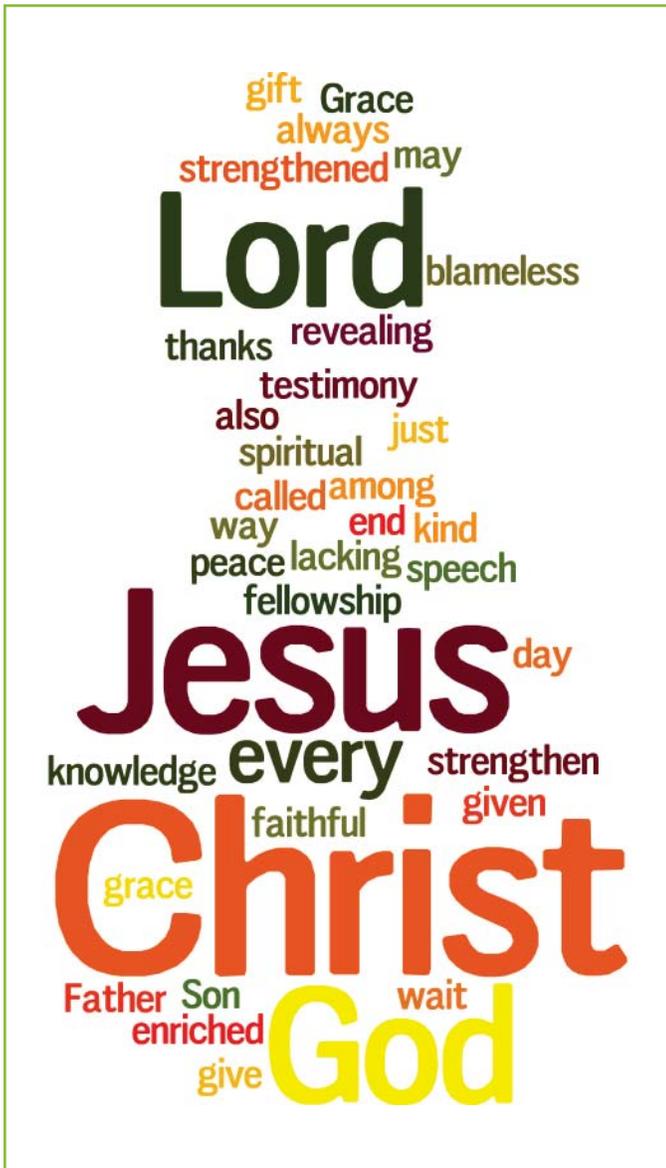


*A very Merry and Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year
from the staff of Augustana Lutheran Church!*

There's nothing like a good word



On the first Sunday in Advent, I invited those worshipping to pick a word from scripture that would become their word for the year. (Full sermon for December 3 may be found at CaitlinTrussell.org.) A friend and colleague, Pastor Margot Wright, talked about this Advent discipline when we met in Preacher's Text Study. Step 1, she chooses one word from scripture at the start of Advent. Step 2, she keeps the word on her radar for the whole year. She talks about listening for the word in her scripture study and also in her life. The word serves to keep her awake and engaged as a disciple.

In the spirit of word choosing, find a favorite part of scripture. 1 Corinthians 1:3–9 is a good place to start, but you can pick any verses you like. Circle the words that jump out for you. As an example, it could be the word “grace,” “Jesus,” etc. Circle as many or as few as you'd like. Here we go . . .

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind — just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you — so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is

continued, page 6

good news!

5000 E. Alameda Ave.
Denver, CO 80246

Augustana

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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The Tower is published monthly for Augustana Lutheran Church, 5000 E. Alameda Ave., Denver, CO, 80246-8104. There is no subscription fee.

Thursday, January 4, 4:30 p.m. is the deadline for the February edition. Email **Lyn Goodrum** (goodrum@augustanadenver.org).

Sunday Schedule

- 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:15 a.m. Faith Formation (September–May)

Chapel Prayer

- Monday, 10 a.m., Christ Chapel

Mission Statement

Guided by the Holy Spirit, we gather in Christian community, reach out and invite, offer hope and healing in Jesus Christ, and walk humbly with God.

Congregation Council

President: David Aarestad
Vice President: Paul Edstrom
Secretary: Emmett Cruson
Treasurer: Ted Kouba
Paul Blanchard | Elsa Buhr (alt)
Katrina Crook | Krista Degerness
Michael Graham | Pr. Ann Hultquist
Kirsten Jensen | Greg Johnson
AJ Levy | Noah McCartney
Sharon Schillereff | Linda Tinderholt
Pr. Caitlin Trussell | Pam Uyemura

Staff

Ann Hultquist, Senior Pastor
Caitlin Trussell, Pastor
Lisa Mikolajczak,
Finance Administrator
Jodie McClary, Faith Community
Nurse
Shanna VanderWel, Director of Youth
and Family Ministry
Erin Brown, Children's Ministry
Coordinator
Lyn Goodrum,
Publications Administrator
Julie MacDougall, Volunteer Ministry
and Building Use
Cindy Lindeen-Martin,
Minister of Music and Organist
LeEtta Choi, Silver Notes Director
Dick Larson, Choral Director
Angela Howard, Choristers and
Cantabile Director
Asmir Hodzic, Building and Grounds
Manager
Melinda Gomez and **Andrija
Malbasa**, Custodians
Kim Kouba, Weddings Coordinator
Christie Baroody, Director, Augustana
Early Learning Center

Rejoice with . . .

