

## Lenten Theme . . .

Tough texts for tough times



L E N T

**Join us for Midweek Lenten Worship** *Wednesdays, 11:30 am*  
*followed by light lunch or 7:07 pm with Holden Evening Prayer*

**Ash Wednesday, February 22** - Reading: *Mark 9:30-50*

**KEY VERSE:** "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."

Jesus challenges us to be more humble than we can imagine. How can we speak of Jesus in a world that demands power?

**Wednesday, February 29** - Reading: *Genesis 4:1-16*

**KEY VERSE:** "The Lord said to Cain, 'Where is your brother Abel?' He said, 'I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?'"

The original story of sibling rivalry between Cain and Abel challenges us to face our own jealousy and aggression.

**Wednesday, March 7** - Reading: *Matthew 20:1-16*

**KEY VERSE:** "So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

We all want what is right. But do we always see God's love and grace as entirely fair?

**Wednesday, March 14** - Reading: *Numbers 22:21-34*

**KEY VERSE:** "Then the Lord opened the mouth of the donkey, and it said to Balaam, 'What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?'"

What on earth could a talking donkey have to do with living according to God's will?

**Wednesday, March 21** - Reading: *James: 2: 14-26*

**KEY VERSE:** "For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead."

A cornerstone of Lutheran doctrine is "Salvation by faith alone." The book of James does not seem to agree.

**Wednesday, March 28** - Reading: *Psalms 88: 1-7 & 13-18*

**KEY VERSE:** "O Lord, why do you cast me off? Why do you hide your face from me?"

Every Psalm contains a statement of hope and faith in the face of suffering, except for Psalm 88. What place does despair have in our lives?

The word Lent has its origins in the Middle English word *Lente* which means springtime.

As early as the mid-fourth century, Christians have observed a time of preparation before the Easter celebration. The Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday and lasts for 40 days. The forty days of Lent recall the 40 day fast of Jesus in the wilderness after his baptism (Matthew 4:2, Luke 4:1-2) and Moses' 40 day fast on Mount Sinai (Exodus 34:28).

It is a time of simplicity and preparation. It is also a time of prayer, service and self examination. During this time, many choose to live simpler lives remembering those who do not have the food, money or resources to simply live.

The color of the season is purple suggesting somberness and solemnity.

## A Minute with Megan . . .

# Grace



If I asked you to talk about grace, what would you say? Maybe you'd talk about those few quick words you say before you eat. That's saying grace, right? Technically you'd be right, but to get more at the root of what grace truly is, you might want to ask yourself why you say grace. You say grace before a meal because you give thanks to God for the incredible gifts you receive ó namely, the gift of food to nourish your body and fuel your work in God's world. We say grace to recognize God's grace: God's unending love, which provides us with everything we need. All we have is from God. All is grace.

But maybe it leaves you with a few more questions. What does that really mean? Do I have to know what grace is to receive grace? How can everything come from God when I clearly made this bowl of soup by myself? Does God grant grace even to those who don't deserve it? Do I deserve it? Why does it feel like God is punishing me all the time? The simple question of defining a word that we throw around a lot in church life can result in a whole series of new questions. And unfortunately for us, sometimes those questions don't seem to have good answers.

As we've been reading the Narrative Lectionary together as a congregation in worship and throughout our lives together, we've been coming up on lots of stories of grace ó and lots of questions without answers. To continue that theme, our focus through Lent will be the theme "Tough Texts For Tough Times". Through some of the more confusing, frustrating, or downright silly stories of the Bible, we'll discuss some of the difficult questions that a life of faith can produce. Whether it's the odd story of Balaam and his talking donkey, or the thorny issue of the role our own action plays in our salvation, we are free to ask questions and wonder together as we work out important issues of faith.

Whether asking questions is your favorite thing in the world or if you've never really thought about things like what grace really means, we're all called to evaluate and engage our faith in our lives. However, sometimes we've never given ourselves the time and space to figure out exactly what we believe or how it works in our life. If that's something you're interested in, I have another great opportunity for you. Augustana is one of a handful of pilot congregations for a class called Building Your Personal Theology, which helps you do just what it says. The class is \$30 and runs all four Mondays in March. Together, we'll ask questions of what we believe and what role these fundamental beliefs play in our lives. I couldn't be more excited to work with you on this class during Lent.

My hope and prayer is that each of you will be able to answer the question of what grace is in your life ó and that you might be able to say a little more about it than what you say before your dinner. Not only will your understanding of grace ó and mercy, and forgiveness, and healing, and sacrifice, and more ó grow throughout Lent, but throughout your entire life. How will you answer the big questions of faith? What does grace mean for you? I dare you to discover for yourself.

