

# DECEMBER 2021

Monthly Newsletter of Augustana Lutheran

## Good News from Augustana Lutheran Church



Sung: *It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. Everywhere you go.*

Such a cheery song. Can you hear it?

We're getting closer to this great holiday in the Church

calendar and throughout the world. Songs are being sung, decorations are in homes and businesses, and joy rings through the cold temperatures. Advent and Christmas is upon us!

Yet, Christmas is not always joyful; at least not for every person at every moment. The holidays can be a challenge. The first Christmas after the death of a loved one, the feeling of loneliness, the fear of being with certain people in a family group, and other harsher reminders that life is hard sometimes. Even the changes in yearly traditions can be a struggle.

Yet, my dead siblings in Christ. We have hope!

Our hope is that amidst the decorations and songs, the joy and sadness, the wonderful feelings and the melancholy feelings...the Christ child is born into your lives!

There are very few church holidays in which the same scripture passage is read every year; Christmas is one of them. Traditionally, on every Christmas Eve we hear the story from Luke, chapter 2. It is the birth story of Jesus born to a young couple, who had revelations from God, yet not a full idea of who this new child would become.

### What's INSIDE this issue . . .

- 1 - Greetings from Pastor Jon
- 2 - Word from Church Council; Call Committee
- 3- Noisy Offering; Book Club; LOGOS
- 4 - Thanksgiving Meal
- 5 - FYI; HyVee Cards; Christmas Services
- 6 - November Calendar
- 7 - Serving Others; Food to You; Women's Ministries; Showers of Blessings
- 8 - Augustana Financials
- 9 - Bible Study
- 10- From the Bishop; December Birthdays
- 11 - Contact Information

Jesus was born to that young couple in humble beginnings. Jesus is born into every corner of the world. And, Jesus is born to us in all of the beauty and complexity of life.

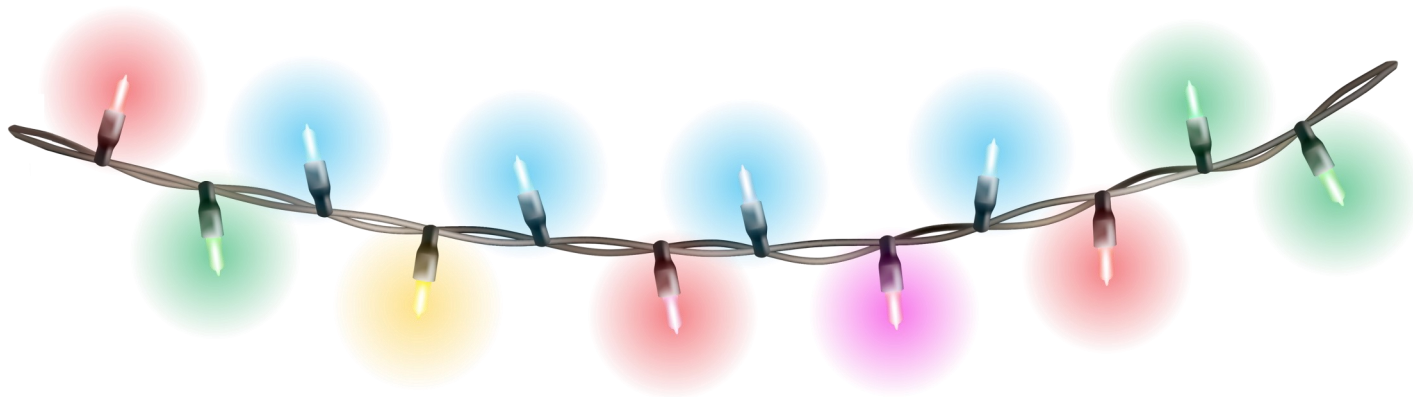
Remember this today, as we enter into this season. And, know that you are welcome to participate in the new and old traditions of this congregation, Augustana Lutheran Church. Most especially the tradition of hearing the birth story of Jesus from the gospel of Luke, trusting that it is a story for you, for me, and for all the world.

A blessed Advent and Christmas season to you and your family and friends!

## *a word from* **The Church Council**

The church council continues to meet monthly to discuss ongoing needs and plan for the future. At the end of the year, the budget is always a main topic of discussion. This year, the budget is particularly important as we prepare to call a pastor. Linda, Pastor Jon and I have begun discussing the 2022 budget, with an eye on cutting expenses while maintaining our commitments to pay staff and maintain our building. After the full council reviews the proposed budget, we will ask you to vote on it at the annual congregational meeting on January 23, 2022. Please be sure to return your estimate of giving card as soon as possible - it will help us as we think about how to budget our income next year.

