



Augustana Lutheran Church

Good Newscaster

May 2023

V Easter through Day of Pentecost

**Augustana
Lutheran Church**
*Serving Portland and
the World to the Glory
of God since 1906*

The mission of Augustana Lutheran Church is to witness to the Good News of God in Jesus Christ as a multicultural and multinational congregation of justice-seekers and peacemakers who welcome and affirm every person. Sanctuary Congregation since 1996

Worship in person or livestream at www.augustana.org

†10:00 am English

†11:30 am Spanish

“I do and I ask God to help and guide me.” These are the words that our 8 confirmation students will say on Sunday May, 21st. Those being confirmed are ***Nathan Lauruhn, Aranza Aguirre, Lukas McClelland, Annali Smith, Annik Running, Kate Stiefvater, Will Cedfeldt, and Emily Rauchholz.*** We give thanks for their parents and their teachers Rebecca Dodson and Michael Lauruhn who have worked so joyously with these students. What follows are the Words of Affirmation of Baptism they will respond to. This Easter Season these are words we all affirm in serving our Risen Lord.

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

- to live among God’s faithful people,
- to hear the word of God and share in the Lord’s supper,
- to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
- to serve all people, following the exam-

ple of Jesus,
And to strive for justice and peace in all the earth? We all say “We do, and we ask God to help and guide us”.

Let us pray. Stir up in the members and friends of Augustana the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.



Christ’s Peace,
Pastor Mark

Confirmation Sunday is upon us! As the confirmation class wraps up the bible year, we are looking forward to confirming new youth. Join us for worship and to hear the voices of Augustana’s youth on **Sunday May 21st at 10:00am**. A reception will follow immediately after the service in the Fellowship Hall. We look forward to seeing you there to support the voices of our congregation’s young leaders.

The Portland Interfaith Gospel Choir concert will be held Sunday, May 21st at 4:00pm at Augustana. All are welcome. This will also be the 25th year remembrance of the mass shooting at Thurston High School in Springfield, Oregon. Lift Every Voice Oregon will have a commemoration followed by this powerful and hope filled concert.

Sunday June 4 we will be celebrating the ministry of **Rebecca Dodson** these past 8 years as our Christian Education Coordinator. From 11:30-1:00pm we will have a luncheon to celebrate Rebecca's wonderful ministry. All are welcome to attend. **Courses coming soon!** First Communion, Acolyte Training, and New Members Classes will be coming soon! Contact the office staff to sign up. More information about specific dates/times to come.

Sunday School and Confirmation News

Preschool aged children continue to meet with Kathy Jones thru in-home visits. Kathy provides materials and guidance for the young ones. Elementary classes are comprised of a wonderful group of exuberant young people coming to class at 9AM each Sunday with rotating teacher-volunteers. These teachers are Amy and Edward Running, Drew and Arlet Gremel, and Peggy Thatcher-Aguilu and Steve Aguilu. The focus is to know and share God's love with others while learning about the Bible by exploring the stories and bringing it to life in current times. We start with a round table of sharing, and then read together the weekly lesson. We focus on active participation and creating some fun while learning.

First Communion classes (3) will be taking place this summer for children and their parents. Families who would like their children to celebrate their First Communion, need to contact the Augustana Office to get on the list so that summer timeframes can be coordinated. This is meant to be a fun "learning" faith-filled event for children and parents.

Several children will be receiving their age-appropriate Bibles – this is scheduled for Sunday, June 4th during Sunday School time. Peggy will remind families of this event.

June 4, will also be a very special day as the congregation will also celebrate the faith, love, attitude, and openness with which Rebecca

Dodson has coordinated the Children's Sunday School program all these years. A special lunch event will take place after church

service (11:15 – 1:00) on Sunday, June 4 in the fireplace room. More information to come.

With much gratitude and thanksgiving, we are blessed to have Kathy Jones working with the preschoolers. Arlet and Drew Gremel, along with Amy and Edward Running, are alternating with myself and husband Steve Aguilu, teaching and learning with the elementary school children on Sundays.

Elementary School Classes continue happen every Sunday, from 9:00 – 9:40 in the Education Room next to the library. There are no classes Memorial Day weekend (May 28). The last day of class is June 4. Have a wonderful spring/summer!

