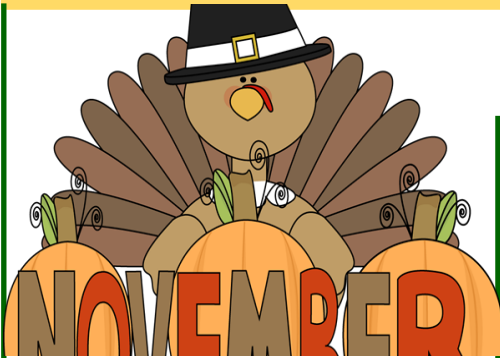


NOVEMBER 2021

Monthly Newsletter of Augustana Lutheran

Good News from Augustana Lutheran Church



What's INSIDE this issue . . .

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- 2 - Word from Church Council;
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Who taught you about
generosity?

I am grateful for the generous people in my life. They are generous with their joy, time, money, and more. Some of them are from my home

congregation, including a guy named John.

John grew up in a household of limited resources. John received a scholarship allowing him to attend college, and with the gift of education he entered the work force. John was generous in his life. He understood that his education and even the money he "earned" were gifts from God.

John chose to use some of his money to support college students, especially those considering a career in the church. This is where we came into each other's lives. John supported me (and many others) with some scholarship money in seminary. I am deeply grateful for his support, but even more so for his modeling of generosity and his understanding that the money he had "earned" was not his own.

John felt the call to use that money to support the church. But, it wasn't just his own ministry as part of his local congregation, it was bigger than that. The seminarians John supported would never serve John's congregation; they were sent into the world and into God's church. John's heart was moved by the message of the Gospel, and he generously released his money for bigger purposes.

For almost 140 years the members and guests of Augustana Lutheran Church have felt compelled to use their money to the work of Christ's church. A building was built...and another... and an addition; Sunday school, confirmation classes, and LOGOS programming; worship, fellowship, and much more. This congregation has also been a part of giving resources to support God's wider work including being a founding congregation of Bethany Lutheran Home, being a founding congregation of Food-to-You mobile food pantry, being key in the formation of Pueblo de Dios, and more. We celebrate all that God has done through Augustana Lutheran Church! And, we give thanks for the individuals and groups who have taken part in these ministries!

How are you continuing to be generous? What is God continuing to do through this congregation? What wider, bigger callings is God placing on your hearts?

John (the man I spoke of earlier) gave generously, and never received much in return, other than a "thank you" note from time to time, and some stories to share.

We receive God's grace, and give to others.

a word from **The Church Council**

Your church council continues to meet monthly to plan for Augustana Lutheran's future. In preparation for the arrival of a permanent pastor, we've created a committee to review and streamline Augustana financial procedures. We will also be working on a stewardship campaign and next year's budget.

With generous assistance from Pueblo de Dios, we plan to update the church's internet access, to provide faster internet service for the people who work at and visit the church. This will also allow us to continue livestreaming our services.

Please be in touch if you have questions about any of this, and continue to pray for Augustana Lutheran and its leaders.

Anna Amundson
Council President

Call Committee Report

Our Site Study was held on Sunday, October 17th. During the Site Study Pastor Renee Splichal Larson walked us through the next steps of the call process and gave us all hope that we are on the right track. Along with the suggested edits by congregation members our Ministry Site Profile was approved by Bishop Hagmaier and is now available online for potential candidates to review!

What's Happening

See what's happening this month!



Noisy Offering-The Noisy Offering through December will go to "Necessity for Neighbors" Toilet paper, laundry detergent, diapers, and feminine hygiene products. Hygiene kits will also be included. Distribution is the 1st Sunday of the month at Peace Lutheran Church.

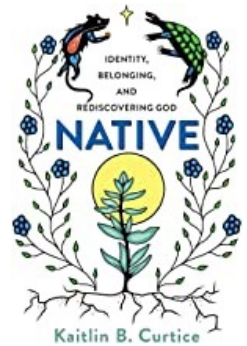
BOOK DISCUSSION
GROUP



Book Discussion meets every Wednesday from 12:00 to 1:00.

We started the book "Native: Identity, Belonging, and Rediscovering God." by

Kaitlin B Curtice on September 29.



LOGOS

LOGOS children's education on Wednesday evenings has restarted for ages, preschool-high school. This partnership ministry brings together members of Augustana Lutheran Church, Pueblo de Dios and Augustana University students around a meal, worship, education, and fun activities. Contact Pastor Jon if you are interested in participation or helping with this amazing effort.

Reformation Day-- Sunday, October 31

The 31st of October isn't just Halloween, it's also Reformation Day on the Lutheran tradition. Over 500 years ago Martin Luther nailed 95 theses to a door; words that inspired reform in the Christian Church of his era.

You are welcome in worship on Reformation Sunday. Wear red as a sign of the Holy Spirit's continued presence and work in our midst, and the need for continued reformation, by God's grace.

