



Augustana News

May 2025

Dear Friends in Christ,

“How good, Lord, to be here!” “What a Fellowship! What a Joy Divine!” “Blessing and Honor!” “Praise and Thanksgiving!” “In peace and joy I now depart!” “God be with you till we meet again!”

The above are all hymn titles; but they are more than that for me. They express what it has been like for me to have served along side of you as your Interim Minister over these last years. It has been truly good for me to have been here serving the Lord beside you at both Augustana and Grace. You are culturally very different congregations in some ways with varied experiences and amazing histories. You have taught me so much. No matter the similarities or differences one thing remained constant: the mission and ministry of Jesus was always at the center of who you are and what you did; and it was and continues to be the Lord of your life who has been the focus for shared ministry.

“How good, Lord, to be here” where you welcomed me so warmly as if I really were part of your family. Your generosity often overwhelmed me, and your welcome shown to others, including neighbors and often strangers, was a gift beyond words. How good it has been to be with you at worship, especially at the Lord’s table but also to share around tables for food, fellowship, and fun. How good to study scripture together as well as discuss numerous books throughout the years...some which made perfect sense, some which made us question and even disagree, and others whose words remain in my heart even now. How good to be here to celebrate with both congregations the 150-year anniversary of your spiritually serving the people of the greater Elkhart area. These celebrations were a “thanks be to God” for the many people down through the ages who were faithful to God’s call to be the Body of Christ in these places. I was indeed fortunate to have known many of those dear saints, some who have gone before us and others of those saints who still labor today as God’s faithful followers.

How good to be able to receive new members as well as baptize and confirm those beginning their faith journey. “What a fellowship! What a joy Divine.” Actually, it is a total miracle that I am not 300 pounds after attending and enjoying Breakfast Club, Ladies Lunch, Bread making, Lunch Bunch, Game Night, First Sunday Meal, and the many great church pot luck, carry-in and the many other names we use for the fabulous dishes prepared by the men and women of our churches.

“Blessing and Honor” is how I would describe the gifts given to me through shut-in, nursing home, rehabilitation facility visits, the hundreds of hospital calls where you welcomed me into your pain, fear, the ups and downs of your life journeys, as well as the times of celebration and joy after good reports, completion of treatment, and the words “you are in remission.”

“Blessing and Honor” are words that cannot even express my humble gratitude as you allowed me to help you prepare for end-of-life decisions and then prepare to officiate at hundreds of Celebration of Life services and sermons. What a “Blessing and Honor” to work as a member of a team of wonderful, faithful and talented individuals of the councils, a variety of committees, Altar Guilds, Organists, Pianists, Choir members, soloists and instrumentalists, Sextons, Secretaries, Council officers, all who work in our outreach ministries (Food Pantry, Blessing Bags, Clothing Room, Susanna’s Kitchen, Faith is Fun, 25¢ Sale, Bazaars, Santa Lucia) and so many other teams of individuals within the church and in our community, synod, and with organizations in which I have been privileged to participate. “Blessing and Honor” has been experienced as I have prepared sermons, written newsletters, studied, learned by listening and watching, communicated, researched, and looked for answers to questions to which you have sought answers.

♪ ♪
**Last
Words
to
Augustana**



(Continued on Page 2)

(Dear Friends—Continued from Page 1)

“Praise and Thanksgiving” to the God who created us, to Jesus Christ who Saved us for all eternity, and to the Holy Spirit who guides us on this journey together. “Praise and Thanksgiving” for the gift of Baptism and knowing that each of us has been sealed with the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever, for the gift of the blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist where Christ freely gives us his own body to eat and his own blood to drink. “Praise and Thanksgiving” to my family who instilled faith, hope and joy in my spirit and for my family and friends who have supported me throughout these 48 years of ministry and especially during my time of ministry with Augustana and Grace. If you have noticed by now...it is not always easy to support me or maybe I should say it is not so easy for me to accept your support. “Praise and Thanksgiving” for having wonderful mentors to help me out of numerous difficult situations I have found myself over these years ...many related to issues of technology.