-With blessings, Peggy Thatcher Aguilu

The Confirmation class at Augustana is wrapping up the bible year and gearing up for Confirmation Sunday. Confirmation Sunday will be on May 21st this year. Join us at the 10:00am worship service, where the confirmands will be delivering the sermon. There will be a reception immediately following the service in the fellowship hall. We are greatly looking forward to the young people taking over the sermon!

-Mike Lauruhn

It takes many hands to keep our church running. Some are obvious. Others are quiet servants, behind the scenes. This month we recognize **Wayne Westfall** for his dedication to Augustana's grounds. Every week Wayne mows the church lawn and sweeps up. Thank you Wayne for your faithfulness!

Augustana High School Youth: Augustana Youth join youth from four other congregations monthly for group events and activities in the NE Youth Collective. The next meeting will be on May 21st at Central Lutheran Church. Join us!

- Marilyn Keller, Interim Youth Coordinator

Lift Every Voice Oregon: All are needed to encourage the passage of Senate Bill 348 to fully implement Measure 114 which was passed by Oregon voters last fall. Go to the LEVO website at lifteveryvoiceoregon.com for more details. The Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon Legislative Advocacy Day is Wednesday, May 10th beginning at 9:00am at St. Marks Lutheran Church in Salem. Register to join in this day of peaceful justice and advocacy at emoregon.org.

Augustana Care of Creation Updates

The Care of Creation Team organized an Adult Forum all about Electric Vehicles on April 16th. The topic was well researched and informatively presented by Kevin and Christine Smith. About thirty people showed up, and the discussion was so lively that on April 23rd we continued the presentation, which was also well attended.

Our team will meet virtually on May 11th to discuss projects to further green the church, as well as ways to educate and encourage members of the congregation to live more sustainably. We will consider topics for future Care of Creation Adult Forums this year, likely including one in late May.

We are currently working with the Property Committee on a project to replace our two old inefficient natural gas water heaters with high efficiency electric heat pump water heaters. These will be powered by the electricity from our solar array, thus reducing both our burning of fossil fuels and our gas bill.

Our polystyrene (Styrofoam) recycling program continues. You can leave your block (hard) polystyrene below the stairway to the church office. Please leave no packing "peanuts" and no soft foamy polystyrene because they cannot be recycled.

**In-Person and Livestream Worship each Sunday at www.augustana.org
10:00 a.m. English 11:30 a.m. Spanish**

Sunday, May 7

V Easter

Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

Sunday, May 14

VI Easter

Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

Thursday, May 18

Ascension of Our Lord

Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47; Eph 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53

Sunday, May 21 **II Easter**

Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

Confirmation

Sunday, May 28 **Day of Pentecost**

Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; 1 Cor 12:3b-13; John 20:19-23

Combined Service

Many thanks to our (rotating) musicians, worship leaders, and our Livestream Team Members including: Livestream/Tech Crew (rotating): Ben Joy, Dave Schmidt, Jenny Schmidt, Lane Johnson, Andy Fort, Mark Wells, Francisco Aguirre, Marilyn Keller, Glen Jacobs, Nate Fort, Peggy Thatcher-Aguilu, Calvin Stuczynski, Linnea Smith, Annali Smith, Ed Granshaw, Brandon Knutson (remote), Rev. Tom Campbell-Schmitt (remote), Tamrah Knutson (remote), Rick Gordon (advisor); David Schmidt (webpage); Mark Knutson (advisor)

➔➔ **The Synod Annual Assembly** will be held **May 20th, 2023 from 9:30am-4:30pm**. The meeting will be held virtually. We will embark on a journey of practicing Jesus' way of Spiritual Friendship together. Delegates from Augustana include Ansel Johnson, Francisco Aguirre, Andrea Robideau, Arlet Bode, Kay Lowe, Rachel Thompson, as well as Synod councilmember Marilyn Keller, and Rev. Dr. W.J. Mark Knutson.

