
AUGUSTANA NEWSLETTER

November 2019

Pastor's Ponderings:

“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new Creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new.” 1 Corinthians 5:17

I thought of this verse while I was holding our one-week old grand baby Felix. A new creation! The parents and grandparents are very much aware that this one is new; small and reliant on mom and dad, new with a bright future.

As we enter Reformation Sunday and All Saints Sunday, I am reminded that all of us are new creations in Christ. Through the power of forgiveness from the Cross and the Grace of God, we begin new with Christ. Of course, responsibility for our actions and reconciliation with our neighbor continues as the forgiveness becomes implanted in the people of God. We are made a new creation to move out and tell others of this good news.

One of Martin Luther's rallying cries was faith alone, grace alone, and word alone. We are made a new creation through faith in Jesus Christ, and God's grace is given to the undeserving, and we Lutherans follow a man, Jesus Christ, not a book. The Holy Scriptures testify to the Word Of God becoming flesh in Jesus Christ. Therefore we enter All Saints day with the assurance that God's grace abounds for us and for our loved ones who have died.

I hope we can enjoy each day as a new creation!

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.

All Saints Day, Sunday Nov. 3 at Augustana:

During this special worship service, there will be lighted votives and pictures of loved ones displayed on a table in the sanctuary. Cards of remembrance will be available that day so you can indicate family members or friends you want to remember in prayer. The cards will be placed in a basket (the names will not be read out loud) on the table. If you would like a picture of your loved one to be displayed during this service, please bring it into church on or before November 3rd and place it in the box in the church entry hall. Please see Nora Pomplun if you have questions. Thank you.

Christmas Eve Service

All are invited to our Christmas Eve service at 4:30 pm. It will be a candlelight service of Lessons and Carols, with communion. Children are invited to participate in the no-rehearsal mini Christmas pageant (please try to arrive a few minutes early so the children can choose costumes.) Please tell your friends, relatives, and neighbors about this special family-friendly worship service. See Donna Bartkowski if you have questions or would like to help.

**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**

World Hunger Campaign

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me. – Matthew 25:35

On November 3rd, we will Kick-Off our World Hunger campaign.

For many years, Augustana has collected funds to purchase *Barnyard Animals* through ELCA's Good Gifts program. Donors have the option to donate any amount of money to a "General Fund," or donate a specific amount to purchase the animal of your choice.

On Sunday, December 1st, there will be a "Thank You" luncheon during coffee hour, and after all the moneys are tabulated, the congregation will decide what animals to purchase with the money from the "General Fund."

Gift cards will be available if you choose to donate in the name of a loved one or special person. We also have hanging ornaments to present with your card.

Thank you in advance for your generous donation.

Paula Kerr and Linda Sokoley

Outreach/Mission-Dining Out for Life-

Thanks to everyone who attended the luncheon on October 1st. The full amount of \$137 cost of the meals will be used to support local services for individuals with HIV and AIDS. Some individuals have been on treatment since the 1980's. Also some individuals are on medicine and treatments that cost over \$6000 per month.

Sociable Events- Church members and friends are welcome at all events

We will be planning a Holiday Luncheon in December. Time and Date to be announced.

Contact Joan Heath 694-3908 or Paul Kennedy 228-3091 if you have any questions.

Santa Lucia: This year, the Santa Lucia pageant will be on SATURDAY, Dec. 14, at 7:00 pm. The Santa Lucia pageant is presented by children and teens. If your child / teen would like to participate, please see Donna Bartkowski. Refreshments follow the pageant, so bakers are needed to make desserts (that are easy to serve, such as cookies and bars). Also needed are people to set up and clean up the refreshments, and someone to oversee the refreshment team and start the coffee, set the table, etc. Please let Donna Bartkowski know if you can help out. Thank you!

The 2020 Stewardship Campaign -

"YOU DON'T GIVE TO GET A BLESSING, YOU GIVE TO BE A BLESSING."

This year's theme is all about blessings. If you were at the October 20th service, you heard me talk about the many blessings I have received since I joined Augustana Church in 2014. Like all churches, we have our ups and downs but I know God has given us all many blessings. Please think about all the blessings you have received from Augustana before you fill out your Stewardship form. I know we all want to do whatever we can, so we can continue the Augustana Blessings. Please bring them to the November 10th Service where we will dedicate all of the financial commitments during service. If you can't join us on November 10th Please mail your form to the Church before than if possible.

Thank You, Paulette Hotchkiss, 465-3127

Trinity Old Lutheran Events

1. You are invited to TABLE TALK Martin Luther would gather his family, colleagues and students together and talk about various subjects of his day, from theology to politics. A student would record the conversation, and because of this we have insightful, blunt, bawdy, controversial, and inspiring quotes from Luther and others.

We are asking anyone who is interested to join us for listening to one another and sharing ideas or concerns. Don't worry about any record being kept: the people of the sessions will be asked to be confidential.

Pastor Fred Kopp and Dr. Charlie Schmidtke are leading Table Talk sessions at Trinity Old Lutheran on Wednesdays 6:30 – 8:00 p.m., November 13, December 11, January 8, February 12, April 8, and May 13. The first topic that we will be exploring is faith and science. Other possible topics include societal grief-ism, end of life decisions, lying, sin, mental health, separation of church and state, capital punishment, and abortion. All are invited and welcome. Wine, coffee, and refreshments will be served.

2. Augustana members and friends are invited to attend the **Veterans Day Service that will be held at TOL on Monday, Nov. 11 at 11:00 am.** The service is open to people of all religious denominations and faiths. A coffee hour will follow the service.

All Veterans are welcome to participate in the opening processional, the flag ceremony, and the closing recessional. If you would like to participate, please arrive at 10:45 am. The bulletin for the service will include an Honor list of surviving veterans and a Memorial list of deceased veterans. TOL invites attendees to provide the following information for both lists: Name, Branch, Unit and Dates of Service. Please send information to the church office (TOL, Veterans Service, 3445 Sheridan Drive, Amherst, NY 14226. For more information please contact TOL's church office at 836-4868.

3. TOL invites Augustana members and friends to attend their first ever **non-wedding reception on Saturday, Nov. 16 at 5:00 pm, at TOL.** The evening will begin with a potluck dinner, followed by dancing, laughs, fellowship and love. Please see the handout on the table in Augustana's entry hall for additional details.