The council and other interested members have started task forces to address building needs and financial processes and procedures. Be in touch with me or any other council member if you have



## **Call Committee Report**

The Call Committee has started to receive Rostered Minister Profiles from the SD Synod! As we review these RMPs we are working closely together to formulate questions that will be important to ask during the interview process.

# What's Happening See what's happening this month!



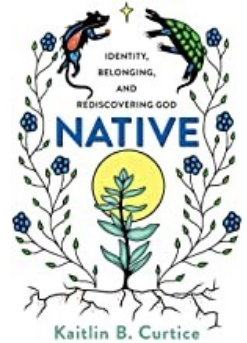
**Noisy Offering-**The Noisy Offering through December will go to "Necessity for Neighbors" Toilet paper, laundry detergent, diapers, and feminine hygiene products. Hygiene kits will also be included. Distribution is the 1st Sunday of the month at Peace Lutheran Church.

BOOK DISCUSSION  
**GROUP**



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

We will be ending the book **Native** on December 8th, We will start a new book after the 1st of the year. Watch for details on the new book.



## LOGOS

LOGOS is rolling! Each Wednesday (aside from holiday breaks) children from ALC and Pueblo de Dios, Augustana U. college students, and wonderful adult leaders gather at ALC for a meal, worship, learning, and activities. There's a lot of joy in these gatherings. Thank you to all who make this vital ministry happen.





# Thanksgiving Meal





• 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

**\$24,150** 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.



## Christmaas Eve Service

**7 PM**

**No inperson Worship on the 26th**

**Online Worship**

**Come help decorate the church for**

**Christmas**

**Saturday, December 4 from 9 - 11 AM**

| Sun   | Mon   | Tues   | Wed  | Thurs   | Fri  | Sat   |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|---|
|    |   |  | <b>1</b><br><b>12 Noon - 1:00pm - Zoom Book Discussion</b><br><br>5:30pm to 7:30 pm<br>LOGOS | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b><br>9:00 AM<br>Church<br>Decorating   |
| <b>5 All Saint's Sunday</b><br><b>10:00am</b> - Worship<br>Online Worship on<br>Facebook & ALC Website<br>11:00am Fellowship<br><br><b>12:30pm</b> - Pueblo de Dios<br>Worship          | <b>6</b><br><b>630pm</b><br>ALC Church<br>Council | <b>7</b><br><b>10 - 12</b><br><b>Naomi</b><br><b>Project</b>                               | <b>2</b><br><b>12 Noon - 1:00pm - Zoom Book Discussion</b><br><br>5:30pm to 7:30 pm<br>LOGOS | <b>9</b>  | <b>10</b>  | <b>11</b>   |
| <b>12</b><br><br><b>10:00am</b> - Worship<br>Online Worship on<br>Facebook & ALC Website<br><br><b>12:30pm</b> - Pueblo de Dios<br>Worship  | <b>13</b>   | <b>14</b>  | <b>15</b><br><br>5:30pm to 7:30 pm<br>LOGOS  | <b>16</b><br><br><b>6:00 - 7:00 pm</b><br><b>- Food-to-You</b><br><b>(Drive-Up)</b> | <b>17</b>  | <b>18</b>   |
| <b>19</b><br><b>10:00am</b> - Worship<br>Online Worship on<br>Facebook & ALC Website<br>11:00am Fellowship<br><br><b>12:30pm</b> - Pueblo de Dios<br>Worship<br><br>5-9 PM Building Use | <b>20</b>   | <b>21</b><br><br><b>Newsletter</b><br><b>Deadline</b>                                      | <b>22</b><br><br>No LOGOS<br>Thanksgiving Break  | <b>23</b><br><br>4:30 PM<br>Bethany Board<br>Meeting                                | <b>24</b><br><br>7 PM<br>Christmas<br>Eve<br>Service |  |
| <b>26</b><br><br><b>No In person Worshi;p.</b><br><b>Online Worship</b><br><br><b>12:30pm</b> - Pueblo de Dios<br>Worship   | <b>27</b>   | <b>28</b><br><br><b>Augustana</b><br><b>Lutheran</b><br><b>Church's</b><br><b>Birthday</b> | <b>29</b>  | <b>30</b>   | <b>31</b>  |   |



## 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!*

**OCTOBER FINANCIAL SUMMARY**  
**RECEIPTS**

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Sunday Offerings                                    | \$ 3,818.00        |
| Building Fund Offerings                             | \$ 1,665.00        |
| Noisy Offering                                      | \$ 15.20           |
| World Hunger Appeal                                 | \$ 35.00           |
| Gift for non-budget item <i>(Thanksgiving meal)</i> | \$ 750.00          |
| Mission partner <i>(Pierre Lutheran)</i>            | \$ 100.00          |
| <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>                               | <b>\$ 6,383.20</b> |