- Russ and Kara Epperson in the birth of daughter Lillian Joanne Epperson, November 23
- Bradyn Malachi Burton and Xander Patrick White in their baptisms

Recently lifted up in prayer . . .

for hope and healing:

- Lana Farrington, Tanya Gabrielian, Amy Irwin, Betty Nelson, Orvid Olson

For comfort and courage:

- Eddie Kopperud and family in the death of his wife, Jocelyn Kopperud
- Greg Johnson in the death of his mother, Marlys Johnson
- Dick Larson in the death of his friend, Dan Langhoff
- Rolf Stavig in the death of his father, Mark Stavig
- Tommy Svensson in the death of his father, Nils Oskar Yngve

Thank you for the gifts!

Senior Ministry

- In memory of Eldon Hemmingsen

Special Gifts

- In memory of Margaret Peterson, Wolfgang Stahlberg



Augustana's Andrew Woodward submits winning art design

As part of Denver Arts Week, Mayor Hancock challenged City Council members to come up with a creative arts and culture project for their district. Wellshire resident Andrew Woodward submitted the winning project design for District 4. On November 11, nine traffic boxes along Colorado Boulevard, between Hampden and Evans, were wrapped featuring critters from Andrew's series, "Fifty State Animals."



Gifts that honor and remember loved ones or celebrate special events

Sponsor flowers for worship in 2018

Consider honoring a birthday, anniversary, baptism, marriage, or the memory of a loved one by sponsoring flowers for worship. You can purchase up to three bouquets each week which you may take home after 10:30 a.m. worship or request that they be delivered to Augustana's hospitalized and home-centered folks. You may sponsor one or two bouquets for the sanctuary for around \$60 each, one bouquet for Christ Chapel for around \$35, or all three bouquets for around \$155. (Final pricing is based on your flower preferences.) Arrangements are ordered through Bonnie Brae Flowers (303-744-1091 or www.bonniebraeflowers.com). For additional information and scheduling, contact Augustana's office (303-388-4678 or info@augustanadenver.org).

Altar lamps

You may make a donation to the altar lamp fund, either in memory of a loved one or in honor of friends, family, or a special occasion. The cost for a whole month of candles for the Christ Chapel altar lamp is \$27, while a month of candles for the sanctuary altar lamp is \$15. Your gift will be acknowledged in the Sunday bulletin the first Sunday of the month you sponsor. To sign up, contact **Lyn Goodrum** (303-388-4678 ext. 114 or goodrum@augustanadenver.org).

Earlier newsletter deadline and production in 2018

For 2018, Augustana's publications office is scheduling its deadline and production schedule earlier so that those who receive the *Tower* via USPS will hopefully receive it by the first of the month.

Here is the complete schedule for 2018:

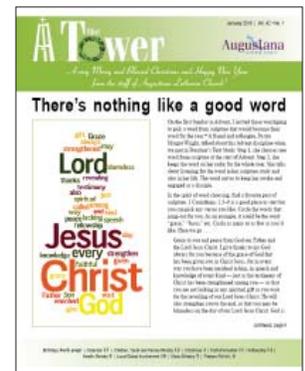
Month Issue	Submission Deadline	Production Date*
February	Thurs., January 4	Tues., January 16
March	Thurs., February 1	Tues., February 13
April	Thurs., March 1	Tues., March 13
May	Thurs., April 5	Tues., April 17
June	Thurs., May 3	Tues., May 15
July	Thurs., May 31	Tues., June 12
August	Thurs., July 5	Tues., July 17
September	Thurs., August 2	Tues., August 14
October	Thurs., August 30	Tues., September 11
November	Thurs., October 4	Tues., October 16
December	Thurs., November 1	Tues., November 13
January 2019	Thurs., November 29	Tues., December 12

*The *Tower* is taken to the USPS to be mailed the day after the production date.

If you have questions or concerns about this schedule, please contact Publications Administrator **Lyn Goodrum** (goodrum@augustanadenver.org).

Avoid snail mail altogether and receive the *Tower* by email

Sign up to receive the *Tower* by email. It's faster, more colorful, and saves Augustana in production costs. Send an email request to Lyn at the email address above, or download it at www.augustanadenver.org.





Longest Night: A Service of Healing and Hope

Wednesday, December 20, noon and 6:30 p.m.,
Christ Chapel

During this season that is filled with celebrations and parties, many people have a longing for a quieter time of reflection. As we worship we'll hear God's promises in scripture, sing familiar hymns, and have the opportunity for prayers of healing. All are welcome; please invite your friends or neighbors to experience this meaningful service.



Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 24

10:30 a.m. Worship/Communion - Sanctuary

Fourth Sunday of Advent in the morning — The Nativity of Our Lord in the afternoon and evening!

Celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent with worship at 10:30 a.m. in Augustana's sanctuary on Sunday, December 24. Complete the Advent wreath circle of light in the morning; then welcome the light of the Christ child in the evening!

Please note: no 8 a.m. worship that morning.

Augustana's nursery will be staffed only for 10:30 a.m. worship that day.



Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24

- 3 p.m. **Worship/Communion** - Sanctuary
- 5 p.m. **Worship** - Sanctuary
- 10 p.m. Christmas Eve Broadcast
- KOA News Radio 850 AM
- 11 p.m. **Worship/Communion** - Sanctuary

Celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord at Augustana with worship Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24 at 3 p.m., 5 p.m., and 11 p.m. in the sanctuary. All services will include beloved Christmas carols, candlelight, music by Augustana's choirs, and the nativity story as told through Luke's gospel. Worship at 3 p.m. will offer Holy Communion and include musical leadership by AVE. Augustana's Candlelighters will process and sing at 5 p.m. worship, which also includes special musical leadership by Augustana's children's and handbell choirs. Hear Augustana's Christmas Eve radio broadcast on KOA News Radio 850 AM beginning at 10 p.m. Holy Communion will also be offered at 11 p.m. worship with special music by Augustana's Chancel Choir. At 11 p.m. candles will be provided to ALL during the singing of "Silent Night"!

Augustana's nursery will be open but not staffed for Christmas Eve worship.

Christmas Day

Christmas Day, Monday, December 25

10:30 a.m. **Worship/Communion** - Sanctuary

11:30 a.m. Christmas Day Dinner
- Fellowship Hall

Monday, December 25, 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary
Christmas Day worship on Sunday, December 25 continues the celebration with Holy Communion and beloved carols at 10:30 a.m. in Augustana's Sanctuary.

You're invited to Christmas Day dinner at Augustana!

Augustana will serve a festive Christmas Day ham dinner in Fellowship Hall following 10:30 a.m. Christmas Day worship. All are welcome — families with children, couples, singles, including visitors. Call Augustana's office with your reservation (303-388-4678) by noon, Wednesday, December 20.

Holiday office schedule

Augustana's office will be closed for the holidays, Tuesday, December 26 and Monday, January 1. If you have an emergency, call the emergency line (303-862-3027).



Year-end gifts and offerings to Augustana

In order to deduct your charitable contribution for 2017, gifts given by check or cash must be postmarked by US Mail or be included in the offering by Sunday, December 31. For electronic givers, be sure to initiate your gift on or before Friday, December 29, so that it is posted by your credit card issuer before year end. Your support of Augustana's mission and ministry is greatly appreciated.

Questions about your 2017 giving may be directed to Finance Administrator **Lisa Mikolajczak** (303-388-4678 ext. 103 or lisa@augustanadenver.org).

Music Ministry

Thank You

Augustana is blessed with many talented musicians who graciously share their gift with the congregation. From the music staff to the many volunteers, thank you for the extra hours in service during the Advent and Christmas season.

“Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above
Glory to God in the highest!”

Choir rehearsal schedules into the New Year

Chancel Choir

Last rehearsal for Chancel Choir before 11 p.m. Christmas Eve worship is Wednesday, December 20. No rehearsal on December 27. Rehearsals resume on Wednesday, January 3, 2018.

Augustana Ringers

Last rehearsal of 2017 is on Wednesday, December 13. No rehearsals on December 20 and 27. Rehearsals resume on Wednesday, January 3, 2018.

Silver Notes

Last rehearsal of 2017 is on Friday, December 8. Sing at Lincoln Meadows on December 15. No rehearsals on Friday, December 22 and 29. Rehearsals resume on Friday, January 5, 2018.

Jammin' Augustana Super Sundays (JASS)

The last regularly scheduled rehearsal before Christmas Eve for Cherubs, Choristers, Cantabile (Candlelighters), SONshine Ringers, GraceNotes, BELLievers and Recorders is Sunday, December 17. An additional rehearsal for Candlelighters, GraceNotes, and BELLievers is scheduled for Saturday, December 23, 10 a.m.–noon. A pizza lunch follows.

No rehearsals for all children and youth choirs Sunday, December 24 and 31. Rehearsals resume Sunday, January 7, 2018.

Pastors

There's nothing like a good word

continued from cover

faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Corinthians 1:3-9



Pick a word, any word, as a discipline for this next church year. A word that could become part of discipleship, keeping you awake and engaged in these troubling times. Pick it from 1 Corinthians or 1 John or wherever scripture leads you. Tape it to your bathroom mirror, hang it from your car mirror, write it on a bookmark and

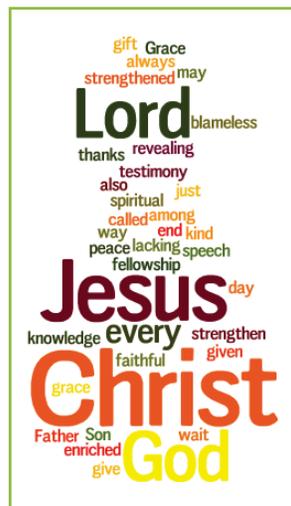
use it in whatever book you're reading at the moment, paint it on your fingernails, or use fingernail polish to paint it on your shop bench. Get creative. Keep awake. Be engaged in this moment in time.

Peace,
Pastor Caitlin Trussell

Pastor Caitlin,

After listening to your sermon today, I chose the word "Enrichment." We receive grace from Christ and that grace enriches our lives.

Since my experience with Lewis, the homeless fellow who walked through worship a few months ago, you know I have started carrying King Soopers gift cards to share with people on the streets asking for help. I learned pretty quickly that attempting to give cards out my truck window is quite unsuccessful and not very enriching.



What has been successful is the engagement of people living on the streets by parking my truck and walking up to them to try to have a conversation. One fellow in particular I have talked to repeatedly is Brian. He lives in downtown Littleton, and I have given him two cards. He seems appreciative. Brian suffers from OCD and he is very talkative. He has similarities to Dustin Hoffman in "Rainman." He has colorful language, and when I first talked to him, he was both apprehensive and threatening. However, within a couple of minutes we were engaged in a conversation. He talked, and I attempted to "keep up." He has asked me several times if I am Christian. My suspicion is that others have offered to help him. I find myself wishing I had more time to engage some of the people I see on the streets. The experience with Brian and his friend, Peter, are enriching and anything but threatening.