Augustana's Choir rehearses on **Thursday evenings** in the Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. All voices are welcome to join us!
Why choirs sing? We sing in great thankfulness for blessings "Now Thank We All Our God." We sing of Christ through artful poetry "Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring." We sing our belief and confidence in the providence the God who is "I AM forever who I AM." We pray God's continual presence in our midst, "Stay with Us 'til night has come." Join us! -*Dr. Walter Krueger*

Property Updates: Ansel, Wayne and I are working on lawn care, leaf raking and various projects. We, with Robert have facilitated the replacement of several heating / cooling systems to make us as a church even greener, with help from the Energy Trust of Oregon. - *Glen Jacobs*

MINISTRY & FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Women's Bible Study and Prayer meets every Monday at 9:30am via Zoom. The study leaders are amazing Bible scholars and the group is warm and welcoming. All women are invited.
Men's Theology will now be meeting at the church at 7pm on Wednesdays. Discussion is thoughtful and relaxed. Come check it out!

The **Property Committee** needs periodic help with inside and outside maintenance. Watch for announcements. They appreciate any amount of help. Pre work party breakfasts are delicious and fun. All are welcome!

We are looking for volunteers to **help prep for communion**. The commitment is about once a month or once every two

months. Prep takes about 15-20 minutes before a service. If you are interested contact Jenny j.pl.schmidt@comcast.net.

Tech Team: We are always looking for help with cameras and sound for Sunday services. How often do you get to learn a cool new skill and work fancy equipment? Our livestream is such a vital ministry. Commitment is about one Sunday a month, and you choose the Sunday.

Moses Movers: During the first quarter of 2023, a move was made on March 2nd. Moses Movers— Ken, Glen, Ansel, Greg, and Lane— moved Maria Grumm to a senior retirement facility in the Portland area. We are gradually becoming more involved with the NEFP ministry—North East Food Pantry— at Luther memorial church. There are now approximately ten Moses Movers that are volunteering each month on specific days for specific Food Pantry jobs. We continue to evolve and grow in our Moses Movers ministry.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS: ALL Augustana Members and friends are welcome to help out in the NEFP Food Bank Ministry at Luther Memorial. NEFP is open to volunteers Tuesday thru Saturday, with food distribution Thursday and Saturday. Volunteering for a specific job (of which there are many) for one to two hours once or twice a month on a specific day is what Jon Makler, the manager, is seeking. Please contact Jon (503-928-4536 & jmakler@emoregon.org) on specific jobs. Jon is easy to interact with. He's very knowledgeable and helpful, along with being an excellent and patient trainer. Give NEFP a try! *Many thanks to Dale Walker, Greg Halverson, and Wayne Forsgren.*

Book Group: Meets every 3rd Tuesday at 7pm via Zoom.

Tai Chi, weekly via Zoom Tues, Thurs, Sat at 10am

Augustana Center for Systemic Change: Familias en Accion continues their amazing work, including food distribution from Augustana's parking lot each week; **Jobs with Justice** and **VIVA Inclusive Migrant Network** are housed at Augustana, along with Lift Every Voice Oregon and the Irvington Preschool.

Legislative Advocacy: Teams from Augustana continue to advocate around specific justice issues from Health Care for All to Gun Safety, Police Reform, Homelessness, Fair Wages and other key topics. Email the church if you would like to assist.

We pray for ...	The Cedfeldt Family	Thea Kindschuh	Bob Boyce	ian cancer
Rose Christophersen	Eugene Mummy	Reese Family	Rebecca Dodson	Stacey Wilson
Jamie Heberle & Family	Irina Manata	Kindschuh Family	Azzree Lathan	Norene Goplen
Paul & Andrea Cedfeldt	Gary Manata	Paul Fox	Rev. Anthony Lathan	
	Anna Gospodareva	Roseta Akin	Pat Lynch (partner	
	Nikolas Tucker, safe travels	Colleen Benson	Linda), brain cancer	
		Beth Boyce	Karen Micklish, ovar-	

