



Augustana News

November 2025

Dear Friends in Christ,

The daylight is growing shorter and the nights are lengthening. The leaves are just about through their yearly show and it's getting colder. Outside, the season is changing. As it does, we prepare for a change of seasons inside our churches too. Ready or not, Advent is coming!

The weeks leading up to Advent (which begins on November 30 this year) are always marked by growing darkness, and the themes we consider in worship on Sunday mornings will be somewhat dark too. We will hear about the end times and frightening prophecies. Scripture will point us to topics like change, mortality, and suffering. Sometimes the growing darkness outside is met by a lightness we feel at the impending holiday season, but sometimes it is met by darkness inside of us too. Festivities may remind us of those who aren't with us this year, or the financial burdens that can come with celebration, or the depressed mood that finds us when there is less sunshine.

Whether the changing season puts you in a festive mood or a dreary one, you are not alone. One thing is certain. Wherever we find ourselves, God will arrive. God will arrive in places, people, and ways that surprise us. Ways that we are totally unprepared for. God will arrive *out of the blue*.

This is the series we'll explore this Advent: *Out of the Blue*. Through scripture, song, prayer, and home devotionals, we will be reminded of God's incredible, surprising, unavoidable arrival: in the infant Jesus in the manger, at the end of all time in Christ's second coming, and daily in our lives. We will be reminded that no matter how little-prepared *we* are, *God* has been preparing for a long time. God has been laboring, waiting, planning, and working throughout the entire history of creation to arrive at just the right moment.

We'll fully launch into *Out of the Blue* in worship on the first Sunday of Advent, but our take-home devotional for the season begins soon—November 9! (Pick up yours at church beginning November 2.) You can expect to hear themes of surprise in our scripture and preaching all throughout the months of November and December. God will arrive amidst brokenness, in small subtle ways, in the in between, and all of a sudden. As we hear about these arrivals in scripture, I hope that you will start to recognize God's arrival in your everyday life too.

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(Dear Friends—Continued from Page 1)

As the seasons turn to a time of holy darkness once again, I pray that you are able to enter into this time fully. When we work as a church to attune ourselves to God’s surprising presence, we will witness how God has already been at work among us and our community all along.

Surprise!
Pastor Emily

Create a “found object” Jesse Tree, and bring Advent worship into your home this year!

Our *Out of the Blue* devotional includes an idea that marries tradition and whimsy: a “found object” Jesse tree.

The tradition of the Jesse tree originates in medieval times. It’s a symbolic depiction of Jesus’ family tree, and also a symbol of the Advent season, sometimes used for home devotions during the weeks leading to Christmas. When used at home, a Jesse tree tells the stories of Jesus’ ancestors by using Bible stories and accompanying ornaments, one for each day of Advent. By Christmas, the Jesse tree is full of biblical imagery, and you’ve spent the season dwelling in stories of faith.

Perhaps you already use a Jesse tree at home during the Advent season. In the traditional Jesse tree used for home devotions, the Bible stories are taken from the genealogy of Jesus as described in Matthew 1. The stories in our devotional are also drawn from Jesus’ ancestors in Matthew 1, with a particular focus on the *women* in Jesus’ lineage. It’s unusual that women are listed as ancestors in scripture, so their inclusion stands out. Their stories give us important clues about who Jesus will be. But rather than using traditional ornaments, you’ll create a Jesse tree from everyday items around your home, or found objects. You’ll assemble the tree over the course of November and December, adding to it each week, as you follow the devotional guide. If you’re thinking, “Could this end up looking a little... weird?” the answer is “Yes, definitely!” You may end the season with a vase of branches surrounded by a Band-Aid, a stuffed animal, a book, and a can of corn. For those who enjoy a carefully decorated home at Christmas, this may be a creative challenge. Embrace the chaos and be open to what it can teach you about God! We hope that at the end of the season you have an entirely unique and utterly meaningful collection of found objects to remind you of the eccentric cast of characters who comprise Jesus’ family tree.

Pick up your *Out of the Blue* devotional on November 2 to follow along!

Here’s an example of how Pastor Emily’s found object Jesse tree began a few years ago —>

Throughout the season, email pictures of yours to Pastor Emily at pastoremilytw@gmail.com so that we can share the fun on social media and get a glimpse into one another’s Advent reflections.



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(Dear Friends—Continued from Page 2)

Thank you to our Children's Church volunteers! Thank you so much to our volunteers who have launched our new programs. Your hard work, care for children, and faith are a wonderful example to our whole church!