So, it is after so many years of praying earnestly that God would send a Pastor to shepherd you it is now possible for me to say, “In peace and joy I now depart.” This is not because I believe I did everything I would have liked to have done or accomplished with you. We all know there is always more that could have or should have been done. There were many times I felt inadequate to serve as your interim minister since my ministerial call is to Word and Service Ministry not Word and Sacrament ministry...that is, I am called to serve as Deacon and not Pastor. With that said I am at peace and have great joy that you once again will have a Pastor and that the opportunities for Shared Ministry are endless and yet to be explored. What an exciting time to discover what new things God has in mind for you!

Your new pastor will bring energy, enthusiasm, new ideas, and a desire to work together with you to discern what good things God will do in and through you. Pastor Emily will begin her ministry with you on May 19 and will preach and preside on May 25. My last day with you will be Sunday, May 18. I feel it is best for both congregations as well as for Pastor Emily to allow ministry to bloom and grow without hindrance from previous leadership...namely, me. That means you will not see me, and I will not be available for any Pastoral acts or conversation. That does not mean that I no longer care about Augustana and Grace and each of you as individuals. It certainly does not mean that I will no longer hold you in my prayers...you know I will.

“May God be with you till we meet again.” The message of Easter is that Christ has not only risen but he has declared peace to each of us and asks us to share that peace with each other. Our sharing of God’s mercy, grace, and forgiveness is a given in all of our relationships with those who are a part of the Body of Christ and who are waiting to be led into the Body of Christ. All these relationships transcend time, space, place, and experience; and God has promised to be with us in all of that and beyond. Thank you for all that you have meant to me and all you have done for me. God bless you.

Love in Christ’s service,

~ Sister Nora



PRAYER LIST

Please contact us with updates, praises, & requests.

Health Concerns

Judy Duck
Sharon Butler
Ken Davis, Deb
Rowland’s son-in-law
June, mother of
Melanie Watson
Fred Dunfee,
John Metz’ friend
Paul Erickson
Joanna Rice, Jay &
Bonnie Rice’s
daughter-in-law
Sister Nora Frost
Gary Weiss, Sister
Nora’s cousin-in-law
Barbara Hillyer

Health Concerns continued

Kathy
Karen Duck, Penny
Duck’s mother-in-law

Those Who Mourn

Families of:
Frank Merasco
Tom Martin
Evelyn Schwob

Other concerns

Victims of war, violence,
natural disasters
Pioneer Faith Ministries
Council & Call
Committee
Future Pastor

Is any one among you suffering?

Let him pray.

Is anyone cheerful?

Let him sing praise.

~ James 5:13 ESV

Holy Communion at Grace

Wednesdays: May 7 & May 14 at 4 PM

Beginning May 22 and going forward

Holy Communion at Grace will be on

Thursdays at 4:00 PM





May 4 - Easter 3	May 11 - Easter 4	May 18 - Easter 5	May 25 - Easter 6
Acts 9:1-20 Psalm 30 Revelation 5:11-14 St. John 21:1-19	Acts 9:36-43 Psalm 23 Revelation 7:9-17 St. John 10:22-30	Acts 11:1-18 Psalm 148 Revelation 21:1-6 St. John 13:31-35	Acts 16:9-15 Psalm 67 Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5 St. John 14:23-29

Pastoral Information Through May 18, 2025

Sister Nora Frost, Interim Minister

Sister Nora's Office Hours

Monday 9AM – Noon ~ Augustana
Tuesday, 9AM – Noon ~ Grace
Wednesday, 9AM – Noon ~ Augustana
Thursday, 9AM – Noon ~ Grace
Friday, 9AM – 10:30AM ~ Grace
10:30AM – Noon ~ Augustana

Saturday & Sunday ~ Call for an appointment.

There are meetings on some mornings, as well as Zoom meetings, so please call in advance to make sure that Sister Nora is in before coming.

Please Call the Church Office or Sister Nora Directly if you are hospitalized or having surgery.

Pastoral care is a ministry of Pastors and Deacons and one of the ways healing can be offered to the body of Christ. It is important for you (or someone else if you are not able) to contact the Church office or Sister Nora directly. When we are sick, have had an accident or having surgery, we need not only physical healing but spiritual healing as well. These are times when your church family can be holding you in prayer which sometimes is the best and most important thing which we can do for each other.

