



## Augustana Evangelical Lutheran Church

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER June and July 2023

The Rev. Frederick W. Kopp, Pastor

The Rev. Phillip Vender, Pastor Emeritus

### *Pastor's Ponderings*

Go into the world with no debt but love,  
for love will not harm, will do no wrong to your neighbour.

Go into the world with no law but love,  
and you will keep God's commandments of love and honour.

Go into the world with no prayer but love,  
and God will be with you, Christ will be in you, Spirit will be around you.

Amen.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Fred he/him/his

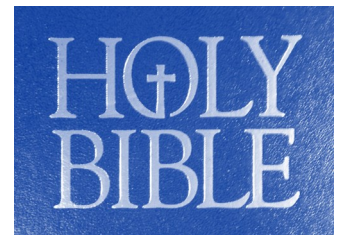
*(Source Sarah Agnew, Pray the Story Copyright 2022 Sarah Agnew)*

### Bible Study 1st Corinthians

Pastor Fred's next Bible Study is on 1st Corinthians.  
It starts Friday June 9 and continues through June 30,  
From 10—11:30. The group meets in Luther Hall in the  
lower level of Augustana, and you can also participate on  
Zoom. Each session stands on its own; no prep required.

Come and share, learn, and grow. Contact Pastor Fred to be  
added to his Zoom invite list: [augustchurchpastor@yahoo.com](mailto:augustchurchpastor@yahoo.com).

See you there!



## OUTREACH by Paula Kerr

### COMMUNITY OF GOOD NEIGHBORS

Thank you to everyone who donated food and reusable shopping bags last month. Our collection of non-perishable food items continues. Below are the items that are especially needed.

**Bath soap**

**Dish soap**

**Canned fruit**

**Cereal (not real sugary varieties)**

**As always, whenever you can, please continue to donate canned goods, including Tuna, Peanut butter & Jelly, Pasta & Sauces, Mac & Cheese.**

**(No coffee, paper products, or personal hygiene products)**

**Thanks to all for your ongoing generosity!!**

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### CHARITY HOCKEY EVENT

You are invited to support Tom, Charlie, and Gary Kerr as they participate in a hockey fundraiser that supports Roswell, Camp Good Days, and Make a Wish. For more info check the website: [11daypowerplay.com](http://11daypowerplay.com) or ask Tom, Charlie or Gary Kerr if you have questions. The team name is 'Sunday Night Pickup' and they are playing on June 25 at midnight.

A new way to support this fundraiser is to go to TOL's BBQ on June 16. They are generously donating 25% of the proceeds from this dinner to the hockey fundraiser. Thank you TOL!

See page 7 (TOL page) in this newsletter for more details about the BBQ.

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### AUGUSTANA'S ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: SUNDAY, JUNE 11

Augustana's annual Congregational meeting will take place Sunday, June 11 immediately after the worship service, in the church. All members are encouraged to participate so that we can have a quorum. Please plan to attend! You are eligible to vote in the church and on Zoom.

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### MEETINGS ON SEXUALITY AND GENDER

All are invited to participate in meetings exploring how to welcome people across the spectrum of sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. The next meeting is **Tuesday, June 20th at 7:00 pm at Augustana**. We are using Reconciling in Christ guidance for our meetings. "Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Matthew 25: 40. Ask Nate Lockhart (585-732-4008 / [Nathaniel.Lockhart@gmail.com](mailto:Nathaniel.Lockhart@gmail.com)) or Pastor if you have questions.



By Johanna Andritz

We're continuing our journey with the refugees and immigrants of Western New York. On May 25<sup>th</sup> the RIDE program journeyed to Journey's End Refugee Services. We met about fifteen participants in our "first" (since Covid) classes to help students pass their learner permit test.

Some of the students just arrived in WNY a month ago and others have been here for several years. There are participants from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Myanmar, Iraq, Honduras, and several other countries. They are all so very excited about and thankful for these classes, taught by Beth Kerr.

Classes will continue for about four weeks and appointments for their learner permit test will follow.

