

February 2023

Monthly Newsletter of Augustana Lutheran

AUGUSTANA
LUTHERAN CHURCH

SIoux FALLS, SD

Good News from Augustana Lutheran Church

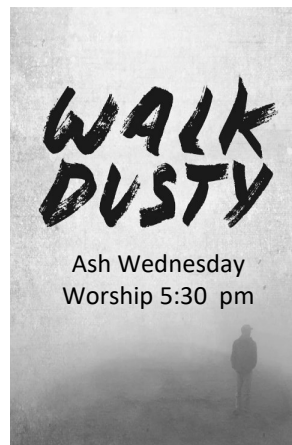
WALKING DUSTY THROUGH LENT

by Pastor John Paulson

God said to Adam, "Because you have...eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you...By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return." (Genesis 3:17-19)

Feb. 22 is Ash Wednesday and the start of the season of Lent. This is the season of the church year in which Christians reflect on human sin and God's gracious love, walking with Jesus on his journey to the cross and looking forward to celebrating with him the Resurrection.

This year's Lenten theme is "Walk Dusty," taken from a Bible study of the same name and a reminder of the words of Genesis 3:19, repeated each year on Ash Wednesday: "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." The following is from the introduction to the Bible study.



As we prepare for Ash Wednesday and Lent let us remember that it is a long and dusty road.... We live in the messiness that comes with the often `dirty road that we must travel. Let us also remember that it is

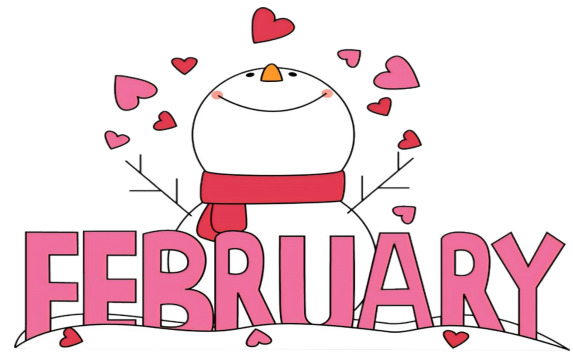
this dust we call life that shapes and forms us into resurrection people. Just as we walk wet in recognition of our baptism and the promise that it holds, we encourage you this year to Walk Dusty. Remember that in the brokenness, we are healed. While the journey is long and tiresome, resurrection promises are greater. In our dusty walk we claim the promise of new sandals and clean garments. As we walk dusty we remember that we have come from dust and to dust we shall return.

ALC's leaders are still finalizing Lenten plans, but we invite you to join in Ash Wednesday worship Feb. 22 at 5:30 p.m. As you walk the dusty road this Lent, remember not only that you are dust, but that God loves God's dusty people.



What's INSIDE this issue . . .

- 1 - Greetings from Pastor John
- 2 - Church Council; Financials
- 3- FAITH AND COMMUNITY
- 4 - What's Happening
- 5- FYI December Birthdays
- 6 - Calendar
- 7 - Scripture Reading for February;
PUEBLO DE DIOS
- 8- Contact Information



2022 FINANCIAL RECAP

a word from **The Church Council**

We had an election of some church officers at the Annual Meeting on January 22, 2023. Jim Sanden was elected President of the church council and Dave Stellingwerf re-elected Vice President. Jim Sanden was re-elected to the board of Bethany Lutheran Homes. Andrew Smith Vermillion and Holly Paulson were elected to attend the South Dakota Synod Assembly in Sioux Falls in June.