PLEASE allow your Interim Minister and members of your church family be part of your healing process.

Pastoral Information Beginning May 19, 2025

Pastor Emily Trubey-Weller

Initially, Pastor Emily' will use the same schedule as Sister Nora had used and will adjust as needed.

Pastor Emily's Office Hours:

Monday 9AM – Noon ~ Augustana
Tuesday, 9AM – Noon ~ Grace
Wednesday, 9AM – Noon ~ Augustana
Thursday, 9AM – Noon ~ Grace
Friday, 9AM – 10:30AM ~ Grace
10:30AM – Noon ~ Augustana

DOUBLE SCOOP

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching.

— 1 TIMOTHY 5:17 NIV

MAY 2025 SERVER SCHEDULE

May 4 – Easter 3

Assisting Minister: Nancy Tinder
Lector: Heidi Scupham
Server: Leah Moyer
Technology Server: Cayden Abner
Ushers: Scott & Melanie Watson

May 11 – Easter 4

Assisting Minister: Mark Moyer
Lector: Mark Moyer
Server: George Scupham
Technology Server: Randy Tinder
Ushers: Gina Iannarelli & Emily Moyer

May 18 – Easter 5

Assisting Minister: Nancy Tinder
Lector: Nancy Tinder
Server: Cayden Abner
Technology Server: Randy Tinder
Ushers: Dave & Janet Ermis

May 25 – Easter 6

Assisting Minister: Mark Moyer
Lector: Mark Moyer
Server: Jill Scupham
Technology Server: Cayden Abner
Ushers: Jerry & Judy Duck

May Altar Guild

Jerry & Doris Koontz

Please let the office know of any changes.

Did you know???

- ♦ Prayer updates, requests, and messages can be submitted through Augustana's website at the bottom of the home page!
Go to: www.augustanaelkhart.org
- ♦ Just 30 minutes of daily complaining can physically damage your brain. Listening to someone constantly complain also negatively affects brain function.

May Altar Flowers

May 4 – Given by Jennifer Ball
In Remembrance of Her Mother

May 11 – Given by Patricia Turner
In Celebration of daughter's Birthday -
Susan Turner

May 18 – Available

May 25 – In Honor of Pastor Emily

If the Altar Flowers are not sponsored, there will be no flowers. Two floral bouquets total \$25. That's a real deal! Many slots are available for sponsorship throughout the year. The easel is at the back of the pews. Choose your date, sign your name, and whether the flowers are in honor or memory of someone special. You may pay when you sign up or later. Either way, please use the envelope provided for your \$25. Thank you.



Blessing Bags Coordinator Found!

We are grateful to God that Leann Buss from Grace has felt the call to serve as our Blessing Bags Coordinator for our Shared Ministry outreach. She will be working with Augustana and Grace volunteers to continue this vital mission to Elkhart.



LOOKING FOR GRADUATES

High School – Technical School –
College – University

Parents, grandparents, guardians, students: Please let us know if there has been or will be a graduation.

Please send, email, or drop off in the church office:

Name of Graduate
Name of School
Degree, Diploma, Certificate
Plans after graduating
New address after graduating

We would like to honor our graduates at worship so please tell us the Sundays in June or July that you will be at worship.

Financial/ Attendance Report

[Fiscal Year Runs Jan. 1 thru Dec. 31]

**Information thru April 28, 2025

Fiscal Year-to-Date Budget Requirement	Fiscal Year-to-Date Actual Funds in General Fund
\$47,755.00	\$32,753.98
April Monthly Budget Requirement	April Actual Offering to General Fund
\$11,940.00	\$6,066.00
JUNE Monthly Amount Needed to meet Budget Requirement	Noisy Offering Fiscal Year-to-Date
\$11,940.00	\$43.00
April Average Sunday In-Person Attendance	April Average Sunday Facebook Attendance
34	7
Building Fund Roof Repair Goal	Building Fund Roof Repair Total Giving
\$55,147.00	\$8,587.00

Approved Augustana Lutheran Church Council Minutes Highlights Of February 11, 2025

Present: Jerry Duck, Diane Erickson, Gunnar Erickson, Dave Ermis, Maralee Macumber, Chuck Miller, Mark Moyer, Sister Nora

Minutes from the February Council meeting were presented & unanimously approved.