Back to my word "enrichment." My goal is to find time to engage some people on the streets. I am hopeful that my choice of the word "enrichment" will stay with me and it will help me to not fear reaching out to people in different places and circumstances than I am.

Paul Edstrom



The face of Christ present in the children of the world

Augustana has a wonderful music program, not only for adults but also for children and teenagers. Whenever our young people sing or ring bells, I am always impressed at what they can do and what the directors are able to draw out of them. Our music staff is so good at helping the young people realize that they are worship leaders for the congregation, adding to our prayer and praise.

A few weeks ago, I was really moved in worship when the Choristers sang "The Children of the World." We hear so much right now about division, inequality, and

folks who want to figure out who is in and who is out. This piece of music and their beautiful voices reminded us of what our faith says to counter those messages:

If somewhere a child is hungry or isn't tucked in, safe and warm;
If somewhere a baby's crying, longing for a parent's arms;
That is where the love of Jesus must be shared by you and me,
For if we have plenty, love and safety,
we must share with the least of these.

The children of the world are our children,
Made by God, just like you and me.
The children of the world must be fed and held and loved,
For if one of them is hungry, so are we, so are we.

Jesus came as a vulnerable child so that we would receive and share the riches of God's grace. The face of Christ is present in the children of the world and all the people you and I encounter each day.

When you read this, we will still be some days away from Christmas and a couple of weeks from the celebration of New Year's 2018. As we celebrate, may these words be a reminder, a call to action, and a prayer for us in this season of hope and joy.

In Christ,
Pastor Ann

Election results

At the congregational meeting Sunday, November 12, the 2018 budget was passed as presented, and these people were elected:

Congregation Council: Renee Bernhard, Lisa Boe-Sims, Emmett Cruson, Nancy Johnson, Dave Vierow, Rosalee Wanchisen, Karen Yeager

Congregation Council Youth: Mackenzie Flesch, Simon Bernhard (alternate)

Nominating Committee: David Aarestad, Paul Edstrom, Greg Bickle, Amy Tamminga, Janet Egan, Malise de Bree

Synod Assembly: Don Troike, Brad and Pam Uyemura

Augustana welcomes OLLI

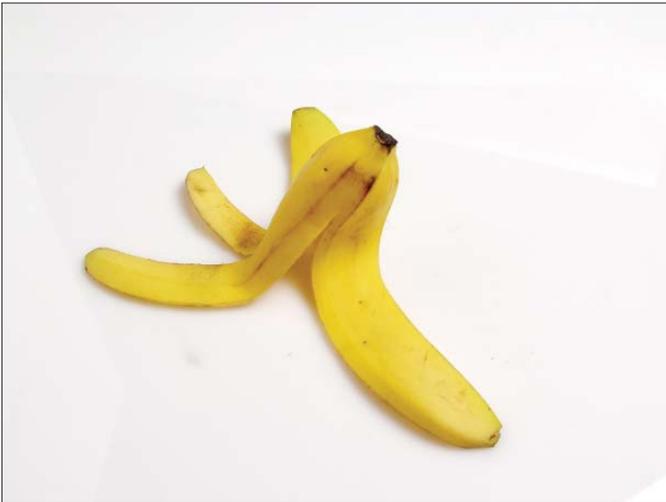
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Denver will hold winter term classes here at Augustana.

Commonly known as OLLI, classes begin Tuesday, January 16 and last eight weeks. Please look for class and registration information on their website <https://universitycollege.du.edu/olli/> or call 303-871-3090.

Foundation honors "On the Move" top achievers

Augustana Foundation contributed more than \$3,000 to ELCA World Hunger in honor of the two teams who accumulated the most miles in the "500 Years On the Move for Hunger" challenge. Symbolically reflecting the birth year of the Reformation, the Foundation gifted \$1517 for each team, assisting the congregation to meet its goal of \$15,170. Congratulations to Team Trailblazers and Team Aarestad for their achievements during this 150-day celebratory initiative.

Health Ministry



Falling is dangerous for the elderly and is often preventable

Are you at risk to fall?

If you or an older person you know has fallen, you are not alone. More than one in three people age 65 years or older falls each year. The risk of falling — and fall-related problems — rises with age.

While falls can occur at any age, the elderly are most at risk. Indeed, falls are the leading cause of injuries and death from injuries in older Americans.

The good news is that there are steps the elderly can take to reduce their risk. Medical experts increasingly believe that strength and mobility, not age, are the biggest factors in determining whether a person will fall.

Causes and risk factors for falls

Many things can cause a fall. Your eyesight, hearing, and reflexes might not be as sharp as they were at a younger age. Diabetes, heart disease, or problems with your thyroid, nerves, feet or blood vessels can affect your balance. Some medicines can cause you to feel dizzy or sleepy, making you more likely to fall. Other causes include safety hazards in the home or community environment.

Take the right steps to prevent falls

Stay physically active, have your eyes and hearing tested, know side effects of the medicines you take, limit the amount of alcohol you drink, stand up slowly,

wear supportive foot wear, and always tell others — and especially your doctor — if you have fallen since your last checkup.

Information is from the National Institute on Aging, The CDC, and the Wall Street Journal, November 12, 2017.

