
AUGUSTANA NEWSLETTER

March 2020

Pastor's Ponderings:

The best part of the new Mandalorian series is baby YODA. He is cute, unpredictable, powerful, and looks like a smaller version of his later self. It has been a pleasure to get to know this character on the new Disney+ streaming service. Though my interest is piqued when YODA does something, in the back of my mind it's a fictional story that is created for entertainment. I may become a fan, but that's it.

Obviously, it is different for me with Jesus. I can be described as a fan at what Jesus does and the stories of his "heroics" and his miracles intrigue me. However, I am propelled to a bigger and deeper relationship with Jesus and his story than any fictional character, or historical figure I know. With Jesus and this salvation story I am brought to a hope, a belief, an attraction, a commitment to the story that no other story brings me. As I engage with Jesus and the Gospels, my energy is renewed, and it empowers me to continue to live, review my life, serve and grow in service in reflection with how Jesus served and lived and taught.

In the gospel of John, the author writes that what we have in these accounts of Jesus is only the tip of the iceberg. Near the close of the gospel John writes; "Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God..." John 20:31

I pray that you too might engage in the Word and see Jesus as an example of how to live and engage in the world. He did not seek the power and prestige of a world leader, instead he was a servant leader. He did not promote himself or put down of his fellow humans. Instead, his examples of living lead us to deepen our spirituality, to work for the "least of these", to be generous with what we have, and to love through doing justice, loving kindness and walking humbly with the Lord as the prophet Micah proclaimed.

As we believers in Jesus Christ move from the celebration of his birth, to his ministry, and eventually to his death and resurrection, join me in engaging this story so that it reflects in our daily lives.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Fred.

MISSION STATEMENT

Augustana is a Christian family in faith that prays together to KNOW CHRIST and works to MAKE CHRIST KNOWN throughout the community.

Congratulations to Paul Kennedy

who has been selected by the Lutheran Charities Board of Directors to receive the 2020 Rev. Dr. Ralph W. Loew Award for Human service. He will be honored at the 13th Annual Lutheran Awards Banquet on Friday, May 1st. If you are interested in attending this banquet, please sign up on the sheet located in the narthex. The cost is \$55. 00 a person.

Conference Challenge

The entire conference is challenged to collect toilet paper during the season of Lent to give to our food pantries. Beginning Ash Wednesday, TOL and Augustana will be participating in this friendly competition begun by Pastor Jeremiah Smith at Parkside Lutheran Church. Each week during Lent we will add up our total rolls and share with Pastor Jeremiah who will keep track and report on our progress. Pastor Jeremiah writes this, "Together we can wipe away this need!" Hope you join this friendly competition.
Fred Kopp he/him/his

Augustana Evangelical Lutheran Church

3143 Eggert Road

Tonawanda, New York 14150

716-832-5720

<http://WWW.augustanaonline.org>

Sunday Worship at 9:30 AM

Weekly Communion

Pastor Fred Kopp 984-8541

Plans for the Lenten Season **2020**

Ash Wednesday- February 26 morning 11AM Augustana
evening 7 PM St. Mark
Ashes to Go - Good Shepherd at noon,
Pastor Richard Neal & Vicar Miranda Hammer

First Wednesday in Lent - March 4 Abiding Savior

Second Wednesday in Lent- March 11 St. Mark

Third Wednesday in Lent- March 18 St. Martin

Fourth Wednesday in Lent- March 25 Good Shepherd

Fifth Wednesday in Lent - April 1 Trinity Old Lutheran

Soup Meal weekly at 6:00 PM
Worship at 7:00PM

Holy Week Services:

Maundy Thursday- April 9 at 7:00PM Abiding Savior
Communion around the tables in the fellowship Hall
and collection of goods for Rainie's Foster Closet
through the Lenten Season.

Good Friday April 10 11 AM St. Mark
evening April 10 7 PM Trinity Old Lutheran

SOCIABLES 2020

Open to all members of the church & friends.

March 19th St Joseph Table
Leaving Church Parking Lot at 11:30am

March 24th Eggsquisite Eats – Lunch
1752 Grand Island Blvd, Grand Island
Trip to Kelly's Country Store
Leaving Church Parking Lot at 11:30am

April 10th Fraternal Order of Eagles- Fish Fry or more
7269 Ward Road, N Tonawanda
Leaving Church Parking Lot at Noon

Augustana Lutheran Church – Outreach/Mission Refugee and Immigrant Driving Project On The Road Report Update By Paul Kennedy

This year starting in March we need help with the permit classes. If you can help with this ministry, please sign up for the following items-

March 5th help to organize permit class books – 10:00am-Noon
followed by lunch at Exit 2.

Volunteers are needed by 12:15-3:45pm at Permit Classes to be held at Augustana Church Saturday March 28th and April 4th. We may have additional two classes 12:15-3:45pm on Saturday May 2nd & May 9th. Extra help is needed for when the first class begins and before the last class ends.

Baskets, lottery tickets and gift certificates are need for the April 26th Brunch and Fundraiser. Please give the items to Barb Chittenden or Candy Frerk by April 12.

If you have any questions, contact Paul Kennedy.

Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my mighty right hand. Isaiah 41:10, NRSV

Classes At TOL:

Charlie Schmidtke will be leading classes at TOL Mondays at 1:00 PM.

March 16 - Book of Tobit

April 6 - Book of Wisdom

April 20- Song of 3 Children and Bel and the Dragon

May 4 - Book of Ecclesiasticus and maybe the Prayer of Manasseh

As a teaser here are some of the women we will cover next year:

Eve and Lilith, Sarah and Hagar, Jezebel, Esther, Ruth, Judith, Susanna.

Here are others depending on time and scheduling:

Rachel, Leah, Lot's wife and daughters, Rehab, Deborah.

Sympathy to family and friends of Regina Sapona who passed away recently.