Many thanks to Nazar Jabar (RIDE's first student) and Rashid Bakri (also a former student) for being there to help welcome this new class of refugees. Thank you to Paula Kerr for delicious cookies for break time. Thank you to Pastor Fred and Nora Pomplun for **all** their help. And many thanks to Beth Kerr for teaching these important classes. It was a moving experience.

We continue to need your help with snacks for classes, accompanying participants to the DMV to take their permit test, helping us work toward expanding our program... Thank you.

The RIDE program was also a part of a Lutheran Charities gathering for all grant winners. Each representative shared something about the wonderful programs this grant money assists: Jericho Road, the Community of Good Neighbors, Lord of Life Lutheran Church senior and other services, an Arts program, Wheels for Workers (bicycles), WNY Unleashed, Friends of Western New York and RIDE.

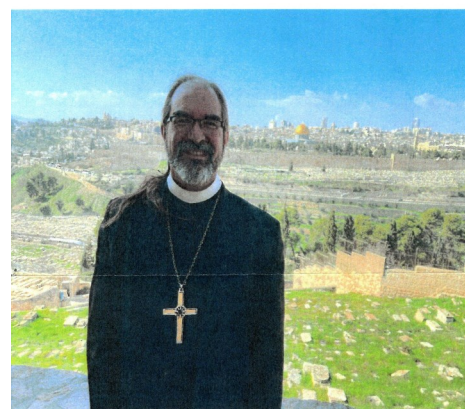
*"Serve one another humbly in faith." Galatians 5:13*

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## BISHOP LEE MILLER II HOLY LAND PRESENTATION

Join members and friends of the Niagara Frontier Conference for a presentation by Bishop Lee Miller II who will be sharing some of his experiences of his recent trip to the Holy Land on Saturday, June 24, 2023 at 10:00 am. (9:30 am refreshments) Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 1080 Main St., Buffalo, NY

Reservations are not required, but would be helpful in preparing for the event. Please call the Church Office at 716-886-2400 or [info@holytrinitybuffalo.org](mailto:info@holytrinitybuffalo.org)



## Fellowship Room Redecorating

The Property Committee has decided that it is time to redecorate the Fellowship Room. Paulette Hotchkiss is the chairman of the committee and looking for volunteers. This will not start until September, 2023. But in the meantime, if you or if know of anyone that has new or like new furniture, they no longer need please let Paulette know. If you would like to volunteer call the church office and Paulette will get back to you. Thank you!

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## AUGUSTANA BISONS NIGHT JULY 28



Several Augustana members had a conflict on the night that Lutheran Charities hosted Lutheran Night at the Bisons, so **Augustana is having a separate night at the Bisons on Friday, July 28.**

For Augustana's night at the Bisons, there is a sign up sheet in the Narthex. Our Men's Club will pay part of the ticket price. Sign up by July 9, and then Tom will tell you the ticket price and you can pay him. Tickets will cost about \$12.00. The game will be followed by fireworks!

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## LUTHERAN CHARITIES 25th ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT JULY 21

Last year's tournament was won by a team that included Augustana's Tom Bartkowski. Who will win this year? We are sharing this message from Lutheran Charities:

Join Lutheran Charities in supporting our WNY community by participating in the 25th Annual Golf Classic, Friday, July 21. This year is very special as it is our Silver Anniversary AND we are returning to Chestnut Hill Country Club! All registrants will enjoy 18 holes, a golf cart, lunch, dinner and an hour of open bar! Also, try your luck at various contests, raffles and 50/50's.

Participate in the Yankees Ticket Raffle and you could see the game from the Legends box at Yankee stadium!!! (Tickets sold separately from golf and can be purchased online or using the printable order form on the Lutheran Charities website.)

Register online or contact Lutheran Charities at: [wnylutherancharities.org](http://wnylutherancharities.org).

Email: [info@wnylutherancharities.org](mailto:info@wnylutherancharities.org) Phone: (716) 632-2623

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Additional information and forms are on the bulletin board outside the church office. We would be glad to make you a copy of any of the information on the bulletin board.