**EXPENSES PAID**

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| ELCA Missions & World Hunger                     | \$ 125.00          |
| Bishop Dudley House <i>(from Noisy Offering)</i> | \$ 247.82          |
| Advertising                                      | \$ 10.64           |
| Evangelical Outreach                             | \$ 285.00          |
| Worship/Music <i>(monthly Zoom subscription)</i> | \$ 15.96           |
| Office & Custodial Supplies                      | \$ 163.89          |
| Utilities  | \$ 1,202.19        |
| Insurance  | \$ 819.74          |
| Maintenance/Repair                               | \$ 389.11          |
| Property Taxes                                   | \$ 145.48          |
| Staff Support                                    | \$ 2,379.75        |
| Mortgage Payment                                 | \$ 2,000.00        |
| Bank Fees / Finance Charges                      | \$ 52.53           |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>                        | <b>\$ 7,837.11</b> |

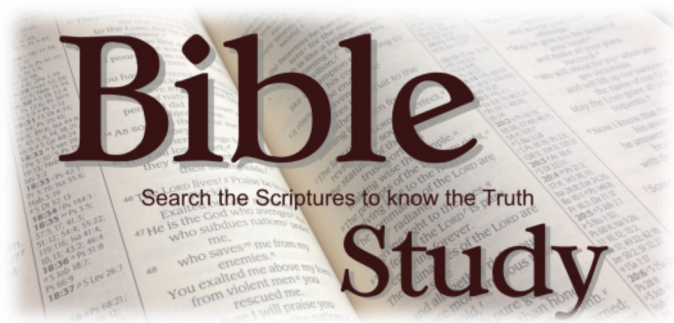
**Summary:**

Total income for the month of October was \$6,383.20 vs. a budget of \$13,562.50 for an unfavorable variance of \$7,179.30 or 52.9%. On a year-to-date basis, the income from Jan. through Oct. was \$100,334 vs. a budget of \$135,625 for an unfavorable variance of \$35,291 or 26%.

Unpaid past-due bills outstanding at the end of October totaled \$6,355.93.

Balance remaining on the church mortgage: \$27,903.





## SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR September



December 5, 2021  
2nd Sunday of Advent

Luke 3:1-6  
Malachi 3:1-4  
Luke 1:68-79

December 12, 2021  
3rd Sunday of Advent

Luke 3:7-18  
Zephaniah 3:14-20  
Philippians 4:4-7

December 19, 2021  
4th Sunday of Advent

Luke 1:39-55  
Micah 5:2-5a  
Hebrews 10:5-10

December 24, 2021  
Christmas Eve

December 25, 2021  
Christmas Day

December 26, 2021

1st Sunday of  
Christmas

No In-Person Worship  
Prerecorded Service Online



From the Bishop's Desk: Advent 2021 Podcast!

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit! I am inviting you to tune in to our second annual South Dakota Synod Advent Podcast. The title is plain and simple "Shortage." It seems that much of our life these days is determined by what we don't have, whether it is in material, emotional, physical, mental, or spiritual sense. The world is always right at hand to shout at us loud and clear what we are short of, what we are not, and where we miss the mark. The Bible calls these shortcomings sin.

As we wait for more than packages to arrive at our doorstep, as we try yet one more time to pull ourselves up by our bootstraps, as we take a deep breath hoping that tomorrow will be better, I invite you to tune in this Advent season and listen to Tangled Blue's tunes and synod staff's faithful conversations with partners in ministry. And as we arrive every week to listen, we trust that the Holy Spirit will open our ears and hearts to the message of hope-filled abundance so that we are ready to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus the Christ at Christmas time. So, watch and wait with me, as details for our annual Advent podcast are unfolding abundantly in the midst of shortages in the World. Peace be with you!

Journeying in Christ with you,

Rev. Constanze Hagmaier

Bishop of the South Dakota Synod, ELCA



12/03 Christy Bussman

12/05 Carla Diede

12/03 Fred Moffett

12/21 Deloris McDonald

12/24 Miriam Braa

12/24 Eleanor Diede

12/28 Jayden Lappegard



**AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF**

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By appointment at other times

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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**

**235 North Prairie Avenue**

**Sioux Falls, SD 57104**

**Pastor Maria Cabello-Salamon**

605-339-8571 or 605-370-3604

acostamaria985@gmail.com or pueblodedios07@yahoo.com

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