

A⁺the Tower

Augustana
LUTHERAN CHURCH



This month, the pastors are relinquishing their Tower space in order to bring you this important reflection from Nick Massie, the Chair of the Strategic Planning Team.

Several years ago, I began talking with anyone who would stand still for a moment about what I saw as a pressing need for a formal plan from which the various ministries might take guidance in how they live the word of Christ with the congregation. It is one of those passions that, the more you say it out loud, the more you realize it is a calling to yourself to action. For the past year, I have had the privilege of serving as chair of the Strategic Planning Team. Over the course of what has seemed like a whirlwind many months, the team has engaged the congregation and the surrounding community to document what makes Augustana great, and what role the church might play in the world in the years ahead.

Uniquely positioned

Congregation participation in the survey we conducted was strong, and the results were woven into the tapestry from which the team could take inspiration to address the needs of the congregation. The team also engaged with leaders of organizations in our community—schools, social services, neighborhoods—to hear from them the issues they seek to address. Augustana is a body of Christ that brings tremendous skills and resources to living Christ's word in the world, and is uniquely positioned to make a tremendous impact in the community. It was this intersection of Augustana's

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good news!

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Augustana

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Thursday, February 14, 4:30 p.m. is the deadline for the March edition. Email **Lyn Goodrum** (goodrum@augustanadenver.org).

Sunday Schedule

- 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:15 a.m. Faith Formation (September–May)

Chapel Prayer

- Monday, 10 a.m., Christ Chapel

Mission Statement

Guided by the Holy Spirit, we gather in Christian community, reach out and invite, offer hope and healing in Jesus Christ, and walk humbly with God.

Congregation Council

President: Lisa Boe-Sims

Vice President: Dane Vierow

Secretary: Karen Yeager

Treasurer: Michael Graham

Renee Bernhard | Paul Blanchard

Katrina Crook | Emmett Cruson

Mackenzie Flesch | Michael Gentes

Nancy Johnson | Ellen Kastens

Sharon Schillereff | Dan Taron

Pam Uyemura | Rosalee Wanchisen

Ogden Willoughby | Michael Zumwalt

Pr. Ann Hultquist | Pr. Caitlin Trussell

Staff

Ann Hultquist, Senior Pastor

Caitlin Trussell, Pastor

Lisa Mikolajczak,

Finance Administrator

Jodie McClary,

Faith Community Nurse

Shanna VanderWel, Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Erin Brown,

Children's Ministry Coordinator

Lyn Goodrum,

Publications Administrator

Julie MacDougall, Volunteer Ministry and Building Use

Cindy Lindeen-Martin,

Minister of Music and Organist

LeEtta Choi, Silver Notes Director

Dick Larson, Choral Director

Chris Maunu, Assistant Choral Director

Angela Howard, Choristers and Cantabile Director

Asmir Hodzic,

Building and Grounds Manager

Andrija Malbasa, **Steven Rojas**,

Custodians

Kim Kouba, Wedding Coordinator

Wendie Edwards, Director, Augustana Early Learning Center

Recently lifted up in prayer

For hope and healing:

- Mike Coach, Emma Graham, Marjorie Hildebrandt, Dorothy Judge, Ruth Lipker, Chris and Amanda Malloy, Steve Massie, Cindy Maxwell, Charlotte Mitchell, Alan Morast, Glenna O'Neal, Caroline Schomp, Sigurd Nelson, Don Thomson, Karl White, Keenan

For comfort and courage:

- Family and friends of Felipe Alonzo-Gomez

- Marti Gordon in the death of her family member, John Gordon
- Karen Aarestad in the death of her niece, Jessica Heath
- Erin Brown in the death of her friend, Marcie Saucedo
- Chris Maunu in the death of his grandmother, Bernice Seppanen
- Emily Friesen in the death of her friend, Bryan Westhoff

Thank you for the gifts!

Augustana Arts

- In memory of Ruth Hauck

Health Ministry

- In memory of Ruth Hauck

Music Ministry

- In memory of Ruth Hauck

Special Gifts

- In memory of Frank and Curt Gerber, Dorothy Haner, Edna Kuxhaus, Catherine Nyhus, Les Woodward



Volunteer Ministry

Like coffee?

Then help us pour coffee on Sunday mornings during Fellowship Hour (9:15–10:15 a.m.). We are in desperate need of volunteers for this ministry.

Please contact **Julie MacDougall** (303-388-4678, macdougall@augustanadenver.org) for more information. Thank you!

Want a 'behind-the-scenes' ministry?

The Communion Ministry team needs your help!

We need people to launder the towels that are used to wash and dry the communion items. This needs to be done only once a month.

If you want more information, please call Julie in Augustana's office (303-388-4678).