How to Reduce Your Risk of Falling

On Sunday January 7, 11:30 a.m., Anna Paulson Room, Health Ministry will present an educational program “How to Reduce Your Risk of Falling” including a checklist on how to fall-proof your house. Begin with lunch at 11:30 a.m. followed by the program.

Make your reservation for this program and lunch with Augustana’s office (303-388-4678 or info@augustanadenver.org) by Friday, January 5.

Exercise groups at Augustana that can help you build balance

Exercise that increases and maintains endurance, strength, flexibility, and balance is key to a healthy and active life and can help prevent falls. Augustana’s Health Ministry sponsors two exercise opportunities right here at Augustana.

Augustana Firm Believers

Firm Believers is an exercise class that meets in Fellowship Hall, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:45–10:45 a.m. The class is led by **Karen Terry**, a certified Personal Trainer with a BS from CSU in Exercise Science. She has taught the class for over 10 years. The class consists of exercises for strength, flexibility and balance using equipment such as light weights, exercise bands, stability balls and balance boards. All ages are welcome to attend, and participants are encouraged to work at their own level. The fee for the class is \$5/class when paying for a month at a time (one, two, or three days a week) or you can pay \$65 for a 10-session pass that can be used anytime. The first class is free, so come and try a class and see if it is right for

your fitness needs. For more information, contact Karen (303-777-6313).

Yoga

Through the practice of yoga you can increase vitality, reduce stress, and improve coordination and balance. Yoga is complementary to your other fitness activities. Yoga stretches and tones muscles, releases chronic tension, improves balance, helps circulation, and energizes and refreshes your body. Other vital benefits include calming restless thoughts, cultivating concentration, supporting mental clarity and promoting self-awareness.

Session and drop-in options are available for both classes. Classes are \$5 each when you sign up and pay for the whole quarterly session. Or, drop in when you



can at \$8/class. For current schedule information and other questions, contact the instructor, **Robyn Lambert** (eyeonhealth@gmail.com or 720-771-3403).

Regular Yoga, Tuesdays, 5:30–6:30 p.m.

This class offers an eclectic array of yoga styles from standard Hatha, to Kundalini, Vinyasa, Ashtanga, and Iyengar styles. Classes are fun, challenging and a great workout. Honor yourself, and take time to revitalize your body and mind.

Mindfulness Yoga, Thursdays, 5:30–6:30 p.m.

These classes are designed to foster deep relaxation and mind/body connection. Each class will include restorative and gentle yoga poses and stretches, beneficial yoga breathing practices, and mindfulness meditations. All abilities are welcome.

Grief Education

Voices of Grief

Sunday, January 14, noon–1:30 p.m.
Anna Paulson Room

Jennifer McBride will lead a conversation on the 42-minute film, *Voices of Grief*. The film includes interviews with counselors and grief professionals as well as people who have experienced grief in their own lives. The purpose of this time together is educational and one way to dip your toes into understanding your own grief or how to encourage someone else. Light food will be served.

Jennifer McBride is an ELCA Deacon, President and Co-founder of HeartLight Center, and Vice President of Grief Support and Community Education for Horan & McConaty.



BEREAVEMENT

Grief Support Group

Sundays, January 21 and 28, February 4 and 11, noon–1:30 p.m., Anna Paulson Room

Pastor Caitlin Trussell and Jodie McClary, Augustana's Faith Community Nurse, will lead a confidential grief support group for people whose death loss happened

three months ago or more. The group is limited to eight people. Call Augustana's office (303-388-4678) to register for the class.



Local/Global Involvement

Bean projects . . .

Chili Challenge: 1,145 pounds collected!

Thanks to the congregation of Augustana and the Augustana Early Learning Center (AELC) for teaming up for the 2017 Chili Challenge. This year we collected 1,145 pounds of cans of chili. The chili was delivered to Metro Caring to help them meet the immediate hunger needs of people in the Denver Metro area.

Metro Caring distributes between 4,000 and 6,000 pounds of food, baby items, and personal care products in helping to meet the nutritional and health needs of up to 500 people every day. Many of these people are disabled, seniors, or work at low-paying jobs that do not provide a living wage.

Your chili donations will help provide much-needed protein to many hungry families this winter.



**God's work.
Our hands.**

Bring your hands for Operation Pantry, January 28!

Adults and children of all ages are invited to participate in Operation Pantry for Metro Caring, Sunday, January 28, 9–10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The food repackaging of rice and beans will provide portion-sized amounts for Metro Caring to offer as part of their healthy food initiative. Previous food repackaging events held at Augustana were hugely successful, involving many Augustana families. A parallel activity will repackaging toilet tissue provided by Metro Caring. Please plan to participate and help Metro Caring end hunger in Denver.

All are also invited to participate by way of donating rice, beans, or money to add to available funding to cover additional costs related to zip-bags, boxes, gloves and other supplies for the project. Make checks payable to Augustana and indicate “God’s work. Our hands.” in the memo.



ELCA World Hunger
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.

Indonesia

Meet Hezisokhi Gulo

In a village off the west coast of Sumatra, Hezisokhi and his wife are raising their two children.

“Our income from rice farming and our pig and chicken was not enough,” he says. “We could only have one meal a day of boiled rice and bananas.” But the family’s biggest challenge was the lack of basic hygiene and water.

It’s an hour-long walk from his family’s home to a river to gather water, and the water isn’t safe. His children often had diarrhea and skin problems and were embarrassed to go to school without a shower and clean uniforms.

Then something changed. Hezisokhi joined a program formed in partnership with Lutheran churches and programs in Indonesia. This work is supported by Lutherans in Indonesia, accompanied by Australian Lutheran World Service and ELCA World Hunger.