Soli deo Gloria,

*Pastor Megan*

## Worship Schedule

### **Sunday, February 5 ~ 5th Sunday after Epiphany**

- 8:30 am Worship with Holy Communion  
Senior Choir
- 9:45 am Worship with Holy Communion  
Cherub Choir
- 11:00 am Worship with Holy Communion  
Celebration Band

### **Sunday, February 12 ~ 6th Sunday after Epiphany Youth Sunday**

- 8:30 am Worship  
Agape Choir/Chorister Choir/Alleluia Bells
- 9:45 am Worship  
Agape Choir/Chorister Choir/Alleluia Bells
- 11:00 am Worship with Holy Communion  
Celebration Band

### **Sunday, February 19 ~ Transfiguration of Our Lord**

- 8:30 am Worship with Holy Communion  
Rejoice! Ringers
- 9:45 am Worship  
Senior Choir & Rejoice! Ringers
- 11:00 am Worship with Holy Communion  
Celebration Band

### **Sunday, February 26 ~ 1st Sunday in Lent**

- 8:30 am Worship  
Cherub Choir
- 9:45 am Worship  
Senior Choir
- 11:00 am Worship with Holy Communion  
Celebration Band

Nursery is available during the 9:45 and 11:00 am services  
for children 3 years of age and younger.

Sign Language interpreting is offered  
at the 8:30 am worship.

#### **SUNDAY MORNING EDUCATION**

9:45 & 10:45 am Adult Forum  
9:45 am Kids Kingdom and Youth Forum  
12:00 pm Adult Bible Class

## Celebrations & Prayers

### **BAPTISMS**

- Jan. 1: Evan Matthew and Madeline Rose Mathiason, son and daughter of Tate and Jessica Mathiason.
- Jan. 8: Conrad Lee Moench, son of Keith and Stephanie Moench.
- Jan. 22: Sydney May Deyle, daughter of Nathan and Nichole Deyle.

### **BIRTHS**

- Jan. 2: Emerich Michael Eisert, son of Liz and John Eisert.

### **CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY**

- Family of Rita Swanson, who passed away Dec. 16.
- Matt and Hannah Lang and family on the death of their grandfather Thomas Lang on Dec. 20.
- Delores Schumann and family on the death of her sister Elaine Smith on Dec. 22.
- Karen Koch and family on the death of her brother-in-law Mike Kline on Dec. 25.
- Mona Christensen and family on the death of her mother Carol Christensen on Jan. 5.
- Linda Chaplin on the death of her sister Candi Reiter.
- Dwayne and Jeanne Unglesbee and family on the death of their infant son Josiah Michael on Jan. 13.

**Thank you** to the pastors, Intern Ingrid and Mary N. for their visits, prayers, support and thoughtfulness during my recent surgery. I also appreciated the cards, calls, and visits from members of the congregation. My healing is going well.

*Kathy Beatty*

**All the Bulgers** wish to thank the pastors and Mary N. for their visits and prayers during John & St. Joe's stay. We appreciate the thoughts, cards of concern, and support from the Augustana community. John loves his prayer shawl, too.

*The Bulger Family*

**Thank you** to all of the Pastors and the Intern for visiting me in United and Bethesda. I also wish to express sincere gratitude for the many prayers, calls, and gentleness of our Parish Nurse. I have been in the hospitals since July 24 and came home the last day in October. The prayers of the congregation, cards, shawl ministry I hold dear to my heart. I face a removal surgery some time in February or March. Please keep up your prayers for Bob as well as myself. Bob has been a caregiver, as I, for our entire lives. God has blessed us richly and we pray for all of you daily. Love & Prayers, *Bob and Betty Resner*

**Congratulations Edna Wilkie** who will celebrate her 100th birthday! She's actually only 25 as she is a leap year baby born Feb 29, 1912.

	January 1		January 8		January 15		January 22	
<b>Worship Attendance</b>	8:30 am	122	8:30 am	287	8:30 am	245	8:30 am	221
	9:45 am	173	9:45 am	379	9:45 am	335	9:45 am	388
	11:00 am	<u>130</u>	11:00 am	<u>156</u>	11:00 am	<u>130</u>	11:00 am	<u>138</u>
	Total	425	Total	822	Total	711	Total	747

# Health Ministry

Mary Nordtvedt RN, Parish Nurse, in partnership with Lyngblomsten

## Augustana Blood Drive

Tuesday, February 14, 1:00 - 7:00 pm

A sign up sheet will be available at the Information Center or on Sunday mornings at the Narthex tables, or you may sign up directly with the Red Cross by either calling 1-800-Redcross or go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and click on "Make a Blood Donation Appointment" in upper right hand corner of the screen. Enter Sponsor Code: 0175645.

## Health Ministry Volunteer Renewal Evening

Thursday, February 16

6:00 pm: **Light Dinner**

7:00 pm: **Caring Together Presentation** by Roland D. Martinson, Luther Seminary Academic Dean, Professor, Author

Sign up in Health Ministry Binder by Sunday February 12.

## Befriender Information Session

Sunday, February 26 at 9:30 & 11:00 am

You are invited to learn more about this quiet ministry of listening. BeFrienders are lay volunteers who are trained to offer a caring, non-judgmental presence and listen to those in our faith community. They are a living reminder of God's love. Attend this information meeting to learn more.

## Medical Teams International Dental Clinic

February 29, 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm

Screening date is Monday February 27, 5:45 to 7:45 pm

The Mobile Dental Clinic serves low income members of the community with no dental insurance. Potential patients **MUST** attend a dental screening, **Monday, February 27** at Augustana. To schedule your screening, call 651.457.3373, ask for ext. 19. A limited number and most urgent cases will be scheduled for treatment on **Wednesday, February 29, noon to 5:00 pm.**

## Grief Education & Support

Interdenominational South Suburban Coalition of Churches presents: **"Growing Through Loss"**

Join us for one or all sessions on four Thursday evenings, March 1, 8, 15 and 22, from 6:30 to 9:00, at All Saints Catholic Church, 19795 Holyoke Avenue, Lakeville. These sessions are most helpful for adults who have experienced a loss or major crisis in their life.