Worship | Grow | Go

continued from cover



abilities and the community's needs that began to inspire the team to bring fresh thinking to the church's vision, mission and core values. These statements will be shared with the congregation in a formal plan document at the next congregational meeting, but you've already seen the core values in print and in action—Worship • Grow • Go. The team finds inspiration and energy from the mission and core values, and hopes the congregation does too. These statements are the filter through which we pass the ideas and plans of the ministries.

Mission: Celebrating God's grace, we welcome everyone to worship Jesus, grow in faith and go serve in the world.

Worship: We worship in ways that are authentic, Christ-centered, and that lift up God's grace. We use our musical gifts, heritage, and sacred space to inspire our praise.

Grow: We deepen faith in Jesus across generations, support and care for one another in our faith community, and equip one another to share our faith.

Go: We build relationships with others in our community and our world. We seek out ways to serve and love as Jesus did. We live out our faith in daily life.

A living document

With fresh thinking in these guiding principles, the team then worked to develop a set of ministry result

areas—thematic groupings which further guide the development of goals, actions, and accountability to live out the strategic plan and Christ's word. As goals are developed, they help refine the scale and scope of the Ministry Result Areas. The resulting Strategic Plan becomes a living document. It is refreshed and renewed periodically, and occasionally reworked entirely. But most importantly, it requires commitment from all the people of Augustana.

Ensuring continuity of the plan

Any time you talk about a Strategic Plan, an immediate word of caution goes out. "Don't let this plan sit on a shelf! It does no one any good to put lots of effort into a plan that isn't implemented." To ensure that the significant work of the team doesn't go to waste, the plan includes identifying owners of goals and target timelines to help ensure that goals are being addressed. The team will continue to work to provide the tools and processes to staff, congregation council and other committees that ensure continuity of the plan and its goals. Pastor Ann and Pastor Caitlin will be keeping the plan central and relevant to ministry. And I plan to be around to nurture this plan for the foreseeable future, as well. I am excited to see this effort lived out!

I cannot express enough gratitude to the team for the work it has done, and we have been blessed to be guided in excellent planning processes by consultant Evan Moilan of Gronlund Sayther Brunkow.

Your Strategic Planning Team is **Brian Bernhard, Kari Blanchard, Emmett Cruson, Nancy Johnson, Dane Vierow, Pastor Ann and Pastor Caitlin.**

This process has been humbling and rewarding. It has been a tremendous amount of hard work, and the work ahead feels organized and purposeful. We are blessed by the grace of God to be given the gifts we have, and sometimes, we benefit from a compass to help us apply those gifts to the needs of the world. Here, now, we have a compass. We have ministries that put our faith to action. We have the grace of God. Let us live out the word of God with each other and our neighbors, and celebrate Christ's light in the world.

God loves you, friends. And I do, too.

Sincerely,
Nick Massie

Worship



Home Communion, February 17!

Home Communion kits will be blessed at both worship services on Sunday, February 17 and taken to our home-centered members by volunteers using a liturgy written for home use. Please pray for the communion visitors and receivers. Thank you to the people who are part of this vital ministry to the Augustana friends and members who cannot be at worship. Please call or e-mail **Pastor Caitlin** (pastor.caitlin.trussell@gmail.com or 303-388-4678) if you would like to receive home communion or if you would like to sign up as a communion visitor.

Honor and remember loved ones or celebrate special events

Sponsor flowers for worship in 2019

Consider honoring a birthday, anniversary, baptism, marriage, or the memory of a loved one by sponsoring flowers for worship. You can purchase up to three bouquets each week which you may take home after 10:30 a.m. worship or request that they be delivered to Augustana's hospitalized and home-centered folks. You may sponsor one or two bouquets for the sanctuary for around \$60 each, one bouquet for Christ Chapel for around \$35, or all three bouquets for around \$155. (Final pricing is based on your flower preferences.) For additional information and scheduling, contact Augustana's office (303-388-4678 or info@augustanadenver.org).

Altar lamps

You may make a donation to the altar lamp fund, either in memory of a loved one or in honor of friends, family, or a special occasion. The cost for a whole month of candles for the Christ Chapel altar lamp is \$27, while a month of candles for the sanctuary altar lamp is \$15. Your gift will be acknowledged in the Sunday bulletin the first Sunday of the month you sponsor. To sign up, contact **Lyn Goodrum** (303-388-4678 ext. 114 or goodrum@augustanadenver.org).

Congregation Council



Notice of Congregational Meeting, February 24

Augustana will hold a congregational meeting, Sunday, February 24, 11:45 a.m., in Augustana's sanctuary to receive year-end reports and recognize lay leaders who completed their elected terms. Following the meeting, a light lunch will be served. A free will offering will be taken to offset the cost. Reserve your place for lunch by contacting Augustana's office (303-388-4678 or info@augustanadenver.org) by Thursday, February 21.

