



## Augustana Evangelical Lutheran Church

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER March 2022

The Rev. Frederick W. Kopp, Pastor

The Rev. Phillip Vender, Pastor Emeritus

*Sharing the love of Jesus in our changing world.*

## Pastor's Ponderings

**“O most blessed and gracious God, who alone can heal a wounded spirit and quiet a troubled mind: to you do I cry for help. O Great Physician of body and soul, uphold and comfort my weak and dejected spirit. Since you alone can relieve me, to you do I call for relief. O hear my most earnest supplication, and make me possess an easy, quiet, and cheerful spirit, for my trust is in you.” - John Wesley**

Sometimes we need a springboard to get us into the deep waters. Prayers like this help us to dive into our faith and go further and deeper into the questions, hurts, and doubts we struggle with. When we just wade into our faith or float on the surface, we may avoid or not be able to address the issues that we carry with us. God is deeper than we give God credit for. When we acknowledge our place in God's kingdom, and place our troubles with God, there can be healing and help in times of need.

Stress, anger, feeling lost and other strong emotions have been part of these past years, entering Lent we look for relief and a way forward. Building relationship with our Savior helps us do just that. This relationship starts with our confidence in Jesus' presence in our lives and this relationship is built through prayer, worship, study, and time.

I pray that your connection with God grows this Lenten season.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Fred Kopp

# Lenten Journey Bible Study



Led by Pastor Fred Kopp  
at Augustana Lutheran Church  
Feb. 18 - April 8 10:00 - 11:30  
in the church hall and on Zoom.

Contact Pastor Fred for a Zoom invitation:  
augustchurchpastor@yahoo.com  
or call the church for more info: 832-5720.

You invited to participate in any sessions that match your  
calendar. The hall is accessible by elevator.



## Flowers for the Altar on Easter

If you would like to order flowers for  
the altar on Easter, please use the  
order sheet on the last page of this  
newsletter. Additional copies are  
available in the church entry hall.

## Lenten Outreach: Diaper Collection

By Paula Kerr

This year during Lent, the entire Upstate NY  
Synod is collecting disposable diapers (all sizes),  
pull ups sizes 2T—5T, wipes, and diaper cream.  
This information was shared with us by Pastor  
Jeremiah Smith of Parkside Lutheran, Dean of the  
Niagara Frontier Conference of the ELCA.

Pastor Smith wrote that one in three families in  
the US face stress from the cost of diapers, which  
cannot be purchased with food stamps in NYS.  
He refers us to Buffalo's Diaper Bank for more  
information:

<https://www.everybottomcovered.org/> .

You can place your donations in the bin  
in Augustana's narthex. Thank you!



WE WILL BE  
COLLECTING  
MARCH 6TH  
TO  
APRIL 10TH

ITEMS NEEDED:  
DISPOSABLE DIAPERS  
(ANY SIZE)  
PULL-UPS SIZES  
2T-5T  
WIPES  
DIAPER CREAM

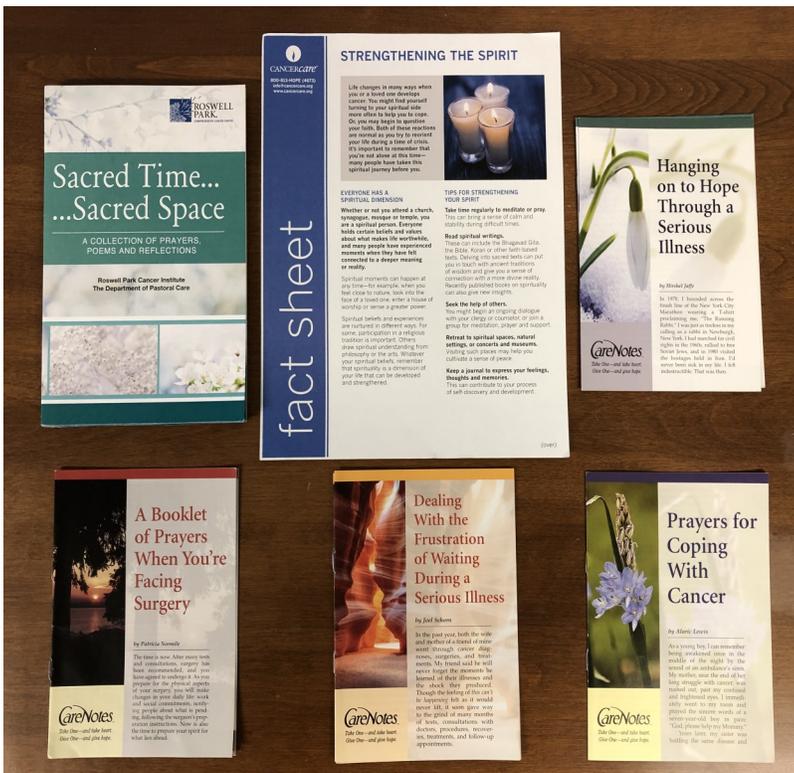


# HOPE AND HEALING: A CHRISTIAN CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Linda Sokoley, a recent cancer survivor, hosts Hope and Healing, a Christian cancer support group at Augustana and via zoom on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month from 3:00-4:00. The next meeting is March 22.