**MARCH 1: "Weaving in the Threads of Loss"**

Patricia Richardson, Clinical Social Worker and Family Therapist in Northfield, MN

**MARCH 8: "Finding God in the Midst of Grief"**

Father Paul Jarvis, Pastor, St. Joseph Catholic Church Rosemount, MN

Augustana is a member of this coalition which is comprised of 11 churches south of the river. For further information, please speak with Mary Nordtvedt, Parish Nurse or [gtl@mmotc.org](mailto:gtl@mmotc.org).

## REALIZE DAILY JOY & DISCOVER ENDURING HAPPINESS

Back by popular demand, **Father Mathew Linn** will encourage us to make memories of LOVE. He will share his books on gratitude: *Making Heart Bread* (for children) and *Sleeping with Bread* (for adults)

Sunday, February 19, 12:30 pm: *Pizza Lunch*

1:15 to 1:30 pm: *Intergenerational program with Father Linn*

1:30 to 3:00 pm: *Children, kindergarten and older will participate in Making Heart Bread activity in the lower level and the adults will be with Father Linn as he shares his wisdom on gratitude.*

Take in nourishment from the day's grateful memories. Father Linn (in his gentle fashion) will illustrate that Heart-bread is not made from flour. Instead, it is made from memories of love. Heart-bread is not made in an oven, rather, it is made in your heart. It never gets used up, and the more you let heart-bread feed you, the more you have.

We can all make heart-bread every night through the simple process of asking yourself two questions: What was my favorite time today? What was my least favorite time today?

Together we can form the lifelong and life-giving habit of choosing happiness that endures!

Nursery will be available for children 4 years old and under.

Father Linn has authored twenty-one books that have been translated into more than twenty languages. His books will be available for purchase after the presentation.

**Sign up in either the Children's Ministry binder or Health Ministry binder.**

# Congregational Ministry

Stacy Eichman-Cardwell

## **Adult Forum Schedule**

Sunday mornings, 9:45 – 10:45 am Jerusalem Room and  
10:45 -11:45 am Luther Room

### **February 5 - Financial Peace University Preview**

by Ryan & Jenny Sanford

The Sanfords will give an overview of this 13 week course that teaches you how to beat debt, build wealth, find bargains, invest for the future and give like never before!

### **February 12 - The 5 Love Languages of Children**

by Stacy Cardwell

Each child expresses and receives love through one of five different communication styles. Based on Dr. Gary Chapman's best-selling book, you will discover your child's primary language and learn what you can do to effectively convey unconditional feelings of love.

### **February 19 - The Sacred Geography of the Upper Mississippi Valley: A Virtual Tour through Native Stories**

by Rev. Jim Bear Jacobs.

Rev. Jim Bear Jacobs is a Turtle Clan member of the Stockbridge-Munsee Mohican Nation in central Wisconsin. He has a B.A. in Pastoral Studies and an M.A. in Christian Thought.

### **February 26 - Basics of Islam**

by Naiyer Usmani, Dr. Irshad Jafri, Krista Siddiqui from Muslim American Society of Minnesota

In a time when Islam is constantly misunderstood, the MASMN's goal is to present the truth about Islam and to clarify misconceptions.

## **Men's Breakfast**

February 1, 6:30 to 7:30 am

Men will meet for a free breakfast and devotion led this month by Don Marsh. This is a perfect time to invite neighbors, friends or coworkers!

## **Financial Peace University**

February 12 thru May 15, 5:00 to 7:00 pm

Cost: \$100

Ryan & Jenny Sanford facilitators

This 13 week course teaches you how to beat debt, build wealth, invest for the future and give like never before!

## **Christ's Comrades**

February 26, 9:45 to 10:45 am

This intergenerational group matches adults with fourth grade Augustana students. This month we will work on gratitude journals. Sign up in Adult Ministry book.

## **Coffee & Conversation (more detailed information can be found in the Adult Ministry binder at Info Center)**

Monday mornings, 10:00 to 11:30 am Jerusalem Room

February 6 Celtic Spirituality and Soul Friendships

February 13 Spot of Grace

February 20 Office closed – No Coffee & Conversation

February 27 Authentic Happiness

## **Couples Breakfast:**

### **Making a Good Relationship Better**

February 11, 9:00 to 11:30 am

Stacy Eichman-Cardwell facilitator

Cost: \$6.00

Did you know that how couples celebrate is more predictive of strong relations than how you fight? We will explore some ways to actively and constructively respond in times of celebration plus look at some interesting research on styles of relationships, and finally add some positive wisdom on how to make relationships better – all of this plus a hearty breakfast! Please sign up in the Adult Ministry book by February 8.

## **The World of Jesus' Day**

February 23, 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Dr. Steven Derfler Educator

Who really was King Herod, and does he get a bad rep that is undeserving? What was the Jerusalem of Jesus' Day really like? Who were the Essenes, and what were the Dead Sea Scrolls? These are some of the ancient mysteries of the world of the New Testament age. An international educational consultant, public speaker, archaeologist, historian, researcher, teacher and writer, Dr. Derfler has been uncovering the histories of ancient civilizations for nearly 40 years. Dessert will be provided from 6:00 to 6:30 pm. Dr. Derfler's presentation will start at 6:30 pm. Please sign up in the Adult Ministry book by February 22.

## **Building your Personal Theology**

Monday, March 5, 12, 19, 26, 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Led by Pastor Torgerson, cost: \$30

From a pocket knife in the past to an iPhone today, we all have ordinary, everyday, dependable things that make our lives better. Having a good, workable theology is also one of those things. Come put together the pieces of your theology. Through conversation, creative reflection and connection to God, you can build your personal theology. Some homework is required before the class starts and between each session. Augustana is among the first congregations in the country to pilot and build this curriculum! Please register by February 29 in the Adult Education binder.

# Children & Family Ministry

Cathy Hendrikson & Laurie Armon

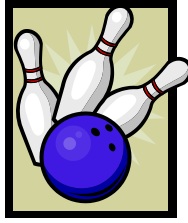
New  
Camps  
Available!

## Family Bowling Event

Sunday, February 12, 1:00 pm

Cost: \$5 per person, family limit of \$25  
(includes 2 games and shoes)

Please sign-up in the Children's  
Ministry Binder at the Info Center.



## No Kids' Kingdom!

Sunday, February 12

There will be no Kids' Kingdom on Sunday, February 12.  
Please join us in worship for Youth Sunday and a special  
Children's Sermon.

## Parenting Seminar Dates & Topics

Each month the Children & Family Ministry program will be  
offering free parenting seminars .

Sunday, February 12 - *The Five Love Languages*

Sunday, March 11 - *Parents: Reclaim Your Couple Time!*

*Nursery & activities for school age children will be pro-  
vided. These seminars are open to everyone so invite your  
neighbors and friends.*

## First Communion Instruction

Tuesday, March 13 OR Thursday, March 22

6:00 to 7:30 pm

Calling all children in second grade  
& above who haven't made their First  
Communion. Children and parents  
are required to attend **ONE** of the classes listed above. First  
Communions will be made on Holy Thursday, April 5 at  
6:00 pm. Please sign-up for one of the classes in the Chil-  
dren's Ministry binder at the Info Center.



## Summer Camp!

**Music Camp** June 11-14, 9:00 to 11:45 am

Children finishing grades 1 to 5

**Drama Camp** June 18-22, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm,

(9:00 am-noon Friday), Children finishing grades 1 to 5

**VBS** June 25-28, 9:00 to noon

Children 3 years of age to finishing grade 5

**Bible Story Fun** July 9-13, 9:00 am to noon

Children 5 years of age to finishing grade 2

**Rec. Camp** July 16-20, 9:00 am to 3pm (9am-noon Friday)

Children finishing grades 1 to 5

**Lego Bible Builders** July 23-27, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm (9:00am-  
noon Friday)

Children finishing grades 2 to 5

**Bible Story Fun Part 2** July 23-27, 9:00 am to noon

Children 5 years of age to finishing grade 2

**Summer camp brochures will be available Sunday Feb. 12.**

**Registration is open to Augustana members only until**

**March 31. At that time, any remaining spots will be opened  
to non-members.**

## Camp Wapo Dates

**Seeds** (finishing 2nd/3rd grade) July 6 to 8

**Tim Team** (finishing 10th grade & above) July 7 to 13

**Youth Week** (finishing 4th to 9th grade) July 8 to 13

Brochures are available at the Info Center. Space is limited and  
on a first come first serve basis. Sign up early to reserve you  
spot. Please submit a **\$100 non-refundable deposit as well  
as health forms to Cathy no later than March 6.** Please  
make checks out to CAMP WAPO. At that time, any available  
spots will be open to friends and the community.



## Wanted: Legos

Do you have Legos laying around your house that don't get played with anymore? We would love to have them donated to our new Lego Camp this summer at Augustana. Please drop off all Legos at the Info Center or church office marked "Kids' Kingdom" anytime before the end of March.

## REALIZE DAILY JOY & DISCOVER ENDURING HAPPINESS?

Back by popular demand, **Father Mathew Linn** will teach us to make memories of LOVE. He will share his books on gratitude: *Making Heart Bread* (for children) and *Sleeping with Bread* (for adults)

Sunday, February 19, 12:30 pm: *Pizza Lunch*

1:15 to 1:30 pm: *Intergenerational program with Father Linn*

1:30 to 3:00 pm: *Children, kindergarten and older will participant in Making Heart Bread activity in the lower level and the adults will be with Father Linn as he shares his wisdom on gratitude.*

# Youth & Family Ministry

Don Marsh

## Free Group Guitar Lessons

Monday evenings, February 6 to March 19  
6:45 to 8:00 pm

Open to all who have an interest in learning the basic skills of playing the guitar. The minimum age recommended is 10 years old. There is no maximum age. All participants must have a guitar that is in good working order. Contact Don Marsh with questions or to sign up.



## “Almost Overnighter 2”

Friday, February 3, 2012 from 6 until 11:30 PM  
Cost: \$25

We will begin and end at Augustana but the evening includes visits to both the Skyzone indoor Trampoline Park and Vertical Endeavors indoor climbing facility. The event is open to youth in grades 7 and up however space is limited so sign up before it fills up. Sign up in the YFM book.

## Youth Sunday

Sunday, February 12

Youth will provide leadership for all 3 worship services. The goal is for ALL Augustana youth to have some involvement in Youth Sunday. See the Youth Binder at the Information Center to sign up. Contact Don Marsh if you need assistance finding your place. There is something for everyone on Youth Sunday. Sign up in the YFM book.

## Giants Ridge Snow Trip

February 24-26  
Cost: \$100 (\$25 deposit due to hold your reservation)

Youth in grades 7 and up are welcome to participate in our annual snow trip. This year we are headed to Giants Ridge near Virginia, MN for 2 days of fantastic snowboarding/skiing. The price includes: transportation, lodging, 2 day lift ticket, food AND ski rental (if needed). This is an excellent opportunity for skiers of all levels. Giants Ridge has plenty of challenging terrain for expert skiers/snowboarders as well as nice beginner slopes. We take plenty of adults/older youth who can assist new people in learning to ski/snowboard. Sign up in the YFM binder. Friends are most welcome. Sign up book: YFM Binder, Complete an Activities/Events Form and turn in along with your \$25 deposit.

## Lenten Mentoring

The purpose of Lenten Mentoring is to expand the circle of trusted adults a young person has while enabling them to discover how an adult lives out their Christian faith.

On Ash Wednesday (February 22), we begin another year of Lenten Mentoring. Lenten Mentors are required to attend ONE of the following orientation sessions:

- **Wednesday, February 15 at 7:00 pm OR**
- **Sunday, February 19 at 10:45 am.**

Orientation will be in the Youth Center (lower level.) Confirmation students are reminded to turn in the name of their mentor at the Information Center. Mentors are asked to please send an email to both Lindsey Bulger (Lindsey.bulger@gmail.com and Don Marsh (dmarsh@augustana.com) letting them know about your commitment. This will insure that we have a good email address for you throughout the Lenten Mentoring experience.

Direct any questions to Don Marsh in the church office or via email at dmarsh@augustana.com.

## Summer Trips Brochure

For those who like to plan ahead we have produced a new brochure for all of the summer trip opportunities for 2012. Deposits, full cost and details are provided. Pick up your brochure at the Information Center. It is also available on the Augustana website under Youth Ministry. Make your plans early. Registrations/deposits will be accepted until March 31 this year. After that date we will decide which trips are viable and which should be cancelled. This means it is vital that you register if you want to see a trip happen.

I want to make special mention of one trip, South Dakota Family Camp, July 28 to August 3. We go to Lee Valley Ranch in South Dakota every other year. It is an amazing, family oriented and reasonably priced week in the Black Hills. We hope many new faces will join the many regular attendees at this always refreshing, rewarding and challenging week of outdoor ministry, Lee Valley style. See the brochure for many other summer mission and ministry opportunities.

# Service & Outreach

Julie Michelson



**Thank you Christa Olsen** for accepting the position as Wedding Coordinator.

**Lutheran Social Service (LSS)** Refugee Services welcomes individuals and families from around the world that are unable or unwilling to return to their home countries due to a well-founded fear of persecution on the basis of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion. Those who come to Minnesota arrive with very few possessions.

To make refugees' transition more comfortable, **LSS is currently seeking gently used bed sheets (twin and full), pillow cases, towels, TV converter boxes, sauce pans, and can openers.** If you can help, please bring your donation to Intern Ingrid's office. She'll be happy to gather and deliver Augustana's gifts to LSS!



Augustana is establishing a partnership with **TreeHouse**, a youth ministry, helping at-risk teens. With a 27-year track record in the north and west suburbs of Minneapolis, TreeHouse is expanding its programs and services to our area. TreeHouse provides **FREE** weekly programs and transportation.



## Local Mission Partner - Auggie Bags

**Mission Partner Overview** Augustana Lutheran Church has been involved with Auggie Bags for many years. Many agencies and groups have received the gifts given by our generous congregation. Past recipients include Union Gospel Mission, Naomi Family Center, 360 Communities (formerly Community Action Council-CAC), Neighbors Inc, Neighborhood House, Dakota Woodlands and Crisis Nursery. When choosing our partner for the Auggie Bags, we look for groups that work with children to young adults, and homeless or displaced families.

**How is Augustana involved?** Each year through our Auggie Bag gift collection, we collect upwards of 100 bags of supplies from the members of Augustana. The bags are distributed to the recipients by our wonderful Augustana volunteers.

### How can you get involved?

- **Look for your bag to fill!** Sunday February 5 and Sunday February 12 the bags will be distributed.
- **Bring back a filled bag (or two)!** Collection of the Auggie Bags will be Sunday February 12 and Sunday February 19.
- **Pray for our recipients!** This year we are collecting for Boys and Girls Club. This club fills an important need for its neighborhood-- kids have a place to go after school. They receive a snack and homework help. They interact with adult mentors. They hang out with their friends in a safe, controlled environment. Your prayers will surround them with God's love and support.
- **Volunteer!** Do you have a skill that you would like to share? Would you like to mentor children? Can you offer tutoring or education help? Contact [www.boysandgirls.org](http://www.boysandgirls.org) for a list of opportunities. The club closest to Augustana is located at 291 East Belvidere, St. Paul.

**What others are saying:** After each delivery, we hear how much the groups appreciate what we have brought them. They are truly grateful for each item they receive and know that the families they work with will be excited to see their gifts. Thank you!

## Augustana Food Shelf



February is Side Dishes Month

*Rice, stuffing, pasta, salad dressing etc.*

Food collection is Sunday, February 19, 2012

**Thursday, February 23, 2012**

6:00 to 7:30 pm - online code 151863

8:00 to 9:30 pm - online code 151864

**Tuesday, March 13, 2012**

6:00 to 7:30 pm - online code 151865

8:00 to 9:30 pm - online code 151867



Bible Bits is a book-by-book overview that will help put the whole Bible into an understandable context.

## 3 John

WRITTEN: Around A.D. 90

WRITTEN BY: John, the disciple

WRITING STYLE: A personal letter

OVERVIEW: Keep up the good work! I'll be there soon to deal with the power struggle.

John's third letter, like his second, could fit on one sheet of papyrus paper. This third letter was even more personal, though. It was addressed to Gaius.

This was what we know about Gaius— not much. There are four times the name Gaius is mentioned in the New Testament in association with the church, but we have no idea whether these are all the same man or not. We know from this letter, though, that THIS Gaius was much loved and valued by John. We know that he was hospitable to traveling preachers such as John and the apostle Paul. We know that Gaius was helpful. We can easily assume that Gaius was a good person who was committed to following God and doing good things. He was the kind of person we would like to be.

John wrote to Gaius because of a power struggle that had risen in Gaius's church. In the first century there was power struggle in the church!?!? Evidently Diotrephes had been placed (maybe by John) in charge of the church. Later, though, when John sent people back to check on the church, Diotrephes wouldn't allow them to visit. John promised Gaius that he would come and deal with the situation soon.

It must have been as difficult to deal with the church problems from a distance as it is to deal with them face to face today.

*From The Everyday Guide to the Bible by Carol Smith*

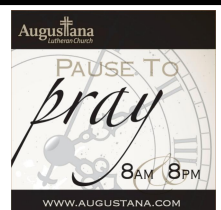
## Prayer Resources

One, as the song goes, is the loneliest number. Yet throughout our busy, schedule-driven days, that is how we live: trying to go it alone. How silly we are, for there is no need. Through prayer, we become connected to a companion God who is the first to celebrate our joys, the first to cry at our troubles.

Prayer builds a bridge that spans the distance from isolation to awareness of God's presence and availability. Prayer is listening . . . on God's part and ours. A bottomless well from which we can draw, prayer offers strength and light for times of doubt; clarity and guidance during moments of confusion; security for in-between times of change and upheaval; and energy for rebuilding after loss.

The sentiment above is taken from *Simple Prayer and Blessings* by Margaret Anne Huffman and Gary Wilde. It is a beautiful book designed to help you know God through word and image. This would be a wonderful addition to a home faith library.

Dear Lord,  
Thank you for taking my fears away and allowing healing to flow through my body, mind, and spirit. You shed light on the hidden places in my life and surround me with trusted friends and prayers of confidentiality. I pray for courage to tell others how much the Great Physician has done for me and what mercy He has shown to all people. In His name I pray. Amen.



# Global Mission

## Tanzania Trip 2013!

The dates have been set for Pastor Aune and a group of Augustana members to visit our companion congregation in Tanzania. Pastor Aune will be leading another trip to Iringa, Tanzania in January of 2013. The dates of the trip are January 18<sup>th</sup> through February 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will spend one week in Iringa visiting our companion congregation, Tumaini University, the Huruma Center Orphanage as well as other sites. We will also visit our missionaries in the northern part of Tanzania; Dr. Mark and Linda Jacobson, Selian Hospital and the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center. There will be a safari portion to the trip as well. If you are interested in finding out more about this mission trip you are invited to join Pastor Aune at an informational meeting on Monday February 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Even if you are not sure if you want to go you can come and get your questions answered and explore with others what a trip like this might feel like. If you cannot make this informational meeting, please feel free to contact Pastor Aune with your questions or interest in this trip of a life-time.

## Guatemala Trip 2012

Dates for the next trip to Guatemala are July 29-August 9. Cost of the trip is \$1600, including airfare. Is this the year you feel called to continue building relationships with our partner church, San Agustin, and the pastoral leaders in Guatemala City? As always, this delegation will be a mix of adults and teenagers. Come to an informational meeting on Sunday, Feb. 5th at 11:00 a.m. in the Bethlehem Room. If you have any questions, contact Janet Metcalfe at 651-450-1717.

## Attention all travelers to Guatemala & Tanzania

Submit your photos for the Augustana's Global Mission photo contest. Photos can be submitted in two categories: people or places. You may enter two photos in each category. With each photo submitted, please include your name, and location of the photo (Guatemala or Tanzania) and the date taken.

Photos must be submitted by e-mail to [augustanaglobalmission@gmail.com](mailto:augustanaglobalmission@gmail.com) before February 15. Winning photos will be mounted in an 11ö x 14ö format and displayed during our Global Mission Emphasis. Global Mission Sundays are April 22 and 29, 2012. First prize in the contest will be \$100 donated to your choice of a Global Mission charity.



# Augustana Staff

## Pastors

Mark Aune  
maune@augustana.com  
Megan Torgerson  
mtorgerson@augustana.com  
Ingrid C.A. Rasmussen, Intern  
irasmussen@augustana.com

## Program Staff

Laurie Armon, *Program Assistant, Children & Family Ministry*  
larmon@augustana.com  
Stacy Eichman-Cardwell, *Director of Adult Ministry*  
secardwell@augustana.com  
Cathy Hendrikson, *Director of Children & Family Ministry*  
chendrikson@augustana.com  
Don Marsh, *Director of Youth & Family Ministry*  
dmarsh@augustana.com  
Julie Michelson, *Director of Lay Ministry & Community Outreach*  
jmichelson@augustana.com  
Mary Nordtvedt, *Parish Nurse*  
mnordtvedt@augustana.com  
Carla Pfeifer, *Communications Coordinator*  
cpfeifer@augustana.com  
Cori Pochardt, *Congregational Dinner Coordinator*  
cpochardt@augustana.com  
Kathryn Quebodeaux, *Preschool Director*  
preschool@augustana.com  
Sharon Zeis, *Nursery Coordinator*

## Music Staff

Kathy Andrews, *Co-director of Music*  
Dee Ann Crossley, *Co-director of Music*  
Kim Zemple, *Chorister Choir Director*  
Lisa Griffin, *Celebration Band Director*  
lgriffin@sherbtl.net  
Janet Metcalfe, *Director of Adult and Youth Handbell Choirs*

## Office Staff

Jane Grimm, *Administrative Secretary*  
jgrimm@augustana.com  
Howard Ostrem, *Business Administrator*  
hostrem@augustana.com  
Cori Pochardt, *Secretary*  
cpochardt@augustana.com  
Susan Triplett, *Bookkeeper*  
striplett@augustana.com  
Deb Van, *Financial Secretary*  
dvan@augustana.com

## Preschool Teachers

Laurie Armon  
Kirsten Barie  
Beatriz Carrera  
Teri Collins

## Custodial Staff

Steve and Deb Bechtold  
Carie Closmore  
John Closmore  
Will Miedema  
Lowell Steenberg

