT IN THE BLESSING BOX???

Caring (Committee) Ministry

“It’s the End of the World (As We Know It)”

Revelation Bible Study| Begins June 24th

Join Chaplain Chris for a ten-week Bible study on the Book of Revelation, focusing on Hope, Renewal and God Making All Thing New

Wednesday at 5:00 pm

June 24th through August 26th

Augustana Lutheran Church (Down stairs in the Social Hall)

All are welcome. Come for one session or commit to the full journey.

Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board at the top of the stairs or contact the church office to reserve your spot.

Summer Music

During the summer months, we will be in need of special music at the 10am service on Sunday mornings. As you know, the Bell Choir and the Church Choir do not provide music at Sunday morning services during this time. If you would like to participate in the special music program this summer, we would love to have you do so. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board at the top of the stairs in the main hallway near the office window. Feel free to sign up for any services at which you would like to sing or play an instrument.

Summer Worship

Thursday Evenings at Augustana – 6:00 – 6:30 PM

Augustana Congregation, Are you going on vacation? Can't make it to church on Sunday? Another great way to worship is to come to Chris's service on Thursday evenings at 6 PM. It's a short little service from 6 to 6:30, but it's just what you're going to need, before you go on Vacation. Come check it out!

Property

Oops I goofed ☹ (Jackie). This article didn't get in the June Visitor.

The property committee thanks everyone that participated in the workday in May. About 25 people came and the average age was about 71 and we accomplished everything that was possible on the list on a cool day.

A trial installation of two windows gave the window company an opportunity to make an estimate on how many windows they can install per day, about 10. They will begin after the wedding in June. Property helped the garden committee de-sod and till a new garden bed to expand the amount of produce we can grow for the community.

Our next meeting will be Thursday June 4th at 4pm. We always can use new members!

New Article, July!!

The church is preparing for the installation of the new windows. They should be completed the second week of July. We will try to keep the disruptions to a minimum.

Wonderful changes are happening in God's House.



4TH OF JULY

WORD SEARCH

WORD LIST

AMERICA
 BALLOONS
 BBQ
 CELEBRATE
 FIRECRACKER
 FIREWORKS
 FLAGS
 FREEDOM
 FUN
 INDEPENDENCE
 JULY
 LIBERTY
 NATION
 PARADE
 PARTY
 PATRIOTIC
 PICNIC
 RED
 SPARKLERS
 STARS
 STRIPES
 SUMMER
 USA
 WHITE
 YARD

L	S	T	A	R	S	X	Q	G	O	B	Z	S
D	G	R	Z	N	O	Z	Y	A	R	D	M	P
H	R	P	A	T	R	I	O	T	I	C	N	A
J	Y	S	T	R	I	P	E	S	R	U	C	R
A	Y	L	Z	D	I	Y	C	A	F	I	H	K
C	F	Z	C	S	I	Q	C	D	N	B	Z	L
I	F	R	G	V	V	Z	R	C	D	L	O	E
R	I	E	E	B	F	J	I	E	Y	I	Q	R
E	R	T	A	E	A	P	U	Q	D	B	N	S
M	E	I	D	I	D	L	K	L	A	E	O	X
A	C	H	C	W	D	O	L	N	Y	R	P	S
E	R	W	S	E	O	U	M	O	F	T	U	A
C	A	M	N	T	L	B	S	O	O	Y	A	O
N	C	F	O	Y	Y	E	G	A	D	N	E	F
E	K	B	I	T	N	O	B	A	Z	A	S	L
D	E	O	T	R	R	T	B	R	W	C	H	G
N	R	M	A	A	E	Q	B	H	A	H	O	E
E	J	S	N	P	M	W	Q	P	J	T	O	D
P	I	R	X	P	M	U	O	Y	S	H	E	A
E	V	V	C	K	U	R	I	R	U	W	L	R
D	W	K	N	H	S	K	V	X	K	B	Z	A
N	H	R	Y	F	M	O	C	Z	G	S	I	P
I	O	V	U	F	L	A	G	S	L	S	L	Y



A New Church Directory!!

It's been a long time since we had a church directory, so starting June 28th, we will be scheduling families to get their pictures taken! (Yes, pets are allowed).

We will be having our pictures taken by Universal Church Directories, starting July 27th from Noon until 8:30pm. Other dates will become available when the first one is full.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the Group Leaders.

Group leaders are:

Carrie Disney
Joy James
Anne McDonald
Nancy Wedig
Brandi Williams
Nancy Barron
Sarah Griffith
& Jackie Fitzgerald

Thank You!

With grateful hearts, we thank our Augustana family and friends for celebrating our wedding day with us. Your presence, prayers, gifts, donations to the church, and help with setup made our day truly unforgettable. Even a power outage could not stop the incredible volunteers who showed up the day before to help prepare, and the ceremony was made even more beautiful because so many of you were a part of it.

A special thank you to Jackie for planning and organizing the reception, Nick for being the most amazing wedding coordinator, Daniel for the beautiful piano music, Pastor Scott for officiating, the Bell Choir for filling the sanctuary with beautiful music, Jill for the photography, Joe for the Gospel readings, and Nancy & Donna for ushering. We are especially grateful to our children and our dear friends, Scott and Sally, for standing by our side on our perfect day.

As we begin this new chapter together, we are filled with love, gratitude, and excitement for the future of our family, our friendships, and our church community. God is good, and we are blessed beyond measure.

With love and thanks,

Chaplain Chris & Brandi

Augustana Church Family,

Thank You for all of your prayers, and thoughtfulness before and after my Heart valve replacement surgery.

It really meant a lot to me,

Patty Snyder



Star War's Night at the Railcats game – June 19th

A good time was had by all!!!

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

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

Vegan Banana Cake

Ingredients:

2 cups all-purpose flour
1 ½ tsp baking soda
½ tsp salt
1 cup sugar
¼ cup oil (vegetable, canola, or other neutral oil)
4 ripe bananas (mashed)
¼ cups water
1 tsp vanilla extract

Steps:

Preheat the oven to 350°F/175°C. Lightly grease a 9" square baking pan
In a small bowl, whisk together the flour, baking soda, and salt. Set aside
In a separate large bowl, whisk together the sugar and oil, then add in the mashed bananas until combined
Add the water and vanilla, stirring to combine
Add flour and baking soda mixture, stirring just until the ingredients are lightly mixed and thoroughly wet. Make sure not to over-mix
Bake for 45–50 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean
Remove the cake from the oven, place it on a wire rack, and let cool in the pan for 15 minutes. Turn it out of the pan onto the rack and let it cool completely before cutting into squares to serve

I usually make it in an 8" square pan and it works fine; for the wedding I made a double batch in a 9"×13" pan which seemed to work without issue, though it did need a few extra minutes in the oven.

Daniel Grayvold

Augustana Lutheran Church

207 N. Kelly St.

Hobart, IN 46342

219-942-3574

To the Family of:



Take a Look Inside
Exciting things are
Happening!