The group is open to members of Augustana and TOL and their friends and family who have cancer, or who have gone through a cancer journey. Each session includes a Bible reading, prayer and sharing one's journey if comfortable sharing or just listening and finding hope in other's stories.

Linda received a Thrivent grant for the group and purchased books which are available for you to borrow.



Her goal is to bring people together in Christ, with fellowship for comfort and the possibility of peace and new friendships. She writes that 'everything that happens to us has meaning. Every moment of life has purpose, and God doesn't step away from us for a single second of the journey.' Linda also has books and leaflets available to borrow.

For more information, contact the church office and Linda will respond to you as soon as possible:

(716) 832-5720 /

augustchurch@yahoo.com.

## Lenten Worship Schedule 2022

Lenten season theme: God's Mercy

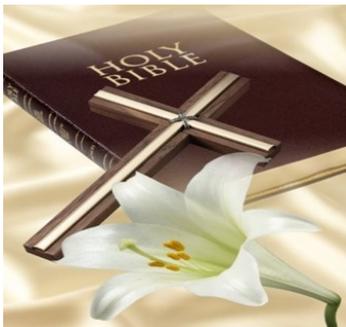
<b>Ash Wednesday March 2</b>	11 am	Augustana and St. Martin
	12 pm Ashes to Go	Good Shepherd
	7 pm	Trinity Old Lutheran (TOL)
<b>Mid-Week Services</b>		
March 9	7 pm	Good Shepherd
March 16	7 pm	TOL
March 23	7 pm	St. Martin
March 30	7 pm	Good Shepherd
April 6	7 pm	TOL
<b>Good Friday, April 15</b>	11 am	Augustana
	7 pm	TOL
	Additional services at Good Shepherd and St. Martin	

**Augustana** 3143 Eggert Road, Tonawanda 14150 / (716) 832-5720 / augustchurch@yahoo.com

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

**St. Martin** 322 Old Falls Blvd., North Tonawanda 14120 / (716) 693-4415 / stmartin@wny.twcbc.com

**Good Shepherd** 2669 Sheridan Drive, Tonawanda 14150 / (716) 832-5390 / office.gslc.tona@gmail.com



**Worship Service**  
**9:30 am**  
In the church and  
on Zoom



**Easter Egg Hunt**  
**10:30 am**  
Rain or shine  
(indoors if raining)



**Breakfast 10:30 am**  
Scrambled eggs,  
pancakes, sausage,  
fresh fruit, tea, coffee,  
juice. Cost is by  
donation that day.  
Take-out is available  
(still need to sign up).

**All are invited!**

Sign up in church entry hall or contact the church office  
by April 10 (832-5720 / augustchurch@yahoo.com .

Everything is family-friendly and wheelchair accessible.

Masks are encouraged when people are not seated at a table.

## Refugee and Immigrant Driving Ministry

### IN MEMORY OF PAUL KENNEDY

We wish to honor the memory of Paul Kennedy, who died on Jan. 23. Paul's contributions to Augustana and to the Buffalo area refugee and immigrant community are difficult to measure and difficult to describe.

The Driving program brochure states that the Driving Program has helped more than 100 people from 30 different countries earn their driver's licenses. However, the influence of Paul's generous spirit went beyond numbers and entered the hearts of all who were fortunate enough to know him.

Paul presented information about the Refugee and Immigrant Driving Program at the Synod convention in 2018. Reading some of the participants' feedback gives you a sense of the impact the Driving Program had on our newest neighbors:

*I don't know what I would have done without all my friend at Augustana. I am happy to meet such wonderful people.*

**Getting a driver license has help me getting to work. It will also help all the family members when they need to go work and also shopping.**

*Being Muslim, it was an unusual idea to me to find a group of Christians who would be willing to teach me how to drive.*

Every day you show what Christian love is really about.