RECEIPTS

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Non-designated Offerings / Gifts | \$ | 86,783.95 |
| Offerings for Church Mortgage | \$ | 15,688.00 |
| Special Gifts for Non-budget Items | \$ | 13,692.45 |
| Insurance received for Chimney Repair | \$ | 7,654.34 |
| Mission Partner Gifts | \$ | 5,450.00 |
| Congregational Fund-raising | \$ | 2,118.50 |
| Rental Income | \$ | 2,060.00 |
| Noisy Offerings | \$ | 408.25 |
| World Hunger Appeal | \$ | 222.03 |
| | \$ | 134,077.52 |

DISBURSEMENTS

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Stewardship / Missions | \$ | 2,371.56 |
| Life & Growth | \$ | 2,772.91 |
| Worship & Music | \$ | 701.23 |
| Education | \$ | 4,699.61 |
| Property Management | \$ | 73,117.07 |
| Staff Support | \$ | 70,280.40 |
| Bank Fees / Finance Charges | \$ | 510.10 |
| | \$ | 154,452.88 |

AUDITED SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS ON 12/31/22

ASSETS

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| WF Operating Checking | \$ | 2,532.72 |
| WF Operating Savings | \$ | 1,101.67 |
| WF Building Checking | \$ | 689.26 |
| WF Building Savings | \$ | 722.81 |
| MIF Endowment Fund | \$ | 99,586.74 |
| MIF Reserve Fund | \$ | 186.71 |
| | \$ | 104,819.91 |

LIABILITIES

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Outstanding Bills on 12/31/22 | \$6,944.19 |
| Outstanding Mortgage on 12/31/22 | \$9,225.40 |
| WF Line of Credit on 12/31/22 | \$2,928.52 |
| | \$19,098.11 |

profit from HyVee gift card sales to date: \$24,675



FAITH AND COMMUNITY FORUMS

Last fall we began a series of monthly forums exploring various topics related to faith and our life together in church and community. We began in October by discussing South Dakota's Medicaid expansion proposal, which was passed in the November election. In December we enjoyed an Advent Fair with games, crafts and snacks. Two more forums have now been scheduled.

Sunday Feb. 5 after worship, our topic will be culture, how it shapes our lives and how we can relate to different cultures around us. Our virtual facilitator will be Karen Gieseke, Leadership & Intercultural Development Consultant & Coach. You can read more about this discussion elsewhere in this newsletter.

Sunday Mar. 5, our guest/host will be Kathy McHenry of Lutheran Planned Generosity, who will discuss with those gathered some opportunities to express our generosity and how that generosity can benefit individuals, congregations, and whole communities. Kathy will also preach during worship that Sunday.



The *Christ*-mas Story continues: What Treats, Beverages, Crafts & Songs were in Bethlehem – and in Sioux Falls?

A Faith and Community Forum at Augustana Lutheran Church,

Feb. 5 after worship

The cultures we are a part of shape how we see, hear, and experience the world around us. What do we like? Find comfort in? Find value in keeping?

What might happen if we both embraced our own culture, and became curious about cultures around us? What might Bethlehem and Sioux Falls have in common, and claim as different?

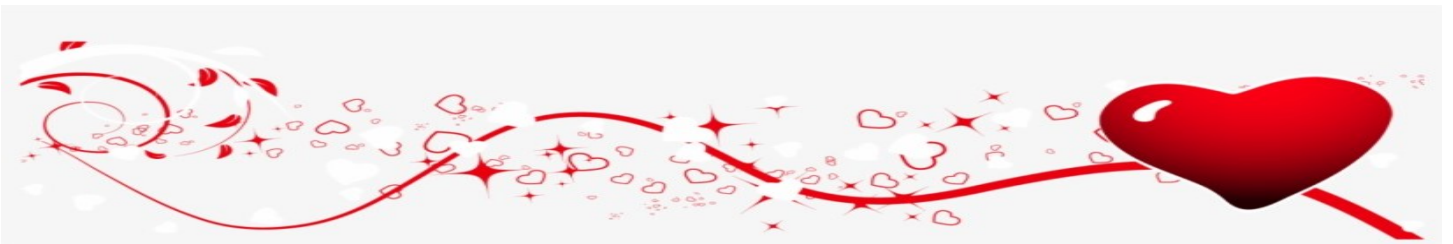
Facilitated by [Karen Gieseke](#), Leadership & Intercultural Development Consultant & Coach. Karen supports and accompanies individuals, congregations, synods, and non-profits in their commitments to grow and learn about themselves and each other, as unique, talented, and beloved children of God.

