

April 2023

Monthly Newsletter of Augustana Lutheran Church

AUGUSTANA
LUTHERAN CHURCH

SIOUX FALLS, SD

Good News from Augustana Lutheran Church

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BEAUTY IN THE SCARS

by Pastor John Paulson



Much has been said about the damage social media can do to the self-image of teens as they compare the image they have of themselves to images of others they may see online, images that are often edited to achieve greater “perfection” in appearance. Listen, however, to how the prophet Isaiah described the Suffering Servant, whom Christians identify as Jesus:

*He was despised and rejected by others;
a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity,
and as one from whom others hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him of no account...
Upon him was the punishment that made us whole,*

The image of the “perfect body” is surely not the one people saw as Jesus hung on the cross on Good Friday, nor is it what the disciples saw (according to John, at least) when Jesus visited them—scars and all—in the upper room after he rose from the dead. Jesus’ human body, like ours, would only be perfected upon his return to his Father in heaven.

As with the human body, so with the body of Christ, the church. Christians can develop unrealistic views of the church as they look around. They may look at big, “successful” churches with their polished appearances and performances and say, “We want to be like them,” or maybe ask, “Why *can't* we be like them?” congregations that don't see themselves reflecting the same image of success can easily doubt their self-worth.

Jesus, however, did not pursue a “successful” image. He was a subject of ridicule and scorn, just as Isaiah prophesied, and he was surely a bloody mess as he hung on the cross. Appearance is no guarantee of righteousness, only the Spirit of Jesus within us.

FEBRUARY FINANCIAL DATA

RECEIPTS

Offerings for General Fund	\$ 15,644.64
Offerings for Building Fund	\$ 1,305.04
Noisy Offering <i>(designated for SF School Lunch Program)</i>	\$ 22.11
Congregational Fundraising <i>(HyVee card profit)</i>	\$ 75.00
Organizational Gifts <i>(Miller Funeral Home)</i>	\$ 175.00
Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$ 23.00
Coffee Fellowship	\$ 34.00
Pueblo de Dios	\$ 350.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 17,628.79



EXPENSES PAID

ELCA Missions	\$ 100.00
World Hunger	\$ 25.00
Church on the Street <i>(Noisy Offering: July-Dec)</i>	\$ 179.52
Adult Education	\$ 50.00
LOGOS	\$ 328.62
Utilities, phone & internet	\$ 2,260.28
Equipment, maintenace & repair	\$ 2,552.94
Mortgage Payment	\$ 2,500.00
Staff Support	\$ 7,073.75
Bank Fees / Finance Charges	\$ 44.40
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 15,114.51

Remaining Balance on Church Mortgage \$4,327.57

Profit from HyVee gift card sales to date: \$24,800.

FAITH AND COMMUNITY FORUMS

No Forums in April SHIFT to May!

SHIFT Garage Car Repair Ministry - SHIFT Garage is a non-profit garage both here in Sioux Falls and in Rapid City. They are a free labor shop where volunteers fix vehicles for those who can't afford to take them to a traditional repair shop. SHIFT Garage started operating in Rapid City in 2012 under a local church and became our own non profit in 2019. Their mission is "To help those we serve discover and fully realize the potential Jesus Christ has for their lives by providing reliable transportation and education designed at improving quality of life." Their founder and director, Joe Smith, will be with us Sunday, May 7, during and after worship to talk about their ministry as part of Augustana's Church and Community Forum series. Join us for coffee and conversation!

Generosity
changes everything

Thanks for sharing our Planned Giving Promos, and for all of your positive feedback. Here are updated weekly thoughts to share this spring and summer about generosity and how your members can make a difference. You'll find ideas about tax-efficient gifts for today, and legacy gifts that include both ministry and loved ones. Please share widely, whenever and wherever works best for you.

Kathy McHenry, Executive Director

Lutheran Planned Generosity of South Dakota

605.274.5030, kmchenry@sdsynod.org www.lpgsd.org

MOMENTS OF GENEROSITY

by Pastor John

This month, Augustana's gratitude is extended to the Cathedral Historic District Neighborhood Watch Group for their potluck last month held at Augustana—a potluck to help raise funds to replace the broken stained glass window in the church sacristy and make improvements in building security. The potluck raised \$454, to which will be added more donations in the coming months. A formal check presentation will be scheduled for a later date, to call attention to the work of this congregation and the role the church and its neighbors can play in each other's lives.

Why would the Neighborhood Watch Group do such a thing? Well, because they...watch. According to their leaders, the group sees Augustana providing food to hungry people by hosting the Food to You mobile food pantry. They see us welcoming the people of Pueblo de Dios as partners with us in worship and ministry. And they see members' care for the church building and grounds as a model for others in the community. In other words, they see that, as an often-used motto goes, we are "In the city for good." We are grateful to God for allowing us to be here and for the generosity of the Cathedral Historic District Neighborhood Watch Group.