Thank you to Barb Chittenden for making gift baskets every year that are raffled off at the golf tournament.

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## CHOIR MUSIC GIVE-AWAY DAY SATURDAY, JUNE 10

On Saturday, June 10 from 10 am—Noon, we invite everyone who is interested in playing / singing music to come to Augustana and take home music. Then, from 12:30—2:30, we invite everyone who would like to use the music for crafts. Please share this information! Ask Donna if you have questions.

## **Fundraiser for Arlen, a young member of Good Shepherd**

Pastor Miranda Hammer of Good Shepherd emailed us this message and asked for our support in the form of volunteers, gift baskets, and attendance at this event. Pastor Fred knows this child and her family from the Lenten dinners and worship services.

**Arlen is a member at Good Shepherd and a shining light in our community. She will be going to NYC soon for a bone marrow transplant where she and her mom will spend the next 4 months.**

**Her dad and other 2 siblings will be home trying to find normalcy in the midst of this- when Arlen comes home she will need to quarantine at home for a year. Funds raised will go to medical and travel expenses, as well as other needs that arise for the family.**

**Arlen loves gymnastics, cheer, Sunday School, and brings joy to all who know her. You will also find a link to the go fund me page on the flyer. Thank you!**



## **Spaghetti dinner fundraiser to support Arlen Jenkins**

**Sunday July 9th 4-7pm**

**\$15 Adults**

**\$10 Kids 12 and under**

**Basket Raffle**

**and more!**

**Good Shepherd Lutheran**

**2669 Sheridan Drive**

**for more information call**

**(716)832-5390**

**or donate directly here:**

**<https://gofund.me/2baf0ae7>**



## KIDS and FLOWERS by Donna Bartkowski

On Mothers's Day and the following Sunday, we had a total of 6 young people planting annuals in pots that are now placed near the lilacs and next to the bench. They also each chose a flower for their moms. Thank you to the kids! We will enjoy the plants all summer.



## AUGUSTANA GARDEN NEWS

by Donna Bartkowski

The shrubs and flowers are off to a good start, and we have two new garden team members, Sally and Judy. They have a lot of valuable garden knowledge and I look forward to their input and help. Ask for a garden tour!



## CHRISTIAN CANCER SUPPORT: HOPE AND HEALING by Linda Sokoley



For anyone affected by a cancer diagnosis, I can give support through phone calls, emails, texts, or 1:1 In-person conversations and prayers. If you or someone you know is in need of support, or if you have questions, please contact me through the church office: (716) 832-5720 / [augustchurch@yahoo.com](mailto:augustchurch@yahoo.com).

## SOCIABLES

Augustana members and friends recently went to see Guys and Dolls, followed by dinner at the Grapevine. They all had a great time. Stay tuned for information on the next fun trip!



## ***HAPPENING AT TRINITY OLD LUTHERAN (TOL)***

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### **BW's Chicken BBQ Fundraiser**

We are having a fundraising dinner on **Friday, June 16 from 3 - 6 pm**. The cost is **\$15 which includes chicken, 2 salads, roll and butter**. This event will be drive through only. **25% of the proceeds from this BBQ will be given to the Kerr Team's hockey fundraiser for Roswell, Camp Good Days, and Make a Wish**. Please spread the word to your friends and neighbors!

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### **Lutheran World Relief Quilters Group**

Our quilters have again started gathering on Thursday mornings at 9 am to work on assembling quilts. If anyone is interested in being a part of this, please see Barb Maugans, stop in any Thursday morning, or call the church office and leave a message for Barb. No previous skill level is required!

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### **Table Talk**

The last session of this series is on June 14. Our focus is on Oprah Winfrey's "Belief" video series. We meet from 6:30 - 8 pm, in TOL or on Zoom. Please contact TOL's church office for the link.

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### **Fall Retreat: What's Next: Here and Now / There and Then**

So what does the next ten years bring? What happens when we die?

We'll take the time and find the space to explore what's next in our lives.

Adult Retreat—September 29, 30 and October 1      Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center

Retreat Coordinator: Charlie Schmidtke

Gathering begins at 6:00 pm on Friday 9/29, and concludes on Sunday 10/1 at noon.