All Saint's Sunday--November 7

November 1st is All Saint's Day (the term Halloween derives its name from All Saints: all hallows eve). We recognize All Saints on the Sunday directly following.

On All Saint's Sunday we will read names of saints in our lives, especially those who have died in the past year, and we will light candles in memory and prayer for these persons. Please, email Interim Pastor Jon (pastorjon.sl@gmail.com) names of those in your life who have died in the past year, so that they can be recognized and remembered.

Upcoming Events

Mini Bazaar

First Lutheran Church, 327 S. Dakota Ave., will be having a Mini Bazaar with lefse, rosettes, baked goods, crafts and books on Saturday, November 6 from 9am to 3pm.

All food will be packaged and is not to be eaten in the church building. The wearing of masks is strongly encouraged.

Fall Festival

Zion Lutheran Church Garretson Sunday November 7, 2021 4:30-6:30 PM

Food, Bake Sale & Country Store



THANKSGIVING MEAL

This year it will be held on November 13, 2021.

Because of how this event has grown over the years we will have it downtown at the Multicultural Center this year. It is a larger space & we will be able to feed more people.

We are doing this in partnership with Church on the Street.

Sign-ups are now available on the church website and in the gathering area at church. We will be serving cookies for dessert instead of pie this year. We will need lots of cookies.



• 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. **Five percent of what you spend comes back to the church.** Since the beginning of this program

\$24,075 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 fund.



Shelter of the Lord Capital Campaign

Psalm 91: 1-2

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. ²I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

The new entrance canopy that we hope to build at Bethany Home Sioux Falls is intended to provide shelter for our residents, employees and guests as they arrive at Bethany. We believe this canopy is more than a physical shelter from the elements as we believe it also symbolizes the shelter of the Lord. It represents the promise that we find in Psalm 91 that "whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty".

Today, there is the need for the individual households of Bethany's owner congregations to come together and raise money for the canopy entrance to the newly remodeled Bethany campus. Beginning in October and concluding with the final gathering of gifts on Sunday, November 21, member households are being asked to give what Benton Lutheran pastor Tom Stadem is calling a second mile "love gift" in support of our bold commitment to raise \$110,000 to build what will be a proper and faithful welcome for all who come and go, and some who stay the rest of their days at Bethany. This giving will be up to each household-above and beyond one's yearly offerings to their own congregation; we hope you'll prayerfully consider a gift to the campaign. The Canopy is on the poster for the campaign and there is a Canopy Video as well. The need and the sacred purpose is real and you are already thanked by those who will be encouraged by our commitment to remain faithful in our work.

NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 12 Noon - 1:00pm - Zoom Book Discussion 5:30pm to 7:30 pm LOGOS	4	5	6
7 All Saint's Sunday 10:00am - Worship Online Worship on Facebook & ALC Website 11:00am Fellowship 12:30pm - Pueblo de Dios Worship	8 630pm ALC Church Council	9	10 12 Noon - 1:00pm - Zoom Book Discussion 5:30pm to 7:30 pm LOGOS	11 Veterans Day	12	13 Thanksgiving Meal at the Multicultural Center 
14 10:00am - Worship Online Worship on Facebook & ALC Website 12:30pm - Pueblo de Dios Worship	15	16 Newsletter Deadline	17 12 Noon - 1:00pm - Zoom Book Discussion 5:30pm to 7:30 pm LOGOS	18 6:00 - 7:00 pm - Food-to-You (Drive-Up)	19	20
21 10:00am - Worship Online Worship on Facebook & ALC Website 11:00am Fellowship 12:30pm - Pueblo de Dios Worship	22	23	24 12 Noon - 1:00pm - Zoom Book Discussion No LOGOS Thanksgiving Break	25 Thanksgiving 	26	27
28 10:00am - Worship Online Worship on Facebook & ALC Website 12:30pm - Pueblo de Dios Worship	29	30				



Ongoing Servant Ministry Projects @ ALC

FOOD-TO-YOU -

On Thursday, November 18 starting at 6 p.m. Food-To-You will do a drive-up distribution of food. We will not be providing a meal at this time. November is Peanut Butter. December will be Tuna & Tuna Helper.



Toilet Paper and Hygiene Items are Always Needed.

Women's Ministry

Augustana Lutheran Church Women ALCW and QUILTERS

- ◆ Quilting - Is not meeting at this time.
- ◆ The ALCW is not meeting at this time.



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!