CATHEDRAL NEIGHBORHOOD—AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN

2023 Neighborhood Summit

Residents, businesses, nonprofits, and faith-based organizations are invited to the 2023 City of Sioux Falls Neighborhood Summit on Friday and Saturday, April 14–15, 2023. Join us at the Anne Zabel Studio Theater inside the Orpheum Theater Center in downtown Sioux Falls (315 N. Phillips Avenue): 5:30 to 7 p.m. Friday, April 15: Jim Diers with introduction by Mayor Paul TenHaken 7:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 16: Breakfast and workshop series

On Friday evening, keynote speaker Jim Diers will return to Sioux Falls to engage residents and leaders in empowering neighborhoods and spearheading community-building workshops. Join us on Saturday morning for a series of workshops:

- ◆ Engaging Broad and Inclusive Participation
- ◆ Building On Your Neighborhood's Strengths
- ◆ Community-Driven Placemaking
- ◆ Creating A Vision And Action Plan For Your Neighborhood

What's Happening

See what's happening this month!

Noisy Offering



The Noisy Offering is going to the Sioux Falls School program. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the federal government provided free school lunches to all students, not merely to those who qualified for free and reduced lunches. The federal program has come to an end, but the need for food support has not. Augustana Lutheran joins other congregations and organizations in helping to meet this need with donations to the Sioux Falls school lunch program through our noisy offerings for the next six months.

April 6 @ East Side

*April 20th
Augustana Lutheran*

FOOD-TO-YOU



April 13th @ Messiah New Hope

*April 27rd @ Garfield
Elem Comm Ctr*

All distributions 6-7pm
April will be Cereal / Toilet paper

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 grocery cart upstairs.

ALL ABOARD FOR STORY JUNCTION!

Augustana is about to embark on a journey, the end of which no one yet knows! Fred Moffit, Jennifer Soule and Pastor John will be working with the South Dakota Synod on a two-year pilot project "Story Junction." The object is to help people in this congregation become comfortable telling their stories of faith--where they've seen God show up in their lives and in the life of the church.

Monthly sessions, both online and in person, are planned

during which participants from a half dozen congregations around the synod will learn and share their own stories and experiences. You are both welcome and encouraged to participate as well! Feel free to contact Pastor John or Fred if you have questions and/or would like to join the journey.

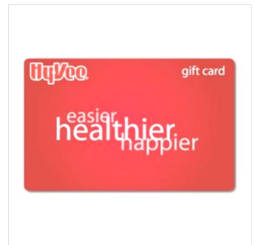


FYI

• 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 **\$24,800** 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!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

THIS IS YOUR SONG!

IT DOESN'T LAST TOO LONG!

BLESSINGS ON YOUR DAY!

-AUGUSANA LUTHERAN

3rd	Darla Lambertz
8th	Jovie Lappegard
10th	Lynn Braa
12th	Jameson Stellingwerf
17th	Jerald Suing
27th	Jessica Lappegard



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
2	3 6:00pm Church Council	4	5	6 Maundy Thus- 6:00pm	7	8
9 Easter Sunday! 10am - Worship w/ communion Online Worship on ALC Facebook 12:30pm - Pueblo de Dios Worship	10	11	12	13	15	16
16 10:00am - Worship Online Worship on ALC Facebook 12:30pm - Pueblo de Dios Worship	17	18	19 5:30 : 7:30pm- LOGOS	20 6:00 - 7:00 pm - Food- to You	21 Newsletter Deadline	22
23 10:00am - Worship w/ communion Online Worship on ALC Facebook 12:30pm - Pueblo de Dios Worship	24	25	26 5:30 : 7:30pm- LOGOS	27	28	29
30 10:00am - Worship Online Worship on ALC Facebook Baptismal Day- Everett Doop 12:30pm - Pueblo de Dios Worship	May 1	2	3 5:30 : 7:30pm- LOGOS	Notes		



Sunday Scripture Reading

Sunday Apr 9 – Resurrection of Our Lord:

Easter Day

Readings: Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (24) Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 28:1-10 or John 20:1-18

Sunday Apr 16 - Second Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Psalm 16

1 Peter 1:3-9

John 20:19-31

Sunday Apr 23 - Third Sunday of Easter

Readings Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

1 Peter 1:17-23

Luke 24:13-35

Sunday April 30 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 2:42-47

Psalm 23

1 Peter 2:19-25

John 10:1-10

Monthly Coffee with the Bishop Opportunities

Bishop Hagmaier has begun holding a monthly "Coffee with the Bishop" hour on the first Wednesday of the month, from 8am to 9am at the Caribou Coffee located at 1924 S. Minnesota Ave. in Sioux Falls. These coffee hours are meant to be a time of informal fellowship, anyone who wants to stop by for coffee and conversation is welcome.

The next coffee time will be held on April 5th.



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Pueblo de Dios

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Pastor Maria Cabello-Salamon

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