For details and registration information, take home the flyer posted on Augustana's bulletin board in the hallway outside the office. Registration deadline is 9/17.

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### **Looking Ahead: Adult Education Fall 2023 through Spring 2024**

Biblical events – examining context and discussing what they mean. Classes are at TOL and on Zoom.

Sept. 11 – Creation according to the Book of Jubilees

Sept. 25 – The Flood

Oct. 9 – Sodom and Gomorrah

Oct. 23 – Abraham's Sacrifice

Nov. 6 – Exodus - Deliverance

Nov. 20 – Exodus – Mount Sinai

Dec. 4 – Deborah's victory

Jan. 22 – Elijah and the Prophets

Feb. 5 – Babylonian Captivity

Feb. 19 – Last Supper

March 4 – Between Easter and Pentecost

March 18 - Pentecost

Apr. 8 – The Great Compromise

Apr. 22 – Gamaliel's intervention

May 6 – Destruction of the Second Temple

**(716) 836-4868 / trinityoldlutheranchurch@gmail.com / 3445 Sheridan Drive, Amherst, 14226**

**Weekly Sunday worship is at 11:00.**

**Contact TOL for a Zoom invite for Sunday worship.**

## Upcoming Dates to Remember at Augustana

|                            |                                                                         |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>June 9 (Friday):</b>    | 1st Corinthians Bible Study, Augustana and Zoom                         |
| <b>June 10 (Saturday):</b> | Choir Music Give-Away 10-12 Musicians & Singers, 12:30—2:30 to crafters |
| <b>June 11 (Sunday):</b>   | Annual Congregational meeting after the service                         |
| <b>June 15 (Thursday):</b> | Monthly Council Meeting                                                 |
| <b>June 16 (Friday):</b>   | 1st Corinthians Bible Study, Augustana and Zoom                         |
| <b>June 23 (Friday):</b>   | 1st Corinthians Bible Study, Augustana and Zoom                         |
| <b>June 30 (Friday):</b>   | 1st Corinthians Bible Study, Augustana and Zoom                         |
| <b>July 23 (Sunday):</b>   | Worship at Augustana with Bishop Lee Miller II and TOL congregation     |
| <b>July 28 (Friday):</b>   | Augustana Night at the Bisons                                           |

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## Summer Offering and Donations

The Finance Committee would like to Thank You for your generous giving and support. We know that summer is upon us and vacations and parties have started, and you may not be able to attend Sunday Worship. We would like to ask that you please keep up your giving during this time. In addition to giving your offering at church, you can US mail it to church, or give online through Tithe.ly. (For info on Tithe.ly, see our website: [augustanaonline.org](http://augustanaonline.org).)

Thank you! Your Finance Committee

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## WNY Church Unleashed

If you are unable to join us for in-person or Zoom worship on Sundays, you can watch Lutheran worship on Cable TV channel 5, MeTV, Sundays at 10:00 am. "Church Unleashed" is led by Lutheran Pastors Beigner, Griffiths and Smith. For previous weeks, go to YouTube and search for "WNY Church Unleashed."

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## Covid Health and Safety

If you start to feel sick or test positive for Covid after you have been in church, please contact Beth Kerr (553-0385), trained contact tracer.

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**Happy Times magazine for kids, June—July**  
**and Christ In Our Homes daily devotionals for adults, April—June and July—Sept.**  
are available in the church entry hall, or contact the church office  
and we will gladly mail one to you.

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**Augustana Lutheran Church 3143 Eggert Road Tonawanda, NY 14150**

**Sunday Worship at 9:30 in the church and on Zoom. Contact the church office for a Zoom invite.**

Church Office: (716) 832-5720 / [augustchurch@yahoo.com](mailto:augustchurch@yahoo.com)

**Pastor Fred Kopp:** (716) 984-8541 / [augustchurchpastor@yahoo.com](mailto:augustchurchpastor@yahoo.com)

[www.augustanaonline.org](http://www.augustanaonline.org)

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