2018 Annual Reports

Financial reports are due to Finance Administrator **Lisa Mikolajczak** (lisa@augustanadenver.org) by Thursday, January 31.

Ministry reports are due Sunday, February 10 to Publications Administrator **Lyn Goodrum** (goodrum@augustanadenver.org).

Contact Lisa and Lyn for forms and information.

Completed reports will be available to the congregation on Sunday, February 17.

Correct hand washing helps keep you healthy!



An easy way to stay healthy this flu season is by washing your hands regularly. It is the easiest way to prevent the spread of germs.

The five simple steps:

1. Wet your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), and apply soap.
2. Lather your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Be sure to lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, around your thumbs and under your nails.
3. Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds. Hum the “Happy Birthday” song from beginning to end twice.
4. Rinse your hands well under clean, running water.
5. Dry your hands using a clean towel, or air dry them.

Using hand sanitizer

When soap and water is not available, the second best approach is to use a hand sanitizer (at least 60 percent alcohol).

1. Apply gel into your palm (read the label for the correct amount).
2. Rub your hands together.
3. Rub the gel over all surfaces of your hands and fingers until your hands are dry. This should take around 20 seconds.

You probably know you will want to wash your hands before, during, and after preparing food; before eating; before and after caring for someone who is sick; before and after treating a cut or wound; after using the toilet; after changing diapers or cleaning up a child who has used the toilet; after blowing your nose/coughing/sneezing; after touching an animal, animal feed, or animal waste; after handling pet food or pet treats; after touching garbage.

Wash your hands often and keep you and your family healthy!

Taken from [CDC.gov/handwashing](https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/).

Did you know?

Did you know that if you stop exercising for a period of just 10 days, blood flow to the areas of your brain used for thinking, learning, and memory decreases? A study using MRI scans before and after a 10-day period of no exercise showed significant reductions in blood flow in eight key areas of the brain. Researchers noted that older people who exercise can protect the area of the brain important for memory storage from shrinking. Physical activity also boosts cardiovascular fitness, aids with weight control, and helps prevent type 2 diabetes.

(Duke University, Duke Medicine Health News)





Property Corner

Family restroom and thermostat controls on the to-do list for 2019

After a brief respite for Christmas break, the Property Committee has hit the ground running with an aggressive plan for 2019. The first week in January greeted us with a leak here, a broken thermostat there—but we were able to keep our focus on long-term renewal as well.

February will be a big month for Fellowship Hall and its entry. The window treatments will be completed, flooring on the south side will be replaced, work on the storage doors on the north side will begin, and we will “break ground” on the family restroom in the entry (under the narthex). Your patience will be appreciated as this will inevitably cause inconveniences. For our part, we are trying to have much of this work scheduled concurrently.

Getting back to thermostats, we have identified the overhaul of the heating/cooling controls in the office and education building as our priority new project for 2019. Most of you have experienced the issues we have in both winter and summer, and we are excited to make these “go away.” In a nutshell, we will be replacing the pneumatic controls with electronic controls that will give us comprehensive central and local control.

Eco Watch: Augustana’s outside lighting is now 80 percent LED! We have a few one-offs to still change—but we are close. The win/win nature of better lighting and lower energy use is “awesome.” The new heating/cooling controls described above are expected to provide substantial energy savings. We look forward to providing you some statistics on this in the future.

The Capital Improvement Fund received individual contributions of \$7,165 in 2018 (outside of larger directed gifts). Many also contributed supplies and/or their time. We sincerely thank you for all of these gifts.

Blessings from the Property Team

Glocal Involvement

Five years—61 farms!

On behalf of hungry people everywhere, thank you, Augustana members and friends, for your contributions to the ELCA Good Gifts program this past Advent season. Your generosity this year helped purchase 15 farms, and 10 more through a matching gifts program. Over the five years we have been buying “farms” we have purchased 61 farms and added 17 more through matching funds. These 78 farms represent \$55,770 in donations, which help recipient families become self-sufficient. Thank you again for your generosity.



Augustana Global Mission Committee

Glocal Ministry Brown Bag Brainstorming (an All Call)

Sunday, February 10, noon–1:15 p.m., Rooms 4–5

We’ll be brainstorming across the shared interests and individual gifts of the Social, Global, and LEAPP ministry teams and what cooperative efforts could look like moving forward. This meeting is for you if you’re interested in what Augustana is up to by way of local and global service. It’s also for you if you’re currently serving on Social Ministry, Global Ministry, or LEAPP (Lutherans Engaging and Accompanying People and Policy). Glocal is a word used to convey the simultaneous global impact of local work and the local impact of global work. Web search it. It’s a thing.