***Financial reports** from February were presented. Reports were unanimously approved.

***Sister Nora's reports** were presented. She added notes from the Zoom meeting for Shared Ministries from March 11.

***Unfinished Business:**

Organist Update - Pastor Emly has a possible candidate for a permanent organist substitute.

Call Committee - Rev. Priscillia Geerdes will be present March 30 while Candidate Pastor Emily Trubey-Weller will preach. A Special Congregation Meeting will occur prior to the vote.

Long-Range Planning - Only 3 submissions to date.

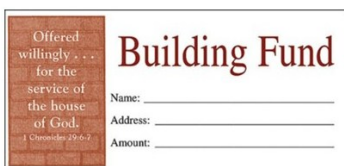
Security Camera for the parking lot from Advanced Security was discussed. A unanimous vote of approval for installation was given.

***New Business:**

Church Community Service donation was tabled for now.

Interim Ministry Contract 3-month extension was unanimously approved.

(See full minutes on the Bulletin Board outside of the Fellowship Hall.)



Building Fund Envelopes

Please use these Building Fund Envelopes found in the pews and

narthex for your offerings to help reimburse roof repair costs. If you are unable to make it to church, you may mail in your offering check noting "Roof Repair" on the memo line. Monthly updates in meeting our goal are listed in the above chart. Thank you.

Building Fund

Name: _____
Address: _____
Amount: _____



Facebook Livestream

It has been difficult to capture a realistic Facebook Livestream attendance count. We are asking that if you are watching the Sunday worship service live, later in the day, or later in the week, that you would click on the "Like" thumbs-up icon or make a comment. That way, your attendance will be captured, and we will have a more accurate count to report.

Thank you for your help!

May Fellowship Opportunities



Sunday, May 4 **Last 1st Sunday Meal-a-Month** **until the Fall**

We've been having a good time at these meals! It has been good to be together! We'd love to have you plan to stay after worship for food and fellowship. You are encouraged to bring friends and neighbors with you! Note that this will be the last time until fall.

The main course, Sloppy Joes, will be provided, and persons should sign up in the narthex to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

FIRST WEDNESDAY **BREAKFAST CLUB**

Wednesday, May 7 ~ 9 AM

Meet at Perkins on Cassopolis Street.
Call Deb Rowland for reservations.

May Game Night & Pot Luck

for Augustana & Grace

Friday, May 16 ~ 5:30-8:00 PM

Bring a dish to share.

Games provided but welcome to bring your favorite game with you.

Questions: Contact Grace Church at
574-294-1951

LAST THURSDAY LUNCH BUNCH **Thursday, May 29 ~ Noon**

Come and join your Augustana friends for lunch at **our new location:**

Baker's Nook Café
127 Easy Shopping Place, Elkhart

Bring a friend or neighbor with you. *Phone your reservation and the number coming to the church office by Tuesday, May 27.*



South Bend Cubs **Home Game** **~ A Summer Activity of** **Shared Ministry**

Amy Wolschlager from Grace will be coordinating a fun Shared Ministry activity this summer!

All persons interested in attending a weekend South Bend Cubs Home Game, please contact the church office.

Amy is looking at the option for a group of 20+ people where \$32 per person will get picnic table seating and food & drink buffet!

Another pricing option is \$37 per person for a group of 20+ people which would offer padded stadium seating with food & drink buffet.

\$16 per person option would get a seat in the stands.

All ticket purchasers receive a hat.

Please let the office know as soon as possible of your desire to attend this fun outing!

God's Gifts Pantry ~ A Thank You

I would like to thank Augustana for providing this great service every 2nd and 4th Thursday each month.

We have so many regulars that come. They are so grateful and tell us how much the food means to their families.

When they leave, so many say, "God Bless you" with smiles on their faces.

We (The Girls) would like to thank all who have donated canned goods and monies toward this wonderful mission of Augustana.