With guidance provided by our partners, Hezisokhi installed a well with a water filter and a latrine for the family. For the well, the program provided a tank and pipe, and Hezisokhi supplied sand, rocks, bamboo pipe, and dug the well. For the latrine, assistance covered part of the cost, and the family saved up to pay the rest.

Hezisokhi explains that the latrine was important for the health of his family. “Before, someone in the family would be sick every month or even every week, but now I find my family hardly gets sick anymore.”

“Now it is not hard to get clean water, and we don’t need to go to the river anymore. It is here!” he says.

Lutherans in Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia and the United States are working together, following the teaching of Jesus to love our neighbors in the practical and life-giving way that Martin Luther encouraged.



“My wife and I could not continue our own education because our parents did not have enough money to pay,” Hezisokhi says. “We hope that our children will one day own a small business and have their own income . . .

We hope they are 100 times better!”

To give a gift for ELCA World Hunger, use the designated envelopes in Augustana’s pew pockets and make checks payable to Augustana Lutheran Church. Donate online through Augustana’s “Giving” link at www.augustanadenver.org.

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Forum

Sundays, 9:15 a.m., Anna Paulson Room

January 7 and 14: “How do I talk about my faith?”

Join Pastor Caitlin in a conversation about possibilities for talking about faith in daily life. We will wonder about things related to being a person of faith in the variety of settings in which we find ourselves, what it means to be identified as a person of faith in those places, and how we interact authentically about our faith.

January 21: Jodie McClary, Augustana’s Faith Community Nurse, will lead the topic of security as it relates to internet, phone safety, and unsolicited services. Come and learn about ways to protect yourself and loved ones from events that can affect our emotional and financial well-being.

January 28: Operation Pantry for Metro Caring

Calling all hands! Rice and bean repackaging for Metro Caring is scheduled between worship services in Fellowship Hall. Many hands make light work as Metro Caring meets immediate hunger needs while working with people toward self-sufficiency.

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

Confirmation families to serve at Warren Village

All confirmation students (5th–8th grade) and their parents are encouraged to sign up to help serve at Warren Village, Wednesday, January 10, 6–8 p.m. at their Family Night. We provide the meal, entertainment, and clean-up. You will be emailed a sign up, or you can connect with **Shanna** (shanna@augustanadenver.org or 303-388-4678 ext. 107).

Progressive Dinner for senior high youth

On Sunday, January 21 the senior high youth will have a progressive dinner. We are in need of three families to host a course: appetizer, entrée, or dessert. We will meet at Augustana at 4 p.m. and carpool to the various locations throughout the evening. RSVP to **Shanna** (shanna@augustanadenver.org or 303-388-4678 ext. 107) by Sunday, January 14.

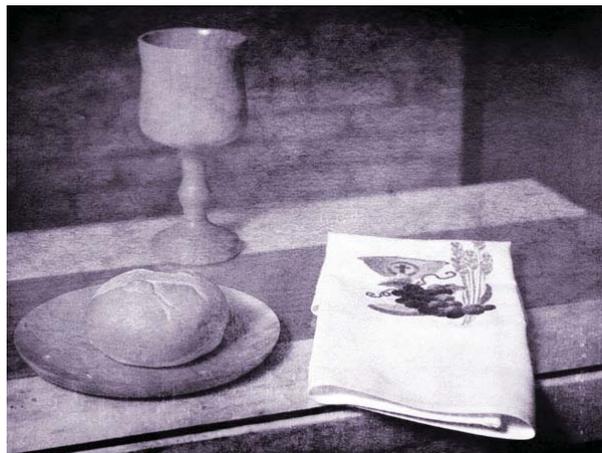
Plan now for the March ski trip!

All 5th–12th graders are invited to go skiing, snowboarding, or just relaxing in the mountains March 2–4. We will be heading to Copper Mountain for a weekend of fun and relaxation. Skiing experience and skill are not required because lessons are available. Please note that the cost to attend will vary based upon your rental and lift ticket needs. Minimum cost is \$50 with maximum cost of \$350. Please sign up with **Shanna** (shanna@augustanadenver.org or 303-388-4678 ext. 107) by Thursday, February 1 with a \$50 deposit.



Souper Bowl of Caring

On Super Bowl Sunday, February 4, bring your donations, extra dollars, and change to support ELCA World Hunger. Youth will be collecting your donations after each worship service as you exit. You may also put your donations in the offering plate marked for ELCA World Hunger.



Mark your calendars: First Communion dates

All people interested in First Communion instruction will meet Wednesday, March 7 and 14, 6 p.m., Rooms 1–3. Chalice decorating will occur Thursday, March 22, 5:30–7 p.m. at Ceramics in the City (5214 E. Colfax Ave., Denver, 80220). Participants will have first communion during Maundy Thursday worship, March 29, 7 p.m.

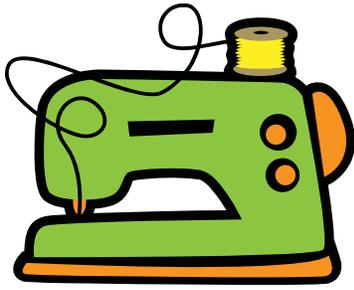
Love and Logic class offered this spring

The Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Committee along with Families Inspired Together will be hosting a Love and Logic class this spring. It will be a six-week series, April 8 through May 13, on Sundays, 9:15–10:15 a.m. The class will cost \$25 per family. If you are interested or have questions please talk to **Shanna** (shanna@augustanadenver.org or 303-388-4678 ext. 107).