*Service to others is life-affirming.*

*We engage in service as an expression of gratitude to a gracious God.*

# BUILDING BRIDGES

By Marcia Brown, Mission Interpreter for the Upstate New York Synod

Meet Murad, a Muslim, and Marwan, a Christian, two classmates at a school run by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL). Despite their religious and cultural differences, they are learning about respect and love. They and the other students have come to know things they couldn't have imagined about each other. They are surprised to find similar values and ethical matters in both the Quran and Bible. They are taught by both Christian priests and Muslim sheiks who highlight each religions' unique aspects and their similarities.

This program started a decade ago and is hoping to expand to allow for a wider staff of theologians and scholars, and to provide trips to religious holy sites. The benefits to the students are tremendous, and the knowledge gained spreads to the community as well. Through your gifts to the ELCA, you are walking alongside the ELCJHL as it preserves and strengthens the Christian presence in the Holy Land and offers a voice of compassion in a volatile environment. "By equipping the students with tools for tolerance, understanding and bridge-building, we seek to avoid ignorance that only furthers conflict. **Thank you!**

We are church together for the sake of the world. God's Work. Our Hands.

## ***What's Happening at Trinity Old Lutheran (TOL)***

### **Adult Ed Classes – 2022**

Learning about world religions with Charlie Schmidtke.

Classes are held **Mondays at 1 pm**, in the Fireside Lounge and on Zoom.

Islam: March 14, 21

Native American: March 28 and April 11.

African Tribal: April 25.

Aboriginal: May 9.

Conclusion: 5/23

### **Table Talk Discussion Group:**

Table Talk is held on the second Wednesday evening of each month at 6:30 pm, both in TOL and on Zoom. Pastor Fred and Charlie Schmidtke co-host the sessions.

Hope you can join the group!

March 9: Respecting family

April 13: Holy week: What does the Last Supper and Resurrection mean to you?

May 11: Why do bad things happen to good people?

**3445 Sheridan Drive, Amherst, 14226**

**Office: (716) 836-4868 / trinityoldlutheranchurch@gmail.com**

**Worship is at 11:00 on Sundays, in the church and on Zoom.**

**Contact either the Augustana office or the TOL office to obtain a Zoom worship invitation.**

## March Dates to Remember at Augustana



See page 4 for Mid-Week Lenten service schedule.

March 17 (Thursday): Council Meeting, Zoom, @7 pm.

March 22 (Tuesday): Christian Cancer Support Group, 3 – 4 pm, in Augustana and on Zoom.

---

## Winter Outerwear Collection

By Paulette Hotchkiss

WELCA would like to thank everyone for their generous donations to the Winter Clothing Collection we did in December 2021. We collected many coats, scarfs, hats, gloves and blankets, along with monetary donations totaling \$150.00. Your donations were donated to Hearts for the Homeless. They greatly appreciated all of our donations. They do amazing work for those in need.

---

## Worship on Cable TV

Lutheran worship is available on Cable TV Channel 5, MeTV, Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Pastors Beigner, Carroll, and Smith lead this worship. You can find previous services at <https://stpaulseggertsville.com/> or on YouTube (search for WNY Church Unleashed.)

---

## Covid Health and Safety by Paulette Hotchkiss

Although NYS no longer has a mask mandate, Augustana's COVID Health and Safety Committee recommends that the congregation continue to wear masks for the maximum health of everyone in attendance. The mask must cover your mouth and nose. If you start to feel sick or test positive for Covid after you have been in church, contact Beth Kerr (716-553-0385). Beth has been trained as a contract tracer for her job, and can help communicate to anyone that has been a close contact while at church.

---

Thank you for your offerings and donations.

You can give your offering at church, US mail it to church, or give online through [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly).  
(For information on [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly), see our website: [augustanaonline.org](https://augustanaonline.org).)

---

## Augustana Lutheran Church

3143 Eggert Road Tonawanda, NY 14150

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](https://www.augustanaonline.org)

Facebook @augustanatonawanda Instagram @augustanalutheranchurchtonny

# EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

**\*\* Deadline for Ordering and Payment is March 20th \*\***

Completed order form & check payable to Augustana Lutheran Church can be mailed to Augustana Lutheran Church, 3143 Eggert Rd, Ton. NY 14150 **OR** You can place cash or check & the order form in the designated place in the narthex **OR** you can pay online using Tithe.ly . Contact Nora if you have questions: (716) 430-7422.

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EASTER LILIES 6" \$9.00 each** **Quantity** \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

**MUMS 6 ½" \$9.00 each**

**Quantity of pink** \_\_\_\_\_ **Quantity of purple** \_\_\_\_\_ **Quantity of yellow** \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

**HYACINTHS 6" \$7.00 each**

**Quantity of pink** \_\_\_\_\_ **Quantity of blue** \_\_\_\_\_ **Quantity of white** \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

**DAFFODILS 6" \$7.00 each** **Quantity** \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Payment Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_