For more information or to let me know you’re coming, email **Pastor Caitlin** (pastor.caitlin.trussell@gmail.com).

Assemble Personal Care Kits for February



Cleanliness may not actually be next to godliness, but it certainly helps a person feel more human. When families find their homes destroyed, or must flee for their safety, soap and a towel rarely make the cut for what they can carry. Arriving in a refugee camp or other place of safety, they are scared, vulnerable and dirty from the travel. The simple items included in a Personal Care Kit provide much-needed self-care, critical germ fighting, and the chance to regain dignity amidst situations of fear and uncertainty.

Augustana's Global Mission team is sponsoring the collection of Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief in February. Place your items and kits in the labeled boxes in Augustana's narthex or Fellowship Hall on Sundays, February 17 and 24. (Do not put them in the Metro Caring box.)

You may

- wrap your items in a towel and secure with ribbon, yarn, or rubber bands. (Do NOT use plastic bags.) Or,
- bring items, and Augustana members and friends will assemble them together later.

What to include:

Include the following items in each Personal Care Kit:

- One light-weight bath-size towel (20" x 40" to 52" x 27"), dark color recommended
- Two or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars
- One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging

(Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap.)

- One sturdy comb (no picks or fine toothed combs); remove packaging
- One metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. Wrap all the items in the towel and secure with ribbon, yarn, or rubber bands. Do not enclose the kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

Thanks for your gift of love through the Personal Care Kits. It is a simple way to say that we care.

For the needy shall not always be forgotten, nor the hope of the poor perish forever.

Psalm 9:18

Senior Ministry

February Luncheon will be magical!

Thursday, February 21,
11:30 a.m., Fellowship
Hall



Enjoy a fascinating magic show presented by **Dick Simon, Magician**, at our February luncheon! Judy Nyquist and her crew prepare the tasty lunch, but need your reservation by Monday, February 18, to plan. Call Augustana's office (303-388-4678). Visitors are welcome—bring a friend for this fun program and lunch. Cost is \$8 per person.

Music Ministry

Gustavus Adolphus instrumental groups come to Augustana!

Monday, February 4, 7 p.m.



The Gustavus Symphony Orchestra and the Gustavus Jazz Ensemble are performing at Augustana Monday, February 4, at 7 p.m. This concert is the third of their Midwest tour, beginning in South Dakota and traveling through Colorado, Nebraska, and Iowa. Admission is free; no ticket required. A freewill donation will be taken during the performance.

The Gustavus Symphony Orchestra and Gustavus Jazz Ensemble have a rich history of touring and performing together, both domestically and internationally. Each ensemble will perform its own repertoire, but also combine to form a studio orchestra, creating a unique musical experience for the audience. Musical selections range from classic jazz and orchestral works to newer pieces by current composers. Previously, the groups have traveled to the British Isles, the People's Republic of China, South Africa, and

Greece and Macedonia. Their next tour is to Singapore and Malaysia in January of 2020.

Located in Saint Peter, Minnesota, Gustavus Adolphus College is a private, coeducational, liberal arts college affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. More than one-third of all Gustavus students participate in the music program, with three choirs, two wind orchestras, two symphony orchestras, two jazz ensembles, and numerous chamber ensembles that total over 30 musical ensembles on campus.



Augustana Ringers participate in Southern Colorado Handbell Festival

Augustana will be well represented, as Augustana Ringers participate in the Southern Colorado Handbell Festival on Saturday, February 16. This annual



event in Colorado Springs is in its 35th year and features over 300 ringers. The all-day event begins by loading tables, pads, handbells, handchimes, music, stands, etc., into members' cars and vans and unloading at the City Auditorium in Colorado Springs. Under the direction of a nationally recognized clinician, our ringers will be exposed to new techniques and a fun time overall. The day culminates in a mass ringing concert at 7:30 p.m. It is a non-ticketed event, and all are welcome to attend.

Augustana youth participate in Choristers Guild Festival

The children and youth involved in Choristers and Cantabile will be participating in the 67th Annual Choristers Guild Festival on Saturday, February 23. Choristers Guild is a National Christian organization that enables church leaders to nurture the spiritual and musical growth of their children and youth. Augustana has been a member of Choristers Guild for many years, benefiting greatly from workshops, resources, and music publications. The Choristers Guild Festival gives singers the opportunity to sing with children and youth choirs from other churches from across the region. The festival is a wonderful time of fellowship, music, and fun for our kids, and we look forward to participating every year.