SEPTEMBER FINANCIAL SUMMARY

RECEIPTS

Sunday Offerings	\$ 7,982.00
Building Fund Offerings	\$ 845.00
Noisy Offering	\$ 68.89
World Hunger Appeal	\$ 25.00
Mission Partner: <i>Pierre Lutheran</i>	\$ 100.00
Pueblo de Dios	\$ 350.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 9,370.89

EXPENSES PAID

ELCA Missions & World Hunger	\$ 120.00
Devotionals, worship materials & advertising	\$ 177.80
Utilities	\$ 1,721.22
Phone & internet (2 mo.)	\$ 292.25
Insurance	\$ 754.83
Maintenance / Repair	\$ 1,456.16
Staff Support	\$ 5,133.86
Mortgage Payment (<i>unable to pay in Sept.</i>)	\$ -
Bank Fees / Finance Charges	\$ 87.34
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 9,743.46

Summary information:

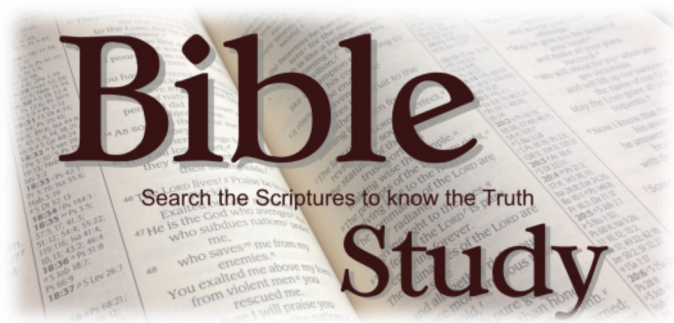
Total income for the month of September was \$9,370.89 vs. a budget of \$13,562 for an unfavorable variance of \$4,191.11, or 31%. On a year-to-date basis, our total income through Sept. was \$94,251 vs. a budget of \$122,058 for an unfavorable variance of \$27,807, or 22.8%.

Unpaid operating expenses and mortgage on Sept. 30 were \$9,805.02.

Undoubtedly the pandemic has impacted attendance at worship resulting in lower offerings, but we commend those who have been faithful in sharing what God has first provided, and continue, as they are able, to support the mission of Christ through Augustana Lutheran Church.

11/3 Autumn Kaufhold	11/21 Lillian Dennis
11/4 Boyd Lappgard	11/23 Lorelei Braa
11/7 Barb Mears	11/23 Nancy Kremin
11/9 Gayle Suing	11/28 Veronica Doese
11/14 Keniel Maldonado	11/29 Teresa Stellingwerf
11/17 Thomas Weber	





SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR September

	<p>November 7, 2021 All Saints Sunday</p> <p>Matthew 5:1-12 Revelations 7:{2-8} 9-17 Psalm 149</p>	<p>November 14, 2021 25th Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>Mark 13:1-13 Daniel 12:1-3 Psalm 16</p>
<p>November 21, 2021 Last Sunday of the Church Year</p> <p>Mark 13:24-37 Isaiah 51:4-6 Psalm 93</p>	<p>November 25, 2021 Thanksgiving</p> <p>Luke 17:11-19 Deuteronomy 8:1-10 Psalm 67</p>	<p>November 28, 2021 1st Sunday of Advent</p> <p>Luke 19:28-40 Jeremiah 33:14-16 Psalm 25:1-10</p>



From the Bishop's Desk

Dear South Dakota Synod, Grace and peace to you

in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Many among us use the month of November to practice gratefulness as we prepare for Thanksgiving at the end of the month. A few years ago, long before COVID was a thing, I invited people to join me for a Facebook Live Bible

study during the season of Lent. Together we journeyed through Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians, using James Harnish's book *Easter Earthquake* as our guide. While many parts of the study have since then left my memory, what still resonates with me is that Paul wrote his letter from prison, but instead of making it about how he has become a victim of someone else's exercise of unjust power, he writes: "Now, I want you to know, ..., that what has happened to me had really served to advance the Gospel. As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. Because of my chains, most of the brothers in the Lord have been encouraged to speak the word of God more courageously and fearlessly." (Phil 1:12-14) When I visit congregations I hear lament over how communities of faith are no longer what they were in 2020. That is true, but let me ask you, would we be the same even if COVID had not changed how we are a community that we were in 2019? My answer is no. You know how the saying goes, the only constant is change. Life is in constant motion, and our lives change from one moment to the next, which in turn also changes how we are living in community. Usually, change happens more gradually, but COVID has propelled us forward in warp speed. It's a challenge to catch up with the pace. And it can easily feel as if we are prisoners of something that holds power over us. I take comfort from the Apostle Paul's words, who was imprisoned for his faith, but instead of taking on the victim role, he understands and uses it as an opportunity to proclaim the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. How would our communities change, if we look at our current situations as an opportunity to proclaim God's good news?

Journeying in Christ with you,

Rev. Constanze Hagmaier

Bishop of the South Dakota Synod, ELCA

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Music Director - Diane Larsen

All who contribute articles to the newsletter please email them **copy ready** to alcsf@augustanasiouxfalls.com no later than:

8:00 am - Tuesday, November 16

- Emailing/Mailing/Distribution will be the week of November 28th



Pueblo de Dios

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