What's Happening

See what's happening this month!

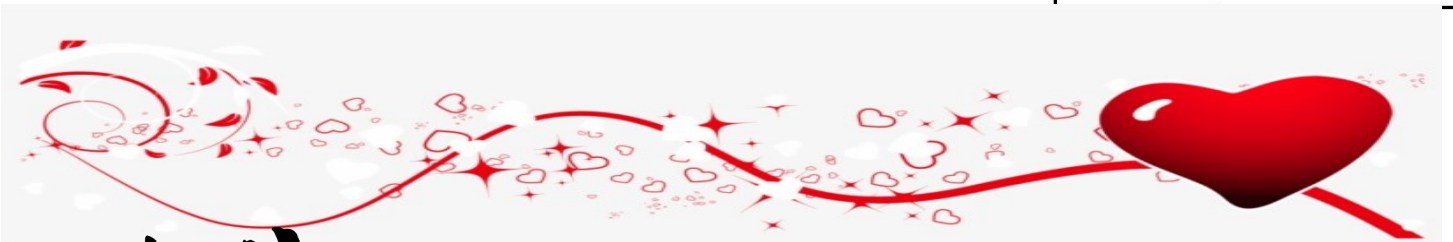


Noisy Offering-The Noisy Offering is going to Church on the Street. Toilet paper, laundry detergent, diapers, and feminine Hygiene products are needed for Necessities for Neighbors. Hygiene kits will also be included. Distribution is the 1st Sunday of the month at Peace Lutheran Church. Items can be put in the



FOOD-TO-YOU -

First Thursday of the month, starting at 6 p.m. Food-To-You will be doing distribution of food inside the church. We will not be providing a meal at this time. February is Pasta, any kina/ Hygiene Kits. March will be Hearty Soup/ Toilet paper



Calling all singers!!

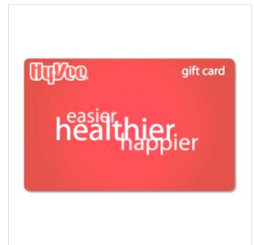
We are putting together a choir to help celebrate during Augustana's **Holy Week Services (April 2nd or 9th)** If you are interested please attend our rehearsal (Rehearsals stating SOON) If interested, call or text Diane Larsen at 605-214-0770.

FYI

• FOR YOUR INFORMATION •



YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHURCH BY BUYING AND USING HYVEE CARDS to do your grocery shopping. Gift cards can be purchased on Sunday mornings, either before or after worship or call **Linda Sanden** at 413-8984 or email her at sanden@sio.midco.net to make arrangements. You can purchase cards in \$25, \$50, \$100



denominations. **Five percent of what you spend comes back to the church.** Since the beginning of this program **\$24,525** has been contributed towards our day-to-day ministry expenses. The cards are very convenient to use. **Thanks to Jim and Linda Sanden** for managing the HyVee card's.



Shower Your Church with Blessings!!

If you would like to bless the church, in-kind donations needed are:

**White and Colored Copy Paper,
Postage (regular, extra ounce, postcard - we
have been going through a lot of postage.**

Toilet Paper

Your gifts make a big difference!