3 part bible study on the Gospel of Matthew, beginning November 11! On the first Sunday of Advent (this year, November 30) we begin a new church year and a new year in our 3-year cycle of Sunday morning readings called the lectionary. The coming year's gospel readings will focus on the Gospel of Matthew. This 3 part study is meant to refresh our memories on the particularities of this gospel and prepare us to dive into all it has to offer. Join Pastor Emily at 1 PM on November 11, 18, 25 in the Luther Room at Grace. Studies will last 60-90 minutes. This was the time vastly preferred by participants in our recent survey, but if you'd like to participate and the time doesn't work for you please speak with Pastor Emily ASAP as we may be able to add an additional day.

Save the dates: Here are some upcoming events in the life of our congregations, not to be missed!

November 8: Holiday Bazaar at Grace

November 9: Augustana Annual Congregational Meeting

November 11, 1 PM: 3-part study on the Gospel of Matthew begins

November 30: First Sunday in Advent

December 7: Christmas Caroling

December 14: Santa Lucia celebration at Augustana

December 21: Longest Night service with St. John's Episcopal Church

Pastoral Information

Rev. Emily Trubey-Weller

Pastor Emily's Office Hours

9 AM– 3 PM

*Monday, Wednesday at **Augustana***

*Tuesday, Thursday at **Grace***

* Please call for an appointment.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday ~ 9 AM–3 PM

Tuesday & Wednesday
1 PM–4 PM

Out of the Blue

Advent 2025

at Augustana
Lutheran Church



Pick up your *free* copy of
The Word in Season devotional booklets!



November 2 - All Saints' Sunday	November 9 - Pentecost 22	November 16 - Pentecost 23	November 23 - Christ the King	November 30 - Advent 1
Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18 Psalm 149 Ephesians 1:11-23 Luke 6:20-31	Job 19:23-27a Psalm 17:1-9 2 Thess 2:1-5, 13-17 Luke 20:27-38	Mal 4:1-2a Psalm 98 2 Thess 3:6-13 Luke 21:5-19	Jeremiah 23:1-6 Psalm 46 Col 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43	Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122 Romans 13:11-14 Matt 24:36-44

PRAYER LIST

*Please contact us with updates,
praises, & requests.*

Health Concerns

Ken
Sister Nora Frost
Gina
Ryan
Felix
Pam
Barbara
Katie

Other concerns

Military Service Members

November Fellowship Opportunities

FIRST WEDNESDAY BREAKFAST CLUB

Wednesday, November 5 ~ 9 AM

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

LUNCH BUNCH

Wednesday, November 26 ~ Noon

Come and join your Augustana friends for lunch at:

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 Wednesday, November 19.

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

November HAPPENINGS

Sunday, November 2 -

1st Sunday Meal-A-Month

Wednesday, November 5 -

Breakfast Club at Perkins

Sunday, November 9-

Annual Council Meeting

Tuesday, November 11-

Augustana Church Council Meeting

Thursday, November 13-

God's Gifts Pantry

Tuesday, November 18 -

Newsletter Deadline

Friday, November 21-

Game Night at Grace

Wednesday, November 26-

God's Gifts Pantry

Lunch Bunch at Baker's Nook Café

Thursday, November 27-

Church Office Closed– Thanksgiving

SWEDISH RYE BREAD

We'll be baking and selling rye bread, \$7 a loaf, again this year. We will be selling it at our joint service with Grace (at Augustana) November 30th and at our St. Lucia service December 14th.

We need volunteers:

To help mix the dough, November 17 and 20, starting at 9AM, in the church kitchen. It's an "assembly line" where everyone has their own job. Our mixer makes 7 loaves a batch. Plus we have lots of laughs!

To take dough home and bake it in their own ovens. If you don't have enough pans, the church has plenty you can borrow. We can call/text you when your batch is ready for pick-up.

Please let us know how you can help...HELP US OUT, AUGUSTANA!

Maralee Macumber
Nancy & Randy Tinder
Gunnar Erickson



NOVEMBER 2025 SERVER SCHEDULE

November 2 – All Saints' Sunday

Assisting Minister: Maralee Macumber
Lector: Maralee Macumber
Server: Cayden Abner
Technology Server: Mark Moyer
Ushers: Dave & Janet Ermis

November 9 – Pentecost 22

Assisting Minister: Nancy Tinder
Lector: Nancy Tinder
Server: George Scupham
Technology Server: Randy Tinder
Ushers: Deb Rowland & Janet Moyer

November 16 – Pentecost 23

Assisting Minister: Mark Moyer
Lector: Diane Erickson
Server: Leah Moyer
Technology Server: Cayden Abner
Ushers: Jerry & Judy Duck

November 23 – Christ the King

Assisting Minister: Maralee Macumber
Lector: Jerry Duck
Server: George Scupham
Technology Server: Mark Moyer
Ushers: Randy & Nancy Tinder

November 30 – Advent 1

Assisting Minister: Nancy Tinder
Lector: Nancy Tinder
Server: Cayden Abner
Technology Server: Randy Tinder
Ushers: Ed & Janie Williams

November Altar Guild

Emily Moyer & Heidi Scupham

Please let the office know of any changes.

November Altar Flowers



November 2 – Janet Moyer

In memory of George Moyer

November 9 – Available

November 16– Deb Rowland

In memory of brother, Bob Todt

November 23– Nancy & Randy Tinder

In thanksgiving for Pastor Emily

November 30– Deb Rowland

In memory of father, James Todt

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.

Financial and Attendance Report

[Fiscal Year Runs Jan. 1 thru Dec. 31] **Information thru October 22, 2025	
Fiscal Year-to-Date Budget Requirement	Fiscal Year-to-Date Actual Funds in General Fund
\$104,470.00	\$77,341.76
October Monthly Budget Requirement	October Actual Offering to General Fund
\$11,940.00	\$11,130.00
NOVEMBER Monthly Amount Needed to meet Budget Requirement	Noisy Offering Fiscal Year-to-Date
\$11,940.00	\$131.00
October Average Sunday In-Person Attendance	October Average Sunday Facebook Attendance
29	1

Approved Augustana Lutheran Church Council Minutes Highlights Of October 14, 2025

Present: Diane Erickson, Gunnar Erickson, Dave Ermis, Maralee Macumber, Chuck Miller, Mark Moyer, Nancy Tinder, Randy Tinder, Pastor Emily

Additional Guests: Janet Moyer

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

***Financial reports** from September were presented, we are behind budget. Maralee is checking to see about the Fischbaugh Fund, Pastor Emily will check with Sister Nora.

***Pastor Emily's reports** were presented.
Discussed Trick-or-Treat at Church Friday, 10/31, from 5-7 PM.

***Unfinished Business:**

Reports for the Congregational Meeting turned in by 10/22, 10/26 at the latest
Noah R. expressed desire to be on Council. w

Annual Meeting Date - November 9th.

Budget Meeting - October Council meeting.

***New Business:**

We discussed the budget proposal.

Alex will remain on as Music Director

Pastor Emily will ask for volunteers for Trick-or Treat

Santa Lucia: December 14th

October 21st: Set up Refreshments for North Central Conference

We discussed the possibility of a new, professional sign for the pantry.

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





247 People
Served in September

197 People
Served in October

Take-Along Page

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

God's Gifts Pantry Needs Your Help

Thursday, November 13 and **Wednesday, November 26** 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



Thanksgiving

Word Search



T	H	A	N	K	F	U	L	E	K	F
S	L	D	D	E	L	B	B	O	G	E
E	P	U	M	P	K	I	N	F	T	A
V	A	S	N	G	B	X	T	A	A	S
R	M	N	R	O	C	U	L	M	P	T
A	R	S	M	I	R	G	L	I	P	W
H	F	W	E	K	L	E	E	L	L	S
T	U	R	K	E	Y	H	E	Y	E	F
F	K	R	P	W	S	M	D	J	S	L
X	T	U	L	V	R	E	H	T	A	G

Word List:

pumpkin

thankful

harvest

gobble

turkey

pie

apples

feast

gather

pilgrims

corn

family

November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
						1	
2 11 AM-Worship 1st Sunday Meal-A-Month	3 6:15 PM-7:45 PM Confirmation class at St. John's Episcopal Church	4	5 9AM Breakfast Club at Perkins	6 4 PM-Holy Communion at Grace	7	8 9 AM- Holiday Bazaar at Grace	
9 11 AM-Worship Annual Congregational Meeting	10 6:15 PM-7:45 PM Confirmation class at St. John's Episcopal Church	11 1 PM 3-part study on the Gospel of Matthew begins 6:30 PM Council Meeting	12	13 10-11 AM God's Gifts Pantry 4 PM-Holy Communion at Grace	14	15	
16 11 AM-Worship	17 9 AM Swedish Rye Bread Baking 6:15 PM-7:45 PM Confirmation class at St. John's Episcopal Church	18 * Newsletter Deadline 1 PM 3-part study on the Gospel of Matthew @ Grace	19	20 9 AM Swedish Rye Bread Baking 4 PM-Holy Communion at Grace	21 5:30 PM-8PM Game Night at Grace	22	
23 11 AM-Worship	24	25 1 PM 3-part study on the Gospel of Matthew @ Grace	26 10-11 AM God's Gifts Pantry Noon- Lunch Brunch at Baker's Nook Cafe	27 OFFICE CLOSED - Thanksgiving	28	29	
30 11 AM-Worship 1st Sunday in Advent							

Augustana Lutheran Church

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Website: www.augustanaelkhart.org

Augustana Mission Statement:

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