~ Heidi Paston & The Girls

Mary Lou Cassel
Janet Ermis
Priscilla Powell
Deb Rowland
Sue Stowell



Dear Church Family,

...My mom, Wini Rogers...is so thankful and appreciative of the literature and mail she receives from the church.

She is doing well in her new home at Primrose Retirement Center.

~ Many blessings,
Kris Moore



Thank you for the beautiful flowers, the card that so nicely said your appreciation for what I do, and the gift card that were given to me on Administrative Professionals Day. What a wonderful surprise!

My father always said to me, "If you like what you're doing, you won't work a day in your life." I've tried to live my life that way...and, I really do like what I do here at Augustana.

~ May God bless you all,
Julia
Parish Secretary

Upcoming Events:

Farewell ~ Welcome

Please be alert for announcements regarding saying goodbye to Sister Nora and welcoming Pastor Emily, as well as Pastor Emily's Installation Service.

As of the printing of this newsletter, that information was unavailable. Be assured that the particulars will be disseminated as soon as they are known.

You won't want to miss these upcoming events!

Summer Camps 2025

I wanted to reach out and remind you that summer is rapidly approaching and that means summer camp! There are a few changes this year and I wanted you all to be aware of them.

Confirmation Camp Dates for Grades 6-9 are:

Lake Luther: June 22-27

Lutherwald: June 15-20

Lutheran Hills: June 22-27 and July 6-11

Cost for campers is \$450 ***Augustana will help offset this cost.***



All pastors and adult helpers will need to fill out a health form and have background checks run (or results of background checks done by their church) filed in the office prior to their arrival at camp.

Cost for Pastors to stay the whole week is \$200. Health form and authorization & release for background check is available in Augustana's office.

For those in your congregations that would like to be involved: I am always looking for camp nurses, reading camp teachers, and other volunteers. They can call the office at 260-667-7750.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me directly. Thanks and I hope to see you all at camp! Chris

Christine Miller, Executive Director

LOMIK (Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Indiana-Kentucky Inc.)

Phone: 574-370-1622

Email: chris@lomik.org

2025 Indiana-Kentucky Synod Assembly

June 5-7, Thursday-Saturday

Crowne Plaza in Indianapolis ~ Union Station, 123 W Louisiana St



Many thanks to Mark & Emily Watson for agreeing to be Augustana's voting members present this year.

Let's all be in prayer for traveling mercies for them and all those in attendance as well as for God's presence over this important Assembly for the entire I-K Synod.



Looking
Ahead

JUNE HAPPENINGS

Wednesday, June 4 - Breakfast Club at Perkins

Thursday-Saturday, June 5-7 - I-K Synod Assembly

Tuesday, June 10 - Augustana Church Council Meeting

Thursday, June 12 - God's Gifts Pantry

Wednesday, June 18 - Holden Evening Prayer

Tuesday, June 19 - Newsletter Articles Deadline

Thursday, June 26 - God's Gifts Pantry

Thursday, June 26 - Lunch Bunch at Baker's Nook Café

All Thursdays in June - 4 PM - Service of Holy Communion at Grace



Introducing Augustana's New Pastor

Pastor Emily Trubey-Weller

Pastor Emily lives on the south side of South Bend on her family's farm surrounded by vegetables, pets, and space to roam. She and her husband, Dan, have three bright, high-energy, outdoor-loving kiddos: Felix (6), Hazel (4), and Freddie (1).

Having grown up in western Ohio, Pastor Emily attended Valparaiso University where she received a BA in Theology. She then went westward to Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, CA, where she earned her MDiv. During her time in California, she married her college best friend, Dan. Her internship took them cross country to New York City, where she was later ordained into ministry in the ELCA and served her first call at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Hicksville, NY (Long Island).

A change in her husband's career brought the family back to her midwestern roots where they settled for good on the south side of South Bend—a location equidistant between many communities of family and friends. They followed her husband's call into farming and founded Barn Swallow Farm in 2020.

Since August 2020, Pastor Emily served at First Northwest United Methodist Church. She is also a founding partner and content creator for Barn Geese Worship, writing approachable, inclusive resources to support creative preaching and worship.