This year, the festival will be held at the historic Trinity United Methodist Church in downtown Denver. The kids will be in rehearsals to work on vocal and choral techniques, bond with other choir members, and rehearse their songs with our guest conductor. This year the guest clinician is **Tefsa Wondemagegnehu**, conductor of the

Viking Chorus and the Chapel Choir at St. Olaf College. The culmination of the festival is a prayer service that will be presented in the late afternoon. Everyone is invited to attend this beautiful service focusing on justice.

If you have any questions regarding Choristers Guild and/or the festival, please contact **Angela Howard** (anghoward@gmail.com) or **Cindy Lindeen-Martin** (lindeen-martin@augustanadenver.org).

AUGUSTANA *Arts*

Through the Lens of Music— Focus On Mind

Stratus Chamber Orchestra with Magician, **Trenton Gunsolley** and Special Guest Conductor **Debashish Chaudhuri**

- Friday, February 15, 7:30 p.m. at First Plymouth Congregational Church
- Saturday, February 16, 7:30 p.m. at Augustana

Experience the connection between music and the way we think.

Ponder the classic works of Dvorak's "Legend," Ellington's "Don't Get Around Much Anymore," and more, in a mindful collaboration with guest conductor Maestro Debashish Chaudhuri and magician Trenton Gunsolley. This program is sure to blow your mind!

Director/Musician talkback will follow each performance.

Purchase tickets online at www.augustanaarts.org, by phone at 303-388-4962, or at the door the night of the event. Enter code ALC50 and receive a discount when you purchase tickets online!

Faith Formation

Discover Augustana for Newcomers

Sundays, February 3, 10, 17, and 24, 9:15–10:15 a.m., Room 1

Bring your curiosity and have conversation with the pastors; hear about Augustana ministries; and consider joining the congregation. Sign up for Discover Augustana or ask questions about it by contacting **Julie MacDougall** in Augustana's office (macedougall@augustanadenver.org 303-388-4678).

Families Inspired Together (FIT)

FIT is a time for parents and friends to gather together, share stories, learn new things and just connect with others at Augustana.

We meet on the second Sunday of each month in Room 3, 9:15–10:15 a.m. Join us while your kids are participating in Sunday school or confirmation.

Join us again on Sunday, February 10. Please check the weekly bulletin for more details on this session.

For any questions regarding FIT, please call **Inez Smith** (303-504-6404).

Adult Forum

Sundays, 9:30 a.m., Anna Paulson Room

February 3: Kisanet Abraha, Augustana member and Augustana Early Learning Center teacher, emigrated from Eritrea in 2013 and has been worshipping with Augustana Lutheran Church since. She reflects on her experience growing up in the Eritrean Lutheran Church and her experience here in the United States. This is an opportunity to hear Kisanet's story as one among many generational Lutherans around the world who make the faith their own as adults.

February 10: Katharine Jones, Former YAGM (pronounced yahgum—Lutheran Youth in Global Mission) shares her experience of serving her YAGM year in Jerusalem, including her decision to work in global ministry, the process, and her story of the local experience there.

Katharine received a B.A. in International Studies and a B.S. in Biology from Gonzaga University prior to YAGM. She is currently working as a nurse aide at Foothills Hospital in Boulder while pursuing the goal of global health work as a nurse practitioner.

February 17: Love and Logic presentation with time for questions and answers. Many parents use Love and Logic techniques across the age range of their children. This class is a good opportunity for all of us to learn about it, so it's good for people of all ages who encounter children in the pew or as neighbors, your own children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, etc.

CROSS GEN FAITH FORMATION

February 24: A Cross Generational Faith Formation event for all of us of any age hosted by Augustana's Children, Youth and Family Ministry. Join the fun of being together and having conversation across generations.

Dial-a-Care

303-996-2733

Three-minute talks about God,
faith, love, scripture,
life, Christianity

- Lyn Goodrum
- Roberta Matheson
- Don Troike

Augustana
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Children, Youth, Family

Love and Logic parenting classes start in March

Develop strong parenting techniques and strategies. Raise happy and well-behaved kids with positive, loving tools.

The Love and Logic approach to parenting is built around the science of crafting caring and respectful relationships. An authentic, loving connection between parents and their children is the root of a healthy, thriving relationship built on trust and understanding.

Augustana will host a six-week class beginning March 3 and running each Sunday through April 7, noon–1:30 p.m. The cost is \$100 per couple or \$80 per person and scholarship money is available. For those who took the class with us last year and would like a refresher, the cost is \$50 per person or \$70 per couple.

About your Love and Logic teacher . . .

