



Augustana

Lutheran Church



The Parish Visitor

The Monthly Newsletter of Augustana Lutheran Church Hobart, IN

August 2022

Services

Sundays

10:00 am

Live on Facebook and In-Person

Sunday School

Off for the Summer

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

God's Work Our Hands



**Sunday, September 11, 2022 is God's
Work Our Hands Day
Look inside for the insert on how to
participate and order a shirt!**

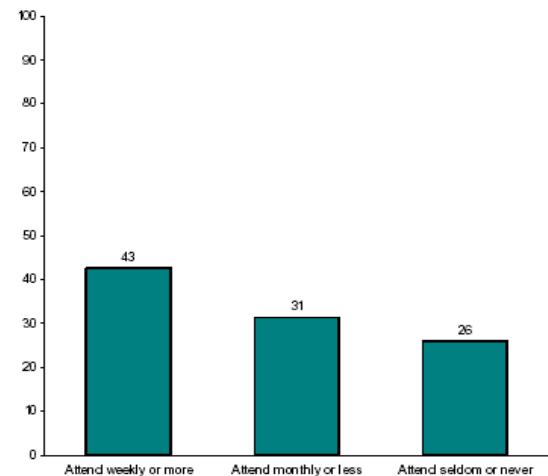
Thoughts from the Pastor.....

Contrary to my cultural experiences growing up, August marks the time when our children make the trek back to school. For some it is a painful time, while others cannot wait to reconnect with friends, open their minds, and stretch their imaginations. I would like for us to use this marker of time to reexamine our commitment to our Church. Consider this; your attendance at church is not only for yourself. Your presence adds another voice of praise in song, another heart in prayer, another hand in creating peace, and another spirit connected to the spirit of others and to God.

Church is not something we have to do. Church is something we have the privilege to do, because as we gather as the body of Christ we become the incarnation of Christ for the sake of the world in order to establish peace, happiness, justice, and a spirit of generosity. As John describes Jesus final words to his disciples he makes this point clear; "If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete." (John 15:10-11). So what? What does my joy have to do with going to church?

Consider this:

Frequent Church-Goers Are Happier
Percentage Very Happy by Church Attendance



Those who attend religious services weekly or more often are happier than are those attending less often. Those who seldom or never attend services are the least likely to say they are very happy.

PewResearchCenter

People who attend religious services weekly or more are happier (43% very happy) than those who attend monthly or less (31%); or seldom or never (26%). This correlation between happiness and frequency of church attendance has been a consistent finding in the General Social Surveys taken over the years.

The same pattern applies within all major religious denominations. For example, 38% of all Catholics who attend church weekly or more report being very happy, while just 28% of Catholics who attend church less often say they are very happy. The survey also finds that white evangelical Protestants (43%) are more likely than white mainline Protestants (33%) to report being very happy, but this difference goes away after taking frequency of church attendance into account.

Happiness is not the only benefit from regular church attendance. Health, spiritual wellness, overall feelings of well-being, and declines in depression and loneliness are also attributed to church affiliation and attendance. Besides, the retirement package is out of this world. The joy we receive by attending church is translated into our activity in the world. Or at least it should.

Did you know that:

- Most Americans have been to church, but less than 20 percent are regular attendees.
- 82 percent of the unchurched are likely to attend church if invited by a trusted friend or relative.
- Only 2 percent of church-going people invite someone to church in a given year. 98 percent of churchgoers never extend an invitation in a given year.
- 60 percent of the current U.S. adults, aged 18 to 35 stated they would attend a church again if someone they knew asked them.

In an age where we are connected to each other in many ways electronically it should be easy to extend an invitation to join our church family. The joy that is born in us comes from us deciding to connect ourselves intentionally to Christ and to his body, the church. As August arrives, evaluate, commit, and invite yourself, your friends, and your family to reconsider the importance of church. Pass this on please.

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

Biff Baker

Baptisms

None in July

First Communion or Confirmation

None July

Weddings

None in July

Hospitalized

None in July

New Members

None in July

Visitor Deadline

Deadline to get articles into the September visitor is August 20th

Committees & Gatherings

Confirmation

Confirmation will resume in September

Needlers

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

Altar Guild for August

Jan Buzolitz & Judy Connell

Offering Stewards

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

Birthday Offerings

Clarke Crizer, Terry Ellis, Dorinne Richardson, Jack Klein, David Ittel, Steve Forsythe, Jan Buzolitz, Karen DeVaney

Donut Angels

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

Bible Study

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

Worship & Music

Worship & Music's doesn't meet through the summer.

Sunday School

There will be no Sunday School during the summer.