She is passionate about ministry to and with the youngest members of the church, creative worship, excellent preaching, and finding ways to spread the unconditional love of God beyond the sanctuary walls.

Please pray for Pastor Emily and her family as she transitions from First Northwest UMC to Grace and Augustana. She is excited to begin her new call on May 19, 2025, with her first service to preach and preside at Augustana happening Sunday, May 25. Be watching for announcements regarding her Installation Service, which will be set by the I-K Synod's Bishop Graham.

Dear Pastor Emily ... We at Augustana are grateful to God that you have discerned the call to serve us and look forward to your arrival!



Augustana Lutheran Church

1133 Kilbourn Street
Elkhart IN 46514

Join us each Sunday morning
for Fellowship in the Narthex
before & after Worship.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday ~ 8AM-Noon
Tuesday ~ 10:30AM-1:30PM
Wednesday ~ 8AM-Noon
Thursday ~ 8AM-Noon
Friday ~ OFFICE CLOSED

GOD'S GIFTS PANTRY

Sack of food & personal items
distribution every 2nd & 4th
Thursday of the month.

Phone: 574-294-3823

E-mail: secretary@augustana.comcastbiz.net

Website: www.augustanaelkhart.org

Augustana Mission Statement:

As the Body of Christ,
we are called to Love All, Serve All, Welcome All.



Take-Along Page

*Take this page with you to the grocery store
to help Augustana serve those in need.*

175 People

Served in March

God's Gifts Pantry Needs Your Help

Thursday, May 8 and Thursday, May 22 will be our next sack distributions. Thank you to all who have brought items! We continue to serve more people each week, so your contributions are very much needed and appreciated! Please bring items to the church Sunday mornings or any time during the week during office hours, placing them in the barrels by the office. The following items are needed:

Canned chicken or tuna
Canned fruits & vegetables
Cereal & Oatmeal
Ritz or other crackers in sleeves
Pork and Beans
Boxes or bags of rice
Boxed potatoes
Peanut Butter & Jelly
Spaghetti or other pasta
Canned spaghetti sauce (red) - no glass jars
Cake mixes and frosting
Pudding - jello
Cookies (individually wrapped)
Juice - no glass jars
Non-dairy milk
Cooking oil - butter

Toothpaste & toothbrushes
Shampoo
Toilet Paper & Kleenex
Dish Soap & Laundry Detergent (not pods)
Cleaning supplies

*The following items are found at Dollar Tree:

*Mac & Cheese with foil pack
*Boxed cereals (any size or kind)
*Spaghetti-O's – pull top
*Pork n' Beans & Dogs – pull top
*canned Kid meals
*Bags or boxes of rice
*Dinty Moore Stew
*Bags of beans
*Tuna

Cans with pop-tops are preferred though we know many cans do not come that way.

NO GLASS JARS and NO EXPIRED FOOD

May 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p>Join us each Sunday morning for Fellowship in the Narthex before & after worship.</p>				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<p>11 AM-Worship</p> <p>12:15 PM - 1st Sunday Meal-a-Month - Last One until Fall</p>	<p>Secretary Out of Office</p>	<p>Office Closed - Secretary Out of Office</p>	<p>9 AM-Breakfast Club at Perkins</p> <p>4 PM-Holy Communion at Grace</p>	<p>10-11 AM-God's Gifts Pantry</p>		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
 <p>11 AM-Worship</p>		<p>6:30 PM- Augustana Council Meeting</p>	<p>4 PM-Holy Communion at Grace</p>		<p>5:30-8 PM-Game Night at Grace</p>	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<p>11 AM-Worship</p> <p>Sister Nora's Final Day at Augustana</p>	<p>Pastor Emily's First Day at Augustana</p>	<p>Newsletter Articles Deadline</p> <p>8:45 AM-Noon- Ministerium Meeting</p>	<p>6:30 PM-Holden Evening Prayer</p>	<p>10-11 AM-God's Gifts Pantry</p> <p>4 PM-Holy Communion at Grace</p>		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
<p>11 AM-Worship</p>	<p>Memorial Day Office Closed</p>			<p>Noon-Lunch Bunch at Baker's Nook Café</p> <p>4 PM-Holy Communion at Grace</p>		