Augustana Life

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Articles for the next *Augustana Life* (issue mailed February 21, 2012), are due before noon, Tuesday, February 14, 2012.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>5 8:30/9:45 Traditional Services 9:45 AF/Jerusalem 9:45 KK/YF 10:45 AF/Luther 10:45 Youth Orch Reh/Comm 11:00 Celebration Service 12:00 Bible Study/Luther</p>	<p>6 9:00 Centering Prayer/Pr Rm 9:00 Chair Yoga/YC 1:30 Encore/YC &amp; Rm 10W 6:00 Prenatal Yoga/Commons 6:45 Group Guitar/YC</p>	<p>7 9:30 Women's Bible Study/YC 10:00 the Gathering/Rm 5E 1:30 Encore/YC &amp; Rm 10W 4:30 Loaves and Fishes 6:30 Yoga Devotion/Commons 7:00 Al-Anon/Teen/LL</p>	<p>1 6:30 Men's Bkfst/Jerusalem 9:30 Bible Study/Jerusalem 10:00/10:45 Joyful Noise/10W 5:00 Library/Cong. Dinner 5:50 Confirmation/FH 6:00 Bible Study/Jerusalem 6:15 Chorists/Sanc/Cherubs 7:00 Agape/Bells/Bible Study 7:00 Bible Study/Luther 8:00 Senior Choir/Bells</p>	<p>2 11:30 Dakota Comm/FH 5:30 Evangelical Comm/PrRm 7:00 Parent Supp Mfg/Library 7:00 Knitting Ministry/ WSP Culver's</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>12 <b>Youth Sunday</b> 8:30/9:45 Sanctuary Services 9:45 AF/Jerusalem 9:45 Parent Seminar/Commons 10:45 AF/Luther 11:00 Celebration Service 12:00 Bible Study/Luther 5:00 Financial Peace/FH</p>	<p>13 9:00 Centering Prayer/Pr Rm 9:00 Chair Yoga/YC 1:30 Encore/YC &amp; Rm 10W 4:30 Loaves and Fishes 6:00 Prenatal Yoga/Commons 6:30 STARS/FH 6:30 Tanzania 2013/Luther 6:30 Alz. Supp Grp/Pr Rm 6:45 Group Guitar/YC</p>	<p>14 9:30 Women's Bible Study/YC 1:00-7:00 Blood Drive/FH 1:00 Quilting Ministry/Rm6/7 1:30 Encore/YC &amp; Rm 10W 5:00 MVO Rehearsal/Sanct. 6:30 Yoga Devotion/Commons 7:00 Al-Anon/Teen/LL</p>	<p>15 9:30 Bible Study/Jerusalem 10:00/10:45 Joyful Noise/10W 5:00 Library/Cong. Dinner 5:50 Confirmation/FH 6:00 Bible Study/Jerusalem 6:15 Chorists/Sanc./Cherubs 7:00 Bible Study/Luther 7:00 Bells/Bible Study 8:00 Bells</p>	<p>16 6:00 Dinner/7:00 Program Healing Ministries Wkshp/ Fellowship Hall 7:00 Knitting Ministry/ WSP Culver's</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 9:00-11:00 Choristers Cantata Rehearsal/Sanctuary</p>
<p>19 8:30/9:45 Traditional Services 9:45 AF/Jerusalem 9:45 KK/YF 10:45 AF/Luther 12:30 Bible Study/Luther 12:30 Father Linn Pizza/FH 4:00 MVO Concert/Sanctuary 5:00 Financial Peace/FH</p>	<p>20 9:00 Centering Prayer/PrRm OFFICE CLOSED FOR PRESIDENTS DAY 6:45 Group Guitar/YC</p>	<p>21 9:30 Women's Bible Study/YC 10:00 Mem Supp Grp/Jerusalem 10:00 the Gathering/Rm 5E 6:30 Yoga Devotion/Commons 7:00 Church Council 7:00 Al-Anon/Teen/LL</p>	<p>22 <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> 10:00/10:45 Joyful Noise/10W 11:30 Lenten Service/Lunch 5:00 Library/Cong. Dinner 6:00 Lenten Mentoring 6:00 Bells/FH 6:15 Chorists/Choristers 7:07 Lenten Service 8:00 Senior Choir/Bells</p>	<p>23 6:00/8:00 FMSC 7:00 Knitting Ministry/ WSP Culver's</p>	<p>24 Set up of church for Saturday Event Youth Ski Trip to Giants Ridge</p>	<p>25 8:00-5:00 Boy Scout Blast All Church/All Day Event 9:00-11:00 Choristers Cantata Rehearsal/Sanctuary</p>
<p>26 8:30/9:45 Trad. Services 9:45 AF/Jerusalem 9:45 KK/YF/Christ's Comrades 9:30/1:00 Befriender Info/ Luth 10:45 AF/Luther 12:30 Ingrid/Our Lady of Guad</p>	<p>27 9:00 Centering Prayer/PrRm 9:00 Chair Yoga/YC 12:30 Stamping Ministry/Rm6E 1:30 Encore/YC &amp; Rm 10W 5:00 Dental Assess/Luther 6:00 Prenatal Yoga/Commons 6:45 Group Guitar/YC</p>	<p>28 9:30 Women's Bible Study/YC 1:00 Quilting Ministry/Rm6/7 1:30 Encore/YC &amp; Rm 10W 6:00 New Member Dinner/FH 6:30 Yoga Devotion/Commons 7:00 Al-Anon/Teen/LL</p>	<p>29 10:00/10:45 Joyful Noise 11:30 Lenten Service/Lunch 12:00 Dental Van/Pkg. Lot 5:00 Library/Cong. Dinner 6:00 Lenten Mentoring 6:00 Bells/FH&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;</p>	<p>&lt;&lt;&lt;&lt;&lt; <b>WEDNESDAY</b> 29th continued!! 6:15 Chorists/Choristers 7:07 Lenten Service 8:00 Senior Choir/Bells</p>		

# Augustana

Lutheran Church

1400 South Robert Street  
West St. Paul, Minnesota 55118  
www.augustana.com

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## Augustana CONCERT SERIES Mississippi Valley Orchestra

with Newly-Appointed Director, Christina Chen-Beyers

### Presents "Fairy Tales Come True"

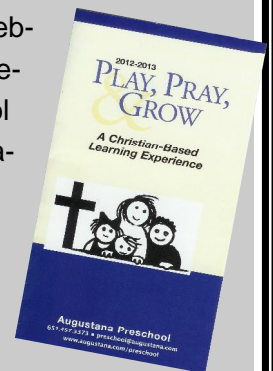
Sunday, February 19

At 4:00 pm

Music by Humperdinck, "Hansel and Gretel Overture;" The "Mother Goose Suite" by Tchaikovsky; and Prokofiev's "Peter and the Wolf."

No Admission Community Welcome Nursery Provided

**AUGUSTANA PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION** material for the 2012 - 2013 school year is now available and can be downloaded from the Augustana website: [www.augustana.com](http://www.augustana.com) under Pre-school or picked up at the preschool or church office. Completed registrations must be submitted with a \$55 non-refundable fee. Priority will be given to Augustana members and returning preschool families through February 15. For further information please visit the Augustana website or contact the preschool at 651-457-3373.



## Interested in Joining the Augustana Family?

### Winter/Spring New Member Class

Tuesday, February 28 at 6:00 pm (includes dinner with the staff)

Tuesday, March 6 at 6:30 pm Vision and Mission of Augustana & Lutheran theology overview

Tuesday, March 13 at 6:30 pm Discover your spiritual gifts

Sunday, March 18 at 9:45 am Welcomed into membership during worship

RSVP by  
contacting the church  
office at 651 457-3373

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter by e-mail, please contact Jane Grimm at [jgrimm@augustana.com](mailto:jgrimm@augustana.com).