My name is Laurie McPherson, and I am a school counselor at an elementary school in Brighton, CO. This is my fifth year as a school counselor, but I have been working with children in a variety of settings (mostly education) for 16 years. When I first began working as a



school counselor, I immediately realized that I don't just work with children. I work with entire families and sometimes even communities. Families look to me for advice, education, and solutions. The parenting program, Love and Logic was my answer to this challenge. I am now a facilitator of the Parenting the Love and Logic Way curriculum, and would like to share what I

have learned with you and your family. Through a series of six, one hour classes, you will learn how to avoid un-winnable arguments and power struggles, how to stay calm and empathetic in chaos, how to set limits and avoid enabling, how to guide your kids to own and solve their own problems responsibly, how to raise children who are family team members and not demanding dictators, and so much more. I will provide you with tools you need to help support your parenting tool belt, and you will hopefully laugh along while learning. I can't wait to meet you all, and help in any way that I can!

Laurie McPherson,
School Counselor, LPC

Help care for the hungry on Super Bowl Sunday

On Super Bowl Sunday, February 3, you are invited to share your financial gifts for ELCA World Hunger. Augustana's youth will support the **Super Bowl of Caring** by collecting donations after worship to support those who are hungry. Join millions across the country supporting food initiatives on this day!



Support another bowl ministry in March!

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry host an **Empty Bowl Luncheon** for all Sunday, March 17, 11:30 a.m., in Fellowship Hall. Enjoy a variety of soup and bread! During this time you will also be able to bid on bowls painted by members and friends of Augustana. A free will offering will be taken to support ELCA World Hunger.



Pack Valentine's Day boxes for college students

Parents of college students will meet to pack Valentine's Day college care packages, Sunday, February 10, 9–10:15 a.m., Fellowship Hall. Please bring about 25 of whatever you choose—candy, microwave popcorn, packets of hot chocolate, granola bars, toys and trinkets—whatever you think a male or female college student would enjoy. If you can't attend on February 10, please leave your treats in Augustana's office, clearly labeled for the college students.

To update your child's current mailing address at school, contact Augustana's office (info@augustanadenver.org or 303-388-4678).

Other questions may be directed to coordinators **Joy Hawkins** (Joy.Hawkins@ucdenver.edu or 303-915-7645) or **Jan Brown** (JTBrown0407@gmail.com or 720-563-7589).

Confirmation families serve Warren Village families

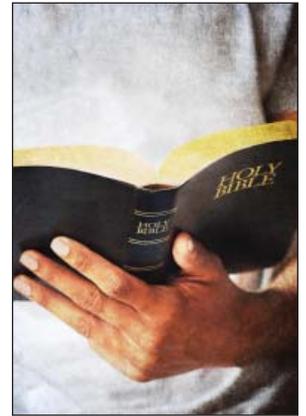
Youth in grades 5–8 and their parents are encouraged to be part of our confirmation service project on Wednesday, February 27. We will be serving a meal and playing with kids at Warren Village Family Night at Warren United Methodist Church (1630 E. 14th Ave., Denver). This event includes providing and serving a meal. Setup begins at 5:40 p.m. with the evening ending around 8 p.m. To sign up, please connect with **John Harwell** or **Shanna VanderWel** (shanna@augustanadenver.org).

Indulgences Bake Sale

Support the youth and indulge in your favorite baked goods before Lent begins! The youth will host a bake sale Sunday, March 3, 9–10:30 a.m., in Fellowship Hall. Your purchases of these yummy treats will go to support the youth and their summer mission trip and camps.

Help create used Bibles for graduates

Beginning on Sundays in March, Bibles for our graduating seniors will be placed in Fellowship Hall for you to help us make them "used." During this time, underline your favorite verse, share a memory of the student, write a word of encouragement, etc. These Bibles will be gifts we give to seniors that they can take with them as they journey in the next stage of their lives.



Fellowship

Trailblazers

Snowshoeing

Saturday, February 9 or 23, leave Augustana's south parking lot at 8:30 a.m.

If conditions aren't good for snowshoeing on February 9, we'll try again on the 23rd. It is hard to plan in advance with Colorado's volatile weather conditions! We will determine the location based on snow and weather at the time of this outing.

Rating: Easy to moderate

Distance: As far as we can get in approximately 2 hours, roundtrip

Guide: **Karen Kisch** (303-810-0456 or scottykisch@hotmail.com)



Theater and Theology

Theater and Theology brings members of

Rocky Mountain Synod congregations in and near Denver to productions of the Denver Center for the Performing Arts. After viewing a play, we do a talk-back discussion with cast members on theological issues raised in the play. The plays and these discussions can challenge and stimulate our faith and, therefore, the mission of the Church, in a unique way.

The Whistleblower

Tuesday, March 5, 6:30 p.m., Space Theatre,
Tickets: \$35

Contact **Rosalee Wanchisen** (303-759-9836) by Sunday, February 10, to reserve a ticket or for information.