Happy Birthday to our members celebrating birthdays in May!	Finn O.	05/08	Ella W.	05/16	Nina D.	05/24
	Eleanor T.	05/10	Kerstin C.	05/18	Nathan S.	05/24
	Kim G.	05/11	Elizabeth H.	05/18	Fred T.	05/24
	Karen H.	05/11	Robert H.	05/18	William J.	05/25
Ricky F.	Candy C.	05/12	Nathan T.	05/18	Maxwell A.	05/26
Sofia N.	Mollie C.	05/13	Rebecca D.	05/19	Shannon B.	05/26
Pat L.	Orion W.	05/13	Matthew L.	05/19	Tacori S.	05/26
Jennifer S.	Lexi Y.	05/13	Tanner A.H.	05/20	R.J. T.	05/27
Mark F.	Janel C.	05/14	Kathy A.K	05/21	Asomjwee A.	05/29
Lukas G.	Siena O.	05/14	Soren H.	05/21	Jeremy B.	05/30
Arlene W.	Emma G.J.	05/16	Clark L.	05/21	Michael B.	05/30
Lily N.	Tomas P.	05/16	Timothy N.	05/21	Phillip B.	05/30
Tele M.	Emily R.	05/16	Scott S.	05/21	William H.	05/30
Maggie W.	Anna S.	05/16	Tristin C.	05/22	Sherry L.	05/30
Jim W.	Mitchell T.	05/16	Jaycen M.	05/23	Genevieve M.	05/30

Augustana as a place of Sanctuary: There is more information available about the cutting-edge work of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service on

immigration reform by going to www.elca.org. The Lutheran community has been a major mover on immigration for decades. If you would like to assist, call or email the church office. **Augustana is a**

Sanctuary Congregation that recognizes we are on holy ground in the heart of the city. A place for all people. For more information on the New Sanctuary Movement, see the Augustana website.

The Augustana Non-Profit Collaborative includes Irvington Cooperative Preschool; Familias en Accion; Jobs with Justice; VIVA Inclusive Migrant Network; Open Circle Ministries; the Augustana New Sanctuary Institute

Augustana Lutheran Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Mark Knutson
Admin. Assts: Arlet Gremel, Kay Lowe, Rachel Thompson
Gifts for Ministry: Jenny Schmidt
Education Coord: Peggy Thatcher-Aguilu
Interim Youth Coord: Marilyn Keller

2023 Augustana Church Council

Ramona Nieman, <i>Co-President</i>	Sil Davis	Robert Morse
Susan Nieman, <i>Co-President</i>	Jeff Conner	Mark Hoffman
Lisa Wenzlick, <i>Vice President</i>	Rev. Anthony Lathan	Laurie Richardson
Lisa Joy Switalla, <i>Secretary</i>	Barbara Passolt-Pienero	Peggy Thatcher-Aguilu
Ken Petersen, <i>Treasurer</i>	Gay Mitchell	Diane Davis
Pastor Mark Knutson	Elizabeth Morse	

2023 Foundation Board

Edward Running, <i>President</i>	Nicole King
Ansel Johnson, <i>Treasurer</i>	Susan Nieman
Christine Grumm	Ramona Nieman
Allen Brown, Jr.	Pastor Mark Knutson

Pastoral Associates

Rev. David Brownmiller	Rev. Anthony Lathan
Rev. Tom Campbell-Schmitt	Rev. Don Voeks
Rev. Patty Campbell-Schmitt	Rev. Sandy Walker
Rev. Gavin Dluhosh	Deaconess Julia Brown
Rev. Jake Jacobson	

Musicians

Contemporary Music Coordinators: Maile Grumm, Jenny Schmidt, Joe Paterno, Andy Fort
Contemporary Band: Barbara Passolt-Pinihero, Mark Foat, Andrew Fort, Mark Wells, Jenny Schmidt, Maile Grumm, Joe Paterno, Janey Paterno, Mark Mummy, Keri Haslebacher, Kaitlyn Haslebacher, Nate Fort

Organist, Classical Choir Director:

Dr. Walter Krueger
Pianist, Contemporary Choir Director: Andrew Fort
Jazz Service: Marilyn Keller, George Mitchell, Ron Steen, Kevin Deitz
Spanish service: Francisco Aguirre, Carlos Guevara, Elvio Gonzalez, Jackeline Luna, Dora Reyna, Aranza and Miranda Aguirre
Open Circle: Andrea Robideau