Do you sew?

Augustana's activity bags (available to children during worship) are so popular they are wearing out!

Augustana's Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Committee is seeking people who sew to make new ones in 2018. Bags will be made out of corduroy, denim, or some other sturdy material. If you sew and can help or would like more information including a glimpse at the pattern, contact Children's Ministry Coordinator **Erin Brown** (erin@augustanadenver.org or 303-388-4678 ext. 122).



Ammerman Library

Curl up with a good book

Come into the Ammerman Library this winter and choose a book to take home or to sit in a comfortable chair or bean bag in the library — and read and enjoy. There are many choices. Books on prayer and meditation are in the 240s. Great biographies and historic books are found from the 920s to the 970s. Books for children and youth are in the cozy southeast corner of the library and are easy to browse. Adult fiction is behind the desk facing the east windows, and the CDs, DVDs and videos are on the end cap behind the desk.

Most recent children and youth books are *It Takes a Village*, *The Purloining of Prince Oleomar-garine* by Mark Twain, *The Legend of Rock, Paper and Scissors* and *Spy School*, *Secret Service*.

For adults, check out *Grant*, by Cherron, *Hillbilly Elegy*, and *The Warmth of Other Suns*. Leigh Quist donated *Søren Kierkegaard*, a biography. We have books donated from Eldon Hemmingsen's library, including *The Good Book*, and *All the Gallant Men*. Jim Gustad has donated over 40 books from his library. Many of them are wonderful classics. A list of these books is available at the desk.

Senior Ministry

Enjoy the sounds of the autoharp at January monthly luncheon

Thursday, January 18, 11:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

On Thursday, January 18, our program will feature **Judy Ganser**, a national award winning autoharp champion. Her experience includes performing with the Norden Folk Spelmanslag, a Swedish fiddle band, and the Swampers, an award winning ensemble specializing in logging history of Northwest Wisconsin. Judy Ganser's program will include Nordic dance tunes, Appalachian songs, and traditional rural American gems.

Plan to enjoy a tasty lunch (\$8) served by Judy Nyquist and her crew, and bring a friend to enjoy this unique program. Make your reservation with Augustana's office (303-388-4678) by Monday, January 15.

Fellowship

January Book Group

In Colson Whitehead's ingenious conception, *The Underground Railroad* is no mere metaphor — engineers and conductors operate a secret network of tracks and tunnels beneath the Southern soil. As Whitehead brilliantly re-creates the unique terrors for black people in the pre-Civil War era, his narrative seamlessly weaves the saga of America from the brutal importation of Africans to the unfulfilled promises of the present day. (Amazon)

Bring your lunch and join us on Monday, January 15, 11:15 a.m. in the Anna Paulson Room to discuss this powerful novel.

February Book Group

In *Between Shades of Gray*, Ruta Sepetys writes of 15-year-old Lina, a Lithuanian girl living an ordinary life — until Soviet officers invade her home and tear her family apart. Separated from her father and forced onto a crowded train, Lina, her mother, and her young brother make their way to a Siberian work camp, where they are forced to fight for their lives. Lina finds solace in her art, documenting these events by drawing. Risking everything, she imbeds clues in her drawings of their location and secretly passes them along, hoping her drawings will make their way to her father's prison camp. But will strength, love, and hope be enough for Lina and her family to survive?

Share your thoughts with us Monday, February 19, at 11:15 a.m. in the Anna Paulson Room.

Women, Wine, and Word

This Bible study group for women of all ages will meet on Thursday, January 25, 7 p.m. Right now the group is learning about some of the fierce and faithful women in the Bible. Everyone is invited to join the fellowship and discussion. Please contact Pastor Ann (ann@augustanadenver.org) for the meeting location for this month.

Trailblazers

Highline Canal Hike

Saturday, January 27, leave Augustana's south parking lot at 9 a.m.

Go for a mid-winter walk down a section of the Highline Canal starting near Dahlia and Quincy.

Rating: Easy

Distance: Approximately 3 miles

Guide: **Rosalee Wanchisen** (303-759-9836 home, 303-656-0671 cell or rwanchisen@gmail.com)



Theatre & Theology

Theater and Theology brings members of Rocky Mountain

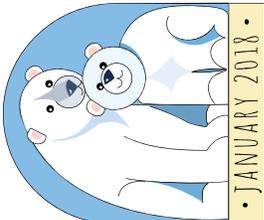
Synod congregations in and near Denver to productions of the Denver Center for the Performing Arts. After viewing a play, we do a talk-back discussion with cast members on theological issues raised in the play. The plays and these discussions can challenge and stimulate our faith and, therefore, the mission of the Church, in a unique way. For more information, contact **Rosalee Wanchisen** (303-759-9836 or rwanchisen@gmail.com).

Zoey's Perfect Wedding

Tuesday, January 30, 6:30 p.m., Space Theatre, Tickets: \$35

Registration with check payable to Rocky Mountain Synod and footnoted "T&T Augustana: Zoey's Perfect Wedding" must reach Augustana's office by Tuesday, January 9.