Thank @ You

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

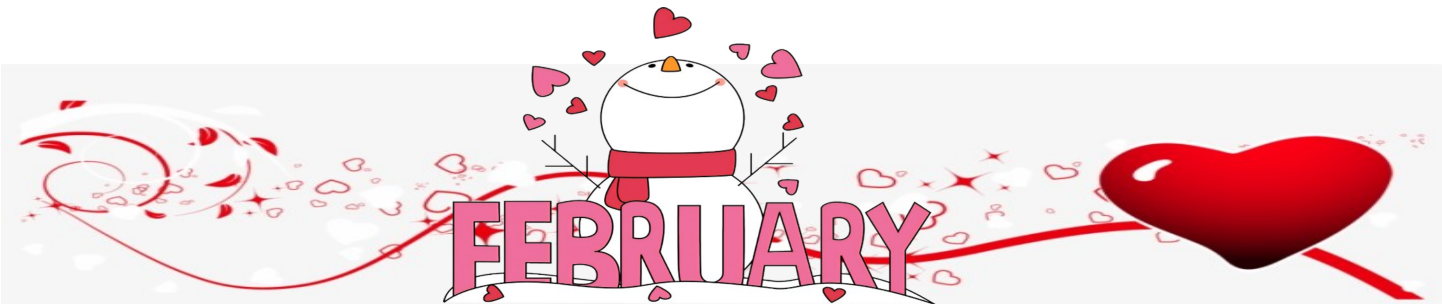
5th—Kristopher MacBeath

9th—Lyla Pedersen

13th—Sadie Sauby

16th—Patricia Moffett

20th—Meredith Carvanez



| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----|------|--|--|------------------------------|-----|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 10am - Worship w/ communion Online Worship on ALC Facebook after worship, Forum: Culture 12:30pm - Pueblo de Dios Worship | 6 | | 8 LOGOS 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM | 9 6:00 Church Council | 10 | 11 |
| 12 11:00am - Worship Online Worship on ALC Facebook 12:30pm - Pueblo de Dios Worship | 13 | 14 | 15 LOGOS 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM | 16 6:00 - 7:00 pm - Food-to-You | 17 Newsletter Deadline | 18 |
| 19 10:00am - Worship w/ communion Online Worship on ALC Facebook j 12:30pm - Pueblo de Dios Worship | 20 | 21 | 22 Ash Wednesday Worship 5:30 p.m.  | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 11:00am - Worship Online Worship on ALC Facebook 12:30pm - Pueblo de Dios Worship | 27 | 28 | Notes | | | |
| | | | | | | |

Sunday Mar. 5, our guest/host will be Kathy McHenry of Lutheran Planned Generosity,

Scripture Reading for February

Sunday Feb 5 – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Readings Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]
Psalm 112:1-9 [10]
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]
Matthew 5:13-20

Sunday Feb 12 – Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Readings Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Psalm 119:1-8
1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Sunday Feb 19 – Transfiguration of Our Lord

Readings Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm 2 (7) or Psalm 99
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9



Scripture Reading

Wednesday Feb 22 – Ash Wednesday

Readings Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12
Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Sunday Feb 26 - First Sunday in Lent

Readings Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Psalm 32
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11

PUEBLO DE DIOS IN SIOUX FALLS

“Called by Christ. In Solidarity with the Community.”

Pueblo de Dios (People, or Community, of God) is a ministry under development in the South Dakota Synod of the ELCA. A ministry whose primary focus is reaching out to the Latino community of Sioux Falls (and the surrounding area) with the Good News of New Life in Jesus Christ, Pueblo de Dios is being “birthed” with love & support from Augustana Lutheran Church. Augustana and Pueblo de Dios are two distinct communities of faith who seek to come together in joint ministry ventures in the Historic District of central Sioux Falls.

Please contact Pastor Maria Cabello Salomon, at acostamaria985@gmail.com or 605-370-3604 for more information.

Follow the Pueblo de Dios Facebook Page for news and photos.

The South Dakota Synod Multicultural Committee

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the South Dakota Synod Multicultural Committee is to respond to God's call to share the reconciling gospel of Jesus Christ with all nations by partnering in ministry with the diverse ethnic communities within our state.

5 CORE FUNCTIONS:

1. Strategize: Develop strategies to help us become a more multicultural church.
2. Advocate: Advocate with and for ethnic communities at every level of ministry and leadership in our Synod, and stand in solidarity with people who experience injustice.
3. Teach: Teach the people of our Synod how to listen and interact with different cultures, so that there may be a mutual blessing.
4. Establish: Establish new ministries among culturally diverse populations within our Synod.
5. Encourage: Encourage congregations and leaders who are involved in multicultural ministry.

Gather Resources: Seek generous giving and participation from churches, individuals and organizations toward the cause of multicultural ministry.

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