Augustana Food Baskets

Next food pantry is August 16th. We helped **10** families in the Month of July 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. **Thanks to Dick Freckelton for numbering Food Pantry's Bags!!**

Food pantry is in need of paper Bags!!

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**

Personal Care Kits For LWR

We will again collect Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Health Kits are now called Personal Care Kits, which better describes their use. They will contain the same items as before. You will find bags with lists and a box for completed Kits in the narthex. The campaign runs from August thru mid October. If you have any questions, contact; Mary Hilburger, Jennifer Gould or Linda Wozniak.

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.

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.

Flower Chart 2022

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!

We need people to sign up for flowers for September, October, November & December

Council Notes

Council Notes

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

Pastor:

Pastor Scott shared that this time of year brings him great joy. There were several First Communion and Baptisms, Foundation Scholarship presentations and the Council Retreat this Spring. His participation in Habitat for Humanity has been a delight. Attendance in person and online continues to trend upward.

Office Manager

An updated email list was passed out. Sue is working on bulletin boards by the office and downstairs. There will be pictures of new members, Church Council members and other committees. Thanks Sue!

Financial:

Chuck shared that in May \$785.25 and \$205.00 in June was donated to the Lutheran World Relief Fund for Ukraine. Unfortunately, the Edward Jones account decreased by \$6,000 due to the fluctuating stock market.

Evangelism:

Jackie and Dave will meet to discuss Lake Front Festival planning. The sign-up sheets have already been posted outside of the Church office for members to work the Augustana booth. A Yeti cooler or cups may be raffled off. Also, there are 300 Augustana cookbooks that can be passed out during the festival.

Church picnic:

The church picnic will be held on September 11th this year. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided by the Church and members can bring side dishes. Care baskets for First Responders in the community will be created and then dispersed after the 10:00 service on that morning as well.

Foundation News

Your Recent Gift Means SO MUCH
Thank You!

Dear Foundation,

Thank you so much for your recent donation of \$1,000.00 to The Spastic Paraplegia Foundation. I want to thank you for being a steady donor since 2016. I hope you know what a HUGE difference you are making toward finding a cure that will be such an awesome help for over 135,000 people world-wide suffering with HSP & PLS.

Good News!! All donations are being matched

dollar for dollar, up to \$200,000 from mid November to January, 2022 by our anonymous donor. Please tell your friends and enjoy double the satisfaction, knowing you are helping twice as many people with your thoughtful gift. Every monthly donation will be matched as well.

As you read this, your donation is working to support the most state of the art, find-a-cure research possible on this planet as deemed by our distinguished Scientific Advisory Board (SAB). Our SAB is made up of the top HSP & PLS Scientists from all over the world. You can read about them on our website: sp-foundation.org

These are tough times for many people in our HSP and PLS community. Both of these diseases are progressive and so with the hope that the research, you are sponsoring, will be able to alleviate the pain and suffering both for them and their loved ones.

You are so vital to all that we do. Our programs and services wouldn't exist without friends like you who make the needs of others a priority in life. I can't thank you enough for your kindness!

Sincerely,

Frank Davis

President, Spastic Paraplegia Foundation

PS: Thank you for remembering the less fortunate members of the lives of over 135,000 people, worldwide, suffering from these rare HSP & PLS diseases.

Our Next Meeting is September 19

August Birthday's

- 2 - Mrs. Nancy Doepping,
Mr. Leslie Doepping Jr.
3 - Miss Laura Roth
4 - Mr. James Ittel, Joshua Burton
5- Bailey Rucinski
6- Mr Kevin Nedberg
7- Anna Gruzek, Mrs. Nancy Barron
8- Emily Wheeler
9 - Mr. Joshua Freeman,
Mr. Christopher Williams
10-Mrs. Jan Zorn
11- Mrs. Megan Orosz
Mrs. Patricia Czarnecki, Ms. Kathryn
Hamer
12- Mr. Don Glenn, Mrs. Bonnie
Jordan
13 - Mr. Jim Fay
14- Mr. Steven Isakson
15- Mr. Joseph Orosz
17- Mrs. Tracy Pavese - Robinson
Mr. Austin Elliott
18-Mrs. Gail Ritter, Ms. Brittney
Sutton,
Alexis Winters, Owen Winters
19-Mr. Samuel Valdez, Mrs. Yvonne
Schuck
20 - Mr. Bill Burt, Ella Smith
21 - Josef Popenhagen
22 - Mr. Benjamin Moore
24 - Mrs. Sidsel Lindborg
27 - Collin Sims, Tyler Doepping
29 - Mr. Matthew Claussen
30 - Mrs. Michelle Keen

Thank You

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 \$25 on May 11, and \$45 on June 9, 2022. Your kindness inspires us to continue the work at HSH that you're 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 to see what events are upcoming and view the adorable animals looking for their second chance.
With Gratitude,
Jenny Webber,
Executive Director