For screenwriter Eli, an offer to finally create his own TV show should be the ultimate culmination of his goals, but instead shocks him into wondering why he had those dreams in the first place. Armed with a new sense of spiritual clarity, he sets out on a quest to serve up some hard truths to his coworkers, family, exes and friends. What could possibly go wrong? A lively world premiere about the lies we tell to protect ourselves and how the tiniest gestures can have deep impact on those around us.

Registration with check payable to Rocky Mountain Synod and footnoted “T&T Augustana: The Whistleblower” must reach Augustana’s office by Sunday, February 10.

Women, Wine, and Word, a Bible study group for women of all ages, will meet on Thursday February 28 at 7 p.m. The group is currently reading and discussing portions of the book *Searching for Sunday: Loving, Leaving, and Finding the Church* by Rachel Held Evans. You don’t need to purchase the book in order to come and participate. Friends are always welcome, and fellowship and laughter are guaranteed. Please email **Pastor Ann** (ann@augustanadenver.org) for the location of this month’s meeting.



February Book Group

Join us Monday, February 18 at 11:15 a.m. in the Anna Paulson Room to discuss Helen Thorpe’s *The Newcomers: Finding Refuge, Friendship, and Hope in an American Classroom*.

The *Newcomers* follows the lives of twenty-two immigrant teenagers throughout the course of the 2015–2016 school year as they land at South High School in Denver, Colorado. These newcomers, from fourteen to nineteen years old, come from nations convulsed by drought or famine or war. Many come directly from refugee camps, after experiencing dire forms of cataclysm. Some arrive alone, having left or lost every other member of their original family.

At the center of their story is Mr. Williams, their dedicated and endlessly resourceful teacher of English Language Acquisition. If Mr. Williams does his job right, the newcomers will leave his class at the end of the school year with basic English skills and new confidence, their foundation for becoming Americans and finding a place in their new home. Ultimately, “The *Newcomers* reads more like an anthropologist’s notebook than a work of reportage: Helen Thorpe not only observes, she chips in her two cents and participates. Like her, we’re moved and agitated by this story of refugee teenagers... Donald Trump’s gross slander of refugees and immigrants is countered on every page by the evidence of these students’ lives and characters” (Los Angeles Review of Books).

March selection: *I Was Told To Come Alone* by Souad Mekhennet.

Lent preview

Save the date!

“Lent, A Time of Spiritual Renewal”

- Saturday, March 16, 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., Anna Paulson Room, Augustana.
- The pastors will lead a time of study, prayer, and conversation about Lent.
- Cost: \$10 for lunch and materials. Make checks made to Augustana Lutheran Church, memo: Lenten Renewal. Please plan to attend regardless of cost, as scholarships are available.
- Please email Julie (julie@augustanadenver.org) your plans to attend as well as any dietary restrictions so we can prepare accordingly.
- For questions or comment, please contact **Pastor Caitlin** (pastor.caitlin.trussell@gmail.com).



Lent Prayer Stations are coming!

This Lent, add the spiritual practice of prayer in the unique setting of Augustana’s Lent Prayer Stations. Easy-to-follow instructions will guide you through a variety of quiet activities suitable for folks from age 5 to 99, including Augustana’s labyrinth. Set your own pace as you offer silent prayers of intercession, praise, confession, or whatever is on your heart.

Visit the prayer stations in Rooms 1–3 on Sunday mornings during Lent and during business hours and some evenings during Holy Week. Watch Augustana’s publications for details.

Augustana’s Easter Garden will bloom again this year!

Plan now to support Augustana’s youth ministries with a gift to the Easter Garden. Your gift in honor or in memory of loved ones will add lilies to the celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord! The suggested contribution for each individual you wish to honor or remember is \$8. Watch for donation forms in Augustana’s bulletins and envelopes in Augustana’s pew pockets after Ash Wednesday, March 6. Gifts must reach Augustana’s office by Palm Sunday, April 14, to be included in the Easter Garden insert. Thank you!

Thrivent meeting to learn about Foster Source

The Sunday, February 10 meeting of Augustana’s Thrivent members will feature **Brian and Renee Bernhard** telling about Foster Source. All Augustana friends and members are welcome to attend. Foster Source is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that works with foster parents to help cultivate hope, healing, and happiness. These foster parents learn skills and resources to help children in foster care heal from trauma. Join us for this informative program and a light lunch (\$5) at 11:30 a.m. in the Anna Paulson room. Contact **Katherine Cruson** (303-696-7430) by Friday, February 8 for lunch reservations.

Thanks for Warren Village Thanksgiving Basket donations!

Thank you to all Augustana members who donated funds for the Warren Village Thanksgiving baskets. With your help and a donation from Thrivent Financial, we filled 103 baskets! Thanks also to the Augustana members who donated their time on November 18 to fill the baskets.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday								
				<table border="1"> <tr> <td>11:30am</td> <td>Lunch</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12:15pm</td> <td>Cherubs, Choristers, GraceNotes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1pm</td> <td>Recorders, Cantabile, SONshine Ringers</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1:45pm</td> <td>BELLievers</td> </tr> </table>	11:30am	Lunch	12:15pm	Cherubs, Choristers, GraceNotes	1pm	Recorders, Cantabile, SONshine Ringers	1:45pm	BELLievers	1 8am Bulletin Assembly	2
11:30am	Lunch													
12:15pm	Cherubs, Choristers, GraceNotes													
1pm	Recorders, Cantabile, SONshine Ringers													
1:45pm	BELLievers													
3 Epiphany 4 Souper Bowl of Caring Health Ministry Sunday 8am Worship/Communion 9am Empty Bowl Painting 9:15am Faith Formation 9:15am Discover Augustana 10:30am Worship/Communion Noon Prayer Shawl Ministry See JASS above	4 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers 10am Chapel Prayer 6:30 pm Augustana Early Learning Center Board 7:30pm Concert: Gustavus Adolphus Symphony Orchestra and Jazz Band	5 9am Library Committee 5:30pm Yoga 7pm Augustana Foundation Gift Committee	6 9am Augustana Early Learning Center Chapel 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers 6pm Augustana Ringers 7:30pm Chancel Choir	7 9:30am Thursday Morning Bible Study 9:30am Phoebe Circle 5:30pm Mindfulness Yoga	8 8am Bulletin Assembly 9:15am Silver Notes 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers	9 9am Retreat: Chancel Choir								
10 Epiphany 5 Annual Reports due! 8am Worship/Communion 9:15am Health Ministry 9:15am Discover Augustana 9:15am College Care Packages 10:30am Worship/Communion 11:30am Thrivent Noon Glocal Ministries 4pm Holding Your Family Together See JASS above	11 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers 10am Chapel Prayer	12 9:30am Deborah Circle 5:30pm Yoga 6:30pm Theater & Theology: <i>Anna Karenina</i> 7pm Augustana Foundation Board	13 9am AELC Chapel 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers 6pm Augustana Ringers 7:30pm Chancel Choir	14 Valentine's Day <i>The Tower</i> deadline 9:30am Thursday Morning Bible Study 10am Sarah Circle 5:30pm Mindfulness Yoga	15 8am Bulletin Assembly 9:15am Silver Notes 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers	16 8am 36th Annual SOCO Handbell Festival (Augustana Ringers) 8:45am ANSAR Pantry 7:30pm Augustana Arts: Stratus Chamber Orchestra Through the Lens of Music: Focus On Mind								
17 Epiphany 6 8am Worship/Communion 9:15am Faith Formation 9:15am Discover Augustana 10:30am Worship/Communion 4pm Holding Your Family Together 4pm Concert: Anima See JASS above	18 Presidents' Day 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers 10am Chapel Prayer 11:15am Book Group	19 5:30pm Yoga 7pm Congregation Council	20 9am AELC Chapel 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers 6pm Augustana Ringers 7:30pm Chancel Choir	21 9:30am Thursday Morning Bible Study 11:30am Monthly Luncheon 5:30pm Mindfulness Yoga	22 8am Bulletin Assembly 9:15am Silver Notes 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers	23 9am Choristers Guild Festival								
24 Epiphany 7 8am Worship/Communion 9:15am Cross+Gen Faith Formation 9:15am Discover Augustana 10:30am Worship/Communion 11:45am Congregational Meeting 4pm Holding Your Family Together See JASS above	25 7:30am Foot Care Clinic 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers 10am Chapel Prayer	26 Noon Senior Ministry Committee 1pm <i>The Tower</i> Assembly 5:30pm Yoga 6:30pm Rachel Circle	27 9am AELC Chapel 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers 5:40pm Confirmation Service Project with Warren Village 6pm Augustana Ringers 7:30pm Chancel Choir	28 9:30am Thursday Morning Bible Study 5:30pm Mindfulness Yoga 7pm Women, Wine, and Word										

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- 23** Laura Libby
Dianne Nelson
Erin Saboe
- 24** Kent Mueller
Meghan Murphy
- 25** Maia Kauffman
Kay Madsen
Sigurd Nelson
- 26** Joseph Alexis
Donald Orendorff
- 27** Candace Jones
- 28** Marcia Stevens
Donald Thomson
- 29** Ryan VanderWel

*If your name should
have been on this list
but wasn't, please call
Augustana's office (303-
388-4678).*