The blushing bride. The touching toast. The celebration of true love. These are the dreams of Zoey's big day . . . and the opposite of what it's turning out to be. Disaster after disaster follow her down the aisle, from brutally honest boozy speeches to a totally incompetent wedding planner. Even worse, her friends are too preoccupied with their own relationship woes to help with the wreckage around them. Like a car crash you can't look away from, watch in awe as this wildly funny fiasco destroys her expectations with the realities of commitment, fidelity, and growing up.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1   • JANUARY 2018 •	2 Augustana Firm Believers Augustana Ringers Chancel Choir 9:45am 6pm 7:30pm	3 Augustana Firm Believers Augustana Ringers Chancel Choir 9:45am 6pm 7:30pm	4 The Tower deadline Thursday Morning Bible Study Phoebe Circle Worship Committee Mindfulness Yoga 9:30am 9:30am 5pm 5:30pm	5 Augustana Firm Believers 9:45am	6 Lutheran Men of Greater Denver 9am	
7 Baptism of Our Lord Health Ministry Sunday Worship/Communion Learning/Fellowship Worship/Communion Health Ministry: "Risks of Falling" Youth Group Prayer Shawl Ministry (See JASS below)	8 Augustana Firm Believers Chapel Prayer Mary Circle 9:45am 10am 12:30pm	9 Deborah Circle Executive Committee Yoga Children, Youth, & Family Ministry Committee 9:30am 5:30pm 5:30pm 6pm	10 Augustana Firm Believers Augustana Ringers Confirmation: Warren Village Family Night Chancel Choir 9:45am 6pm 6pm 7:30pm	11 Augustana Early Learning Center Chapel Thursday Morning Bible Study Sarah Circle Mindfulness Yoga Property Committee 9:30am 9:30am 10am 5:30pm 7pm	12 Silver Notes Augustana Firm Believers 9:15am 9:45am	13 Rocky Mountain Synod Youth Gathering January 13-15
14 Epiphany 2 Worship/Communion Learning/Fellowship Worship/Communion Voices of Grief (See JASS below)	15 Augustana Firm Believers Chapel Prayer Book Group 9:45am 10am 11:15am	16 The Tower Assembly Yoga Congregation Council 1pm 5:30pm 7pm	17 Augustana Firm Believers Augustana Ringers Chancel Choir 9:45am 6pm 7:30pm	18 AELC Chapel Thursday Morning Bible Study Monthly Luncheon Mindfulness Yoga 9:30am 9:30am 11:30am 5:30pm	19 Silver Notes Augustana Firm Believers 9:15am 9:45am	20 8:45am "God's work. Our hands" ANSAR Pantry Retreat: Augustana Ringers 9am
21 Epiphany 3 www.elca/pray/fastact Worship/Communion Learning/Fellowship Worship/Communion Grief Support Group Senior High Youth Progressive Dinner (See JASS below)	22 Foot Care Clinic Augustana Firm Believers Chapel Prayer 8am 9:45am 10am	23 Senior Ministry Committee Augustana Arts Board Yoga Rachel Circle 12:30pm 5pm 5:30pm 7pm	24 Augustana Firm Believers Augustana Ringers Chancel Choir 9:45am 6pm 7:30pm	25 AELC Chapel Thursday Morning Bible Study Yoga Women, Wine and Word 9:30am 9:30am 5:30pm 7pm	26 Silver Notes Augustana Firm Believers 9:15am 9:45am	27 Trailblazers: Highline Canal Hike 9am
28 Epiphany 4 Worship/Communion Operation Pantry for Metro Caring Worship/Communion Youth Group Grief Support Group (See JASS right)	29 Augustana Firm Believers Chapel Prayer 9:45am 10am	30 Yoga Theater & Theology: Zoey's Perfect Wedding 5:30pm 6:30pm	31 Augustana Firm Believers Augustana Ringers Chancel Choir 9:45am 6pm 7:30pm	 11:30am 12:15pm 1pm 1:45pm	Lunch Cherubs, Choristers, GraceNotes Recorders, Cantabile, SONshine Ringers BELLIEVERS	

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Place mailing label here



1 Hank Clambey
Anna Gabriel
Mabior Mayek
Karin Sanderson
Braxton Stuart
Ketcher White

2

3 Bob Charlson
Jim Gustad

4 George Cotton
Kim Esbenshade
Linda van Dyk

5

6 Lauren Martin

7 Marjorie Hildebrandt
Sarah Nick

8 David Weir

9 George Meister

10 Grace Blanchard

11 Luke Fischer
Sophia Giordano

12 Maxine Gay
Joanne Johnson

13 Phyllis Lerud

14 Marilyn Daves
Mats Engdahl
Fikir Yohannes

15 Maren Massie
Winston Nyquist
Jamie Rohr
Calvin Stone
Brandon Stratton

16 Sandi Ahlquist
Betty Nelson

17 Diana Yrineo

18 William Reinert
Scott VanOrdstrand

19

20 Jim Lindeen
Kelly McCartney

21 Chickie Bakkemo
Katherin Howell
Shelley Maher
Timothy Tribbett
Melanie Vanderhoof

22 David Brase
Venus Conklin
Kris Ireland

23 Christine Genovese
Maddie Lamphere
Max Uhrich

24 Shirley Barr
Amy Beswick
Katrina Crook
Jay Freed
Bethany Lutz
Noah McCartney
Pamela Ninke
Herb Schillereff

25 Emma Brant
Donna Vaughters

26 Jeff Towery

27 Abby Stadolnik

28 Sonja Engebretson
Charles Esbenshade
Charles Llafet
Mary Richardson

29 Noah Garrett
Tracy Lutz
David Stalheim

30 Sheryl Kamicar
Jordan Tribbett

31 Matthew Miller

*If your name should have been
on this list but wasn't, please
call Augustana's office (303-
388-4678).*