Dear Augustana Lutheran Church,
Thank you for your Gift (s) given to your synod, received by Lutheran Disaster Response in April 2022.
Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand: and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God (Romans 5:1-2).
As a church, we believe that God's grace is freely given to us. This brings us peace and hope. It makes a difference in our lives. Through your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response, you are transformational power of God's love.
Your Spirit-filled generosity is helping families and communities reeling from disasters here in the United States and around the world. No matter the variety of disaster, no matter the variety of need, your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response enable people to rebuild their lives and livelihoods now and far into the future.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God is shining through you.
In Christ,
The Rev. Robin Brown
Director, Congregational Generosity



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

Lakefront Festival 2022

Augustana will be having a Booth at the Lakefront Festival August 19th, 20th & 21st (Friday, Saturday & Sunday.) There is a sign-up sheet in the hallway. Please sign up for 2 hour increments to work the booth.

We are hoping to have a raffle and pass out free Augustana cookbooks!

New Address

Alan Beckler has moved to California to be with his son.

Alan Beckler
15 Pavestone Lane
LaDeira Ranch, CA 92694

Ceci Schuman
3082 Covenant Drive
Bloomington, IN 47401-6322
Same Phone #: 859-200-0550

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

Stewardship Team

Dear Friends in Christ,

Our Stewardship Team needs your commitment to invest your time as an act of your stewardship for a short time. We would like a few of you to commit to a weekly Book Study during the month of September and then help to create a Stewardship program based on this book that will be implemented in October as we prepare to discern where to use resources for 2023.

The book is entitled “Money Talks”. It is a small 168-page book written by Callie & Rosario Picardo. Callie has a background in finance and charitable giving and currently serves as Vice-President for Development at United Theological Seminary and is passionate about generosity. Rosario is one of the founding pastors of a multicultural church in Dayton, Ohio and serves as the Director of the Pohly Leadership Center and Director of External Partnership at United Theological Seminary.

Money Talks is a winsome and engaging, intensely practical guide to faithful living with our financial resources. Building on a strong Biblical foundation, Rosario and Callie tackle one of the truly vexing issues of our day and time-the use and abuse of our financial resources.

Bishop Mike Lowry
Resident Bishop of the Central Texas Conference

Please join Pastor Scott and Joe Barron to help create a meaningful, fruitful, and Biblical Stewardship Program that will reflect our commitment to ministry in 2023. Contact the office and order your book today.

augustanahobart@gmail.com
219-942-3574

“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday is Sunday, September 11, 2022

This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God’s grace.

This year since GWOH Sunday falls on September 11 we can’t help but to remember that fateful day in 2001 when terrorists used airplanes as weapons of mass destruction. As a way to remember those who ran into a burning building instead of away from it, Augustana Lutheran Church will participate in GWOH Sunday by collecting items to create basket of plenty to be distributed to all of our local First-Responders.

We will collect individually wrapped items such as protein bars, snacks, playing cards, etc. throughout the month of August. We will then create one basket of goodies for each station, Police, Fire, EMT, etc. in the city of Hobart. We will carry them in as part of our offering and ask God to bless those who receive these baskets on September 11th as a sign of our love and gratitude for their service.

Our worship will be followed by our annual Church Picnic as we celebrate our commitment to God’s Work using Our Hands.

Please participate as you are able.

Human Trafficking Event

Please come to our UN World Day Against Trafficking in Humans, Monday 25 July, 4-7 PM at the Indian American Cultural Center, 8605 Merrillville Road in Merrillville. This event, sponsored by SAFE Coalition for Human Rights, will feature a celebration of the success of our residents at Ashley’s House, our home for survivors of trafficking and domestic violence. It will also feature testimonies from survivors and a keynote speech by Congressman Mrvan. There will also be a delicious meal. The event is free. Please sign up on Eventbrite (or just come). We would also appreciate any contribution you can make to support our work at Ashley’s House.

Contribution’s can made at Safechr.org

Thank You,
Pastor Charlie Strietelmeier

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

Zucchini Muffins or Bread

3 eggs well beaten
1 cup oil
2 cups sugar
2 cups grated zucchini
2 tsp vanilla
3 cups flour
1 tsp baking soda
½ tsp baking powder
2 tsp cinnamon

Beat eggs, add oil & beat, add vanilla & sugar beat well, add zucchini and beat, then add dry ingredients and beat well. Fill muffin cups 2/3 full bake at 350 degrees for 20 – 25 min. (You can also bake in a loaf pan, just bake 45 min. to 1 hour)

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

US Postage Paid
Non Profit
Hobart, IN
Permit No. 68

To the Family of: