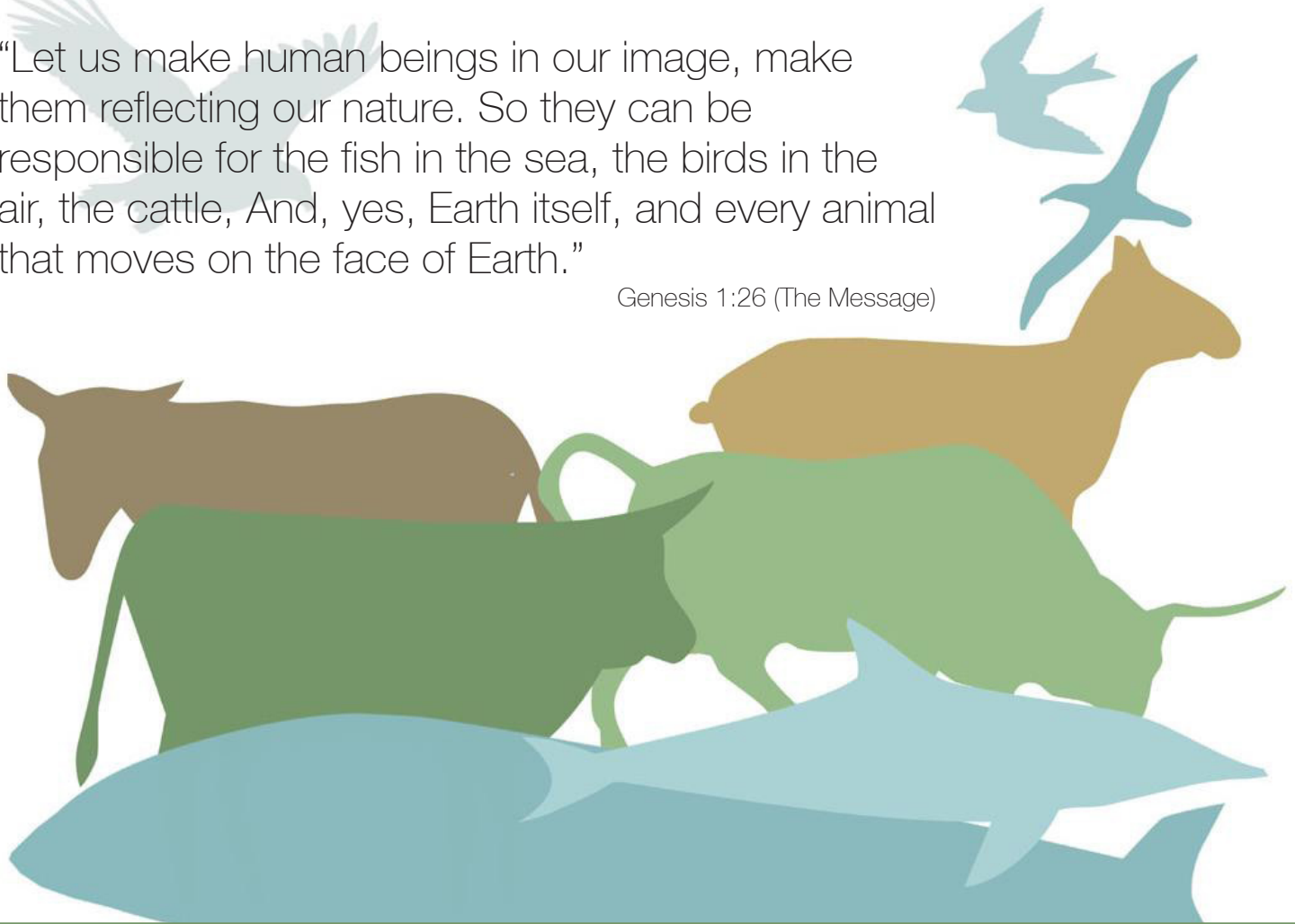


God spoke:

“Let us make human beings in our image, make them reflecting our nature. So they can be responsible for the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, the cattle, And, yes, Earth itself, and every animal that moves on the face of Earth.”

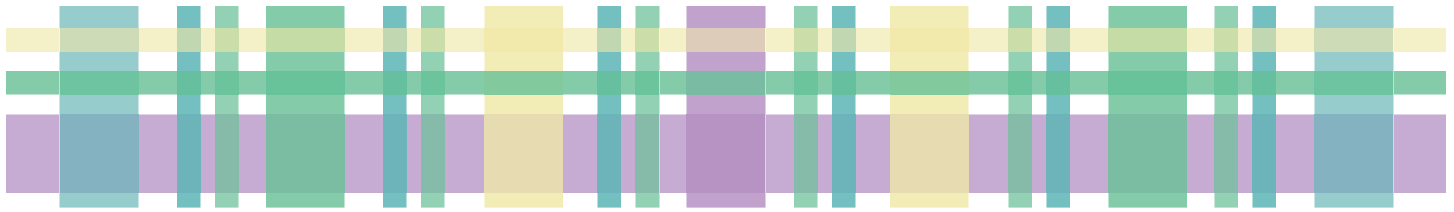
Genesis 1:26 (The Message)



“Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice” is a Social Statement of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America adopted by two-thirds majority vote in 1993. Read the full document here: <https://elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Social-Statements/Caring-for-Creation>.

The ELCA highlights caring for creation as one of our Christian vocations. Easter is a 50-day season celebrating Jesus’ resurrection and God’s promise of new life which makes it a good time to emphasize creation care. It also helps that April 22 is celebrated internationally as Earth Day, a day to emphasize the needs of the environment and our role in tending it.

Augustana’s emphasis of being good stewards of the environment challenges us to try new ways to clean our homes, invites us to give household cleaning supplies to Ruby’s Market for refugees ([page 4](#)), and inspires our worship on Creation Care Sunday, May 2 .



Recently lifted up in prayer

For hope and healing:

- Angela Alexis, Jane Carlstrom, Minnie Carter, Lyn Colwell, Joe Gay, Maxine Gay, Ursula and Jerry, Albert Kuipers, Regan Lefferts, Eric MacDougall, Terri Mitts, Deane Perry, Dave Peters, Kristi Rickert Peterson, Rita Rosemary, Bobby Suazo, Frank Valetin

For comfort and courage:

- Family and friends of Betty Richards in her death
- Emily Murdock in the death of her friend, Antoine Hodge
- Greg Hempelman in the death of his friend, Joe Geisendorfer
- Sheryl Stenseth in the death of her father, Willis Gunlikson
- Inez Smith in the death of her uncle, Herb Johns
- Julie MacDougall in the death of her cousin, Linda Wertz

Rejoice with

- Walter Bryce Kommerstad, son of Sean and Caroline Kommerstad, in his baptism
- Levi Joseph Rothschild, son of Erik and Carly Rothschild, grandson of Dwight and Sheryl Stenseth, in his baptism

Thank you for the gifts!

Senior Ministry

- In memory of my parents, Carl and Yvonne McConnell

Special Gifts

- In memory of Jayne Bowman, my loving wife, Ruby
- In honor of Joanne and Richard McClaskey, Robert and Patricia Ellinger
- in honor of Helping Hands, Michael Zumwalt, and his son, Ben Zumwalt

5000 E. Alameda Ave.
Denver, CO 80246

Augustana
LUTHERAN CHURCH

PHONE: 303-388-4678
FAX: 303-388-1338

WEB: www.augustanadenver.org
EMAIL: info@augustanadenver.org
FACEBOOK: augustanadenver.com

Mission Statement: Celebrating God's grace, we welcome everyone to worship Jesus, grow in faith, and go serve in the world.

Online Worship/Devotions

- **Streamed Worship**, Sundays, 10:30 a.m.
- **We Are One at 1:00**, Online devotions, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1 p.m.
- [Watch on Facebook](#)
- [Watch on YouTube](#)

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

Thursday, April 15, 4:30 p.m. is the deadline for the May edition.
Email **Lyn Goodrum** (goodrum@augustanadenver.org).

Congregation Council: **President:** Michael Zumwalt | **Vice President:** Pam Uyemura | **Secretary:** Roger Lipker | **Treasurer:** Dan Taron | Sofia Aarestad | Grace Blanchard | Lisa Boe-Sims | Betty Boyd | Michael Gentes | Michael Graham | Heidi Johnson | Ellen Kastens | Sharon Schillereff | Inez Smith | Rosalee Wanchisen | Harry Waters | Karen Yeager | Pr. Ann Hultquist | Pr. Caitlin Trussell

Staff: **Ann Hultquist**, Senior Pastor | **Caitlin Trussell**, Pastor | **Lisa Mikolajczak**, Finance Administrator | **Shanna VanderWel**, Director of Youth and Family Ministry | **Daniel Romero**, Minister of Music and Organist | **Angela Howard**, Choristers and Cantabile Director | **Sue Ann Glusenka**, Faith Community Nurse | **Lyn Goodrum**, Publications Administrator | **Julie MacDougall**, Volunteer Ministry and Building Use | **Emily Friesen**, Livestream Technician | **Asmir Hodzic**, Building and Grounds Manager | **Andrija Malbasa**, Custodian | **Ellen Kastens**, **Amy Tamminga**, **Erin Saboe Willoughby**, Wedding Coordinators | **Wendie Edwards**, Director, Augustana Early Learning Center

“Thanks, Augustana!”

All,

We just want to say thank you for the Lenten Devotional that was produced by Augustana. We have appreciated all the contributions that make up this booklet that we use every morning for devotions following our breakfast. It has stimulated sharing between the two of us that we probably would not have taken the time to do without that booklet. Producing such a gift does not just take a few minutes, so we thank all involved for their efforts in putting it in our hands.

John and Kay Bengston

Thank you, everyone, for your love, hugs, prayers and offers of hot dishes during Eric’s illness. We are overwhelmed by your generosity and kindness and are so appreciative that you are holding us close in your hearts.

Eric and Julie MacDougall

Dear Augustana,

On behalf of our entire community, I want to thank you for your gift on February 1, 2021.

Your support to our community ensures that Metro Caring can support the community’s need for nutritious food while continuing to build a movement to address the root causes of hunger, especially during these unprecedented times.

COVID-19’s impact on the increasing need for nutritious food continues into 2021. Since April of last year, we have been serving over 7,000 households a month, compared to just over 2,000 households a month pre-COVID.

As we continue to adapt and innovate, we find new ways to incorporate choice into our current walk-up, drive-thru, and delivery model. We are incorporating choice boxes to provide specific items that best meet people’s unique needs, such as vegan, vegetarian, gluten-free, and Latinx boxes. To provide boxes based on our community’s cultural needs, we have created boxes for

those that observe Lunar New Year and plan to distribute boxes in March for Passover.

We are all in this together and we cannot do this work without you. Thank you again for your continued participation in Metro Caring’s mission this year.

With gratitude,

Teva Sienicki

Chief Executive Officer

Support Augustana through your Amazon purchases!



AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support Augustana Lutheran Church every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. When you shop AmazonSmile, you’ll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to Augustana.

How to support Augustana:

1. Go to <https://smile.amazon.com/> when you want to shop from Amazon.
2. Under Account & Lists, choose “Your AmazonSmile.”
3. Type “Augustana Lutheran Church” in the search field.
4. Scroll to the Augustana Lutheran Church listed in Denver, CO, and click the SELECT button.
5. For a portion of your purchase to go to Augustana, you’ll need to navigate to Amazon through <https://smile.amazon.com/> each time you’re ready to shop.

CAN Ministry

(Compassion and Action with Our Neighbor)

Caring for Creation: Spring Cleaning

What do Augustana members and Ruby's Market patrons have in common? We all clean our homes! For Earth Day 2021, let's consider alternative choices for cleaning which are environmentally friendly.

Augustana's CAN Ministry will be helping the Ruby's Market spring cleaning initiative by collecting and donating eco-friendly cleaning supplies. Ruby's Market is a multi-cultural artisan and food store supporting refugee- and immigrant-owned entrepreneurs. When COVID hit, Ruby's Market started helping the refugee community by providing personal and household hygiene supplies that could not be obtained from food banks or with SNAP benefits. In April, Ruby's Market will focus on spring cleaning. To support them we ask that Augustana members and friends donate items on the list below.

We will collect donations outside the narthex (Augustana's entrance at Alameda and Elm Street) on Sunday, April 25 and May 2, noon–1 p.m.; better yet, order online for delivery to:

Attention: Spring Cleaning
Augustana Lutheran Church
5000 E Alameda Ave
Denver, CO 80246



Spring cleaning shopping list

Ingredients for homemade eco-friendly cleaners (recipes follow):

- ☐ Distilled vinegar
- ☐ Baking soda
- ☐ Borax
- ☐ Essential oils

Ready-made cleaning supplies:

- ☐ Laundry detergent
- ☐ Dishwashing detergent
- ☐ Cloths (reusable)
- ☐ Paper towels (recycled brands)



Here are a few simple ideas for making and using earth-friendly cleaning supplies.

Home Made Natural Cleaner

(<https://www.webmd.com/a-to-z-guides/ss/slideshow-guide-to-natural-cleaning>)

Mix:

½ half cup vinegar
½ half cup baking soda
4 to 8 cups hot water
add essential oils for scent

Place the liquid in a spray bottle, and this all-purpose cleaner is ready for use!

Laundry Detergent Strips

These strips can be purchased from Amazon as an alternative laundry detergent in plastic containers.

You simply put a 6 x 4-inch strip in the laundry, and it dissolves. Reviews report clean clothes, and it only costs 20¢ to 40¢ per load.

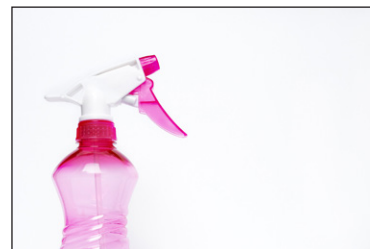
Toilet Bowl Cleaner

Mix:

¾ cup borax
1 cup white vinegar
10 drops lavender or lemon essential oil

Combine the ingredients in a squirt bottle, wet the inside of the bowl by flushing, and pour solution into the toilet and let stand several hours; scrub the bowl and flush to rinse.

These simple actions contribute to a green creation!



You're Invited to Augustana's "table" at Habitat for Humanity's Virtual Breakfast!

Breakfast for Humanity

Wednesday, April 21, livestreamed at 8 a.m.

Habitat for Humanity of Metro

Denver (HFHMD) is a cause that is very meaningful to our church at this time. At our February Congregational Meeting, we approved the proposed development agreement and land lease extension to have HFHMD develop eight homes for sale to eight qualified families who will become our new neighbors. In fact, at Habitat Metro Denver, the vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to live. You're invited to see the larger vision at Habitat Metro Denver's virtual, livestreamed, Breakfast for Humanity on Wednesday, April 21.

Reserve your spot at Augustana's "table" for this free event by registering here: www.habitatbreakfast.org.



www.habitatbreakfast.org. Please select "Augustana Lutheran Church" in the drop-down menu. It is absolutely free to attend this event. The fundraising goal for Augustana Lutheran Church has already been met through our sponsorship donation from the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. There is no obligation to make a donation, but we feel this is a

wonderful way for us to learn more about Habitat for Humanity. If you can't join us for this time and would like to contribute, please visit www.habitatbreakfast.org to support Habitat today!

Thanks, and we look forward to having you join us!

Pastor Caitlin Trussell

Michael Zumwalt,

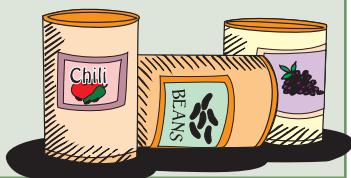
Congregation Council President and Holy Hammers
Volunteer Coordinator with HFHMD

Sanctuary Soup Shelf

“Leave what you can. Take what you need.”

The soup shelf continues to attract multiple daily visitors who “leave what they can and take what they need.” Church members, Early Learning Center families, and neighbors both bring and take food. CAN Ministry has a daily volunteer schedule to make sure the shelf is organized and ready for visitors to easily identify and choose food.

Canned food with pop-tops like hearty soups, tuna, chicken, Chef-boy-ardee, and fruit are preferred!



Be a Human Dignity Delegate!

Katy Lunsford and **Beth Black** are newly facilitating Augustana’s latest experiment in advocacy, Human Dignity Delegates, at Pastor Caitlin’s invitation. The first meeting was held on March 21. They will weave together advocacy opportunities with Lutheran Advocacy Ministry – CO, Together Colorado, and ELCA Advocacy combined with anti-racism conversations. The goal is to have folks identify as Human Dignity Delegates who are willing to learn about public and legislative issues and then to act on them—no expertise needed! The time commitment will be established by the group who ends up gathering the first couple of times. The next meeting is Sunday, April 11, 3–4:30 p.m. If you’re interested in hearing more, send an email to pastor.caitlin.trussell@gmail.com.



ELCA World Hunger

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God’s work. Our hands.

Providing safety and opportunity for girls and young women

When Kamini Dhurvey was just a child, her mother died and her father remarried. Her stepmother abused her, and her father did not step in to protect her from his new wife. Unprotected and unsafe, Kamini left home when she was older and eventually found a place to rent and a job in a small shop.

But even out on her own, she did not feel safe. Kamini feared that the landlord who owned her residence would hurt her. Through a door-to-door survey, Kamini learned about Naari Shakti, a project of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Madhya Pradesh in India that is supported in part by ELCA World Hunger. Naari Shakti works for gender equality through advocacy for women’s rights, provides training in tailoring and computer skills, and offers emergency medical support to girls and women in vulnerable situations. The project also provides housing assistance and psychosocial support to those who need it.

With counseling and support from the project, she was able to leave the place she was renting and move into a



hostel for girls. The project later arranged for Kamini to stay in a women’s rehabilitation center, where she is living and pursuing her studies. Kamini has found a home at the center.

The Naari Shakti program provides her a safe place to live, books, and additional support for her education. This is just one project of hundreds supported by ELCA World Hunger in 60 countries around the world. With your gifts, people such as Kamini can have the support

they need and hope for a better future.

Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support innovative solutions that fight hunger and poverty in more than 60 countries around the world, including the United States. Will you help with your gift today?

To give a gift to ELCA World Hunger, [donate online through Augustana’s secure online giving portal](#), or mail checks payable to Augustana Lutheran Church and footnoted ELCA World Hunger.



Join Augustana for Holy Week and Easter

All worship during Holy Week and Easter will be livestreamed!

Sunday of the Passion, March 28, 10:30 a.m.

In this day of contrasts, we begin with the crowds waving palms and then journey with Jesus to the cross.

Maundy Thursday, April 1, 7 p.m.

We gather around the Lord's Table with young people celebrating their First Communion, and we hear again Jesus' command to "love one another as I have loved you."

Good Friday, April 2, noon and 7 p.m.

A somber service at noon will follow the traditional

Good Friday liturgy. Worship at 7 p.m. will be a blend of the Passion from John's Gospel and special music featuring AVE and Minister of Music and Organist **Daniel Romero**.

Easter Pageant, Saturday, April 3, 6 p.m.

Enjoy this dramatic and musical presentation of the Passion and Resurrection of Our Lord sponsored by Augustana's Children, Youth and Family.

Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter Sunday, April 4, 10:30 a.m.

Alleluias return amidst Easter lilies, festive music, and the good news: "Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed!"

Pastors

Jesus is not here. He has been raised, as he said.

Matthew 28:6

Several years ago, many Christian writers were asked "Why do you need the resurrection?" Some wrote poetry and some told stories as a way to answer the question.

Jim Ward, an Episcopal priest, said this:

I'm not so sure that I need the resurrection as that I need the God that only the resurrection reveals. What the resurrection shows us is not so much how like God Jesus is, as how like Jesus God is. The basic affirmation of Easter (Christ is Risen) means that if you want to know what God is like, look at Jesus. So all of our frantic attempts to silence the truth of love are forgiven by the very One we've tried to stamp out. It means God loves us so much that not even our killing him will keep God from reconciling us.

I like how he chooses to answer the question. I wonder if many of us would simply say "I need the resurrection so I know that I will be given eternal life." But Father Ward captures so much more than just that promise.

The unconditional love of Christ can't be controlled, silenced, or killed, no matter how hard the world and—let's be honest—all of us try to do just that. God's response is always to love and to refuse to draw circles that include some and exclude others.



That love is intended to break open our hard hearts and lead us to love and serve others because we have been given such a gift.

This Easter will be different, again. We still will not be able to gather in one place to worship, but we will still worship together wherever we are that Sunday morning. We know that the love of God in Christ breaks from the tomb, moves through locked doors, and isn't just contained in a sanctuary. After

the past year of collective anxiety and grief, more than ever we need to answer that question for ourselves "Why do you need the resurrection?"

May we be held in Easter peace and promise, because Christ is risen. Alleluia!

Pastor Ann

Dawning Awareness

My Christmas Cactus lives better in my office than at home. Native to the rain forest floor, it gets the necessary dark nights there for the big winter bloom. He's been at my house for the pandemic year and it's time to bring him back (yes, he's gendered). Funny thing. I'm hesitant to do so. It feels a bit like I might jinx the medical miracle of vaccines—which of course is absolutely ridiculous. At the same time, it feels pretty human. Many of us don't really outgrow the magical thinking of our childhoods. We just learn how to hide it better. The truth is that we don't control near as much as we'd like to think, or as we wish we could. That's the essence of the Easter story.

Easter morning reveals a stone rolled back and an empty tomb. Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome go from dawning awareness to terror and amazement as the young man dressed in white announces, "Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified, has been raised." New life has been unleashed and they have no idea what it means or what to do. Instead of telling Peter as they'd been instructed by the young man, "they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid." (Mark 16:1–8)

Traumatic times make it difficult to see the new life that God promises. Trusting by faith in God's power over our own can be terrifying. BUT it can also be amazing. The

Easter season invites us into the dawning awareness along with the women at the tomb. New life isn't something we can jinx. We're just not that powerful. But watch what God can do.

Peace,

Pastor Caitlin

P.S. It's definitely time for the Christmas Cactus to return to the office.



Worship Attendance

People are curious about how many people attend worship. Attendance is obvious when we're in person. Less so with virtual worship. We're able to see how many households are worshipping online but lacking in those numbers is how many people are worshipping per household. Pastor Caitlin includes household worship numbers in her monthly report to Council as part of her responsibility with Evangelism, Messaging, and Media.

Livestreaming Worship: Household Attendance

(numbers are higher than listed due to multi-person households)

Date/Worship	Real Time Views	Augustana Website/ YouTube Total	Facebook Total	Combined Total
2/14 Sunday	81	172	73	255
2/17 Ash Wed	54	138	77	215
2/21 Sunday	78	180	53	233
2/24 Holden	32	79	54	133
2/28 Sunday	75	147	68	215
3/3 Holden	25	43	37	80
3/7 Sunday	74	112	41	153

We are One @ 1:00

Pastors and staff continue with live, short talks on a variety of topics connecting faith and life. These We are One @ 1:00s run live Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1 p.m. and began in response to the pandemic as a way to connect. The videos are then posted on Augustanadenver.org/worship and also sent in the weekly email ePistle for wider availability. One of the youth's parents recently reported that they have limited capacity to absorb much more, so they have been watching the We are One @ 1:00s twice a week and are very grateful for them. Although widely varying in number of total views, each view is a touchpoint with members and friends that we have because of this online opportunity.

We are One @ 1:00 Household Views	
Website/YouTube	18–28
Views/video and Facebook	11–59
Total	29–87

Faith Formation/ Fellowship

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Resumes Sunday, April 11, 9–9:45 a.m. via Zoom

Join the preaching pastor for thinking about the Bible passages for worship each Sunday. Bring curiosity and openness to the ideas and faith that scripture opens up.

Watch your weekly ePistle for Zoom links. [Sign up here](#) to access the Zoom link through our weekly email, the Augustana ePistle.

Women, Wine and Word Bible Study

This Bible study for women of all ages will meet via Zoom on Thursday, April 15, 7 p.m. The group has been studying Genesis all year and is in the midst of the story of Joseph. How did the hated brother become the one to save so many from famine? How does his example of forgiveness impact us today? Come join the discussion and enjoy this virtual time with others who call Augustana their faith community. Contact **Pastor Ann** (ann@augustanadenver.org) for the Zoom link.

Curious about Augustana?

Check out the Discover Augustana class!

Sundays, April 11, 18, 25, and May 2, 1:30–2:30 p.m., via Zoom

The pastors and some church members will lead conversations about Augustana. This class is for people wondering about the congregation, Lutheran Christianity, and potential membership. To register, or if you have questions, email Augustana (info@augustanadenver.org, Subject: Discover Augustana).

Book Club

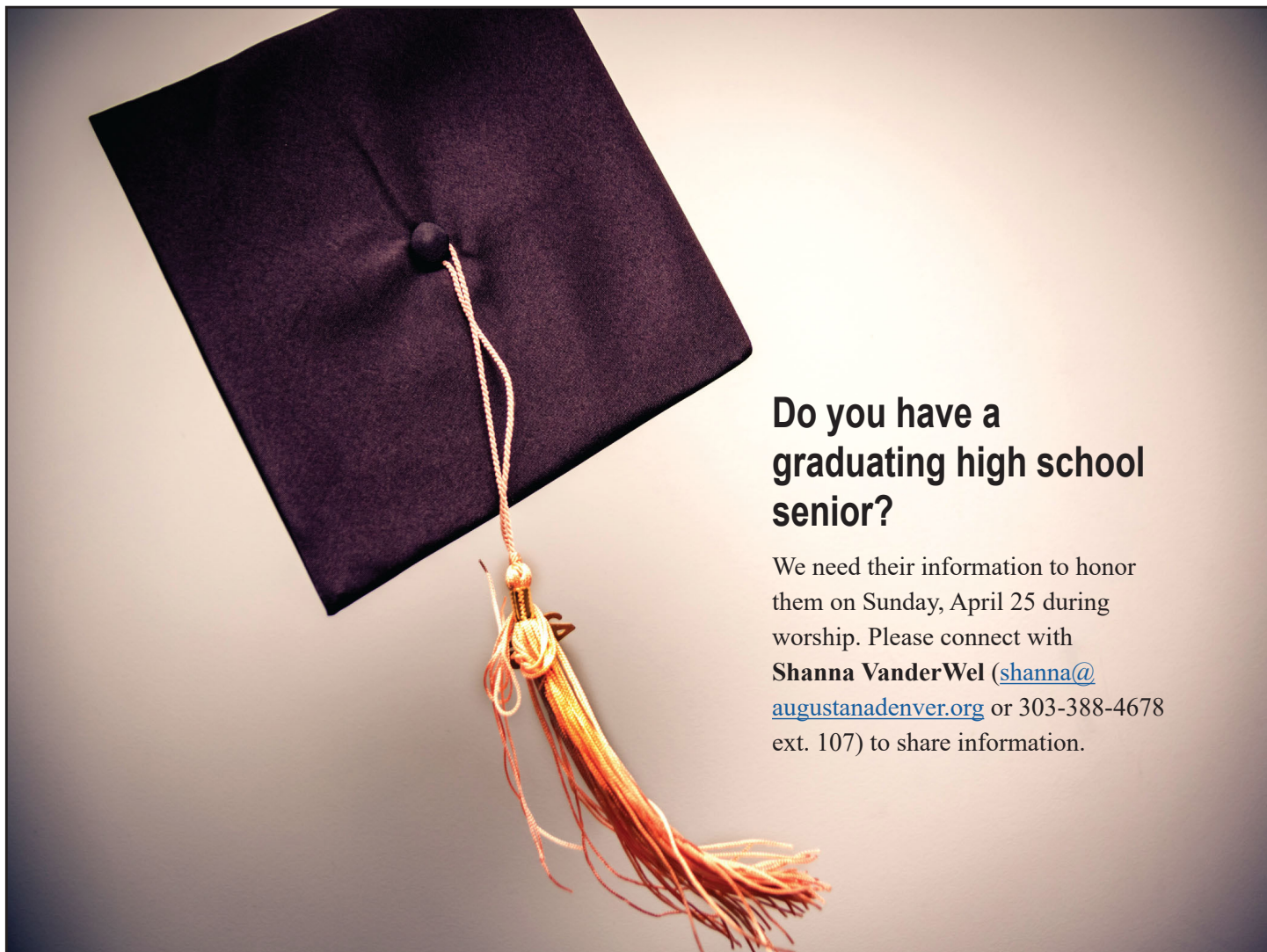
Augustana's Book Club is meeting on Monday, April 19, on Zoom at 1 p.m. We are reading *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng. Those interested may contact **Ellen Kastens** (303-475-7877 or ekkastens@gmail.com).

From the bestselling author of *Everything I Never Told You*, a riveting novel that traces the intertwined fates of the picture-perfect Richardson family and the enigmatic mother and daughter who upend their lives.

In Shaker Heights, a placid, progressive suburb of Cleveland, everything is planned—from the layout of the winding roads, to the colors of the houses, to the successful lives its residents will go on to lead. And no one embodies this spirit more than Elena Richardson, whose guiding principle is playing by the rules.

Enter Mia Warren—an enigmatic artist and single mother—who arrives in this idyllic bubble with her teenaged daughter Pearl, and rents a house from the Richardsons. Soon Mia and Pearl become more than tenants: all four Richardson children are drawn to the mother-daughter pair. But Mia carries with her a mysterious past and a disregard for the status quo that threatens to upend this carefully ordered community.

Children, Youth, Family



Do you have a graduating high school senior?

We need their information to honor them on Sunday, April 25 during worship. Please connect with **Shanna VanderWel** (shanna@augustanadenver.org or 303-388-4678 ext. 107) to share information.

Thanks for your canned food donations!

Augustana's youth collected 197 canned goods for Augustana's Sanctuary Soup Shelf in March! Thanks!

Outdoor Faith Formation

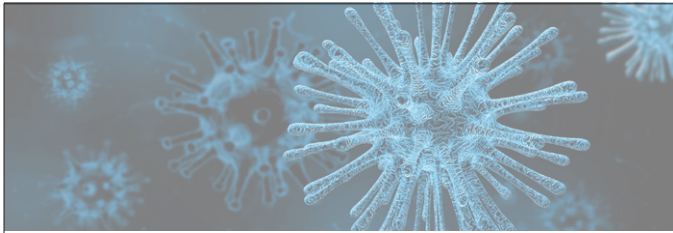
Beginning Sunday, April 11, Augustana offers outdoor faith formation for grades PreK–4 and 9–12, 9:15-10 a.m. We will meet in Augustana's courtyard under the tent. Please wear a face mask; social distancing will be observed.

Mission Trip Gathering

This meeting, Sunday, April 11 at noon, is for all youth and adults attending the mission trip. We will gather in the courtyard for conversation and planning.

Save the date for Vacation Bible School

Augustana hosts Vacation Bible School, July 19–22, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. for kids currently in kindergarten through 5th grade. More details and registration information to follow.



Prayer on the Occasion of Receiving the Coronavirus Vaccine

Sustainer of All,

Hold me in your care as I receive this vaccine,
The work of scientists,
the labor of healthcare professionals.
Bless the swirl of molecules and antibodies,
the mystical give-and-take of my body.

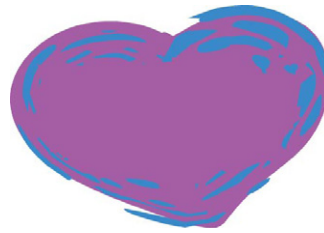
Remove from me fear.
For many have gone down this path before me.
And many shall go after me.
You made all things and called them good.

Open my heart to gratitude,
Even in the midst of much suffering.
I give thanks for this jab,
A strange way to receive a blessing.

Stir my conscience to consideration of others,
That I may not forget my mask
just because I am protected.
Remind me of my obligations
to my community and myself,
And give me courage to receive my next dose.

Awaken me to vulnerability,
While I am a soul of light, I am an embodied being.
Draw near to me this day,
As I choose to celebrate life and community.
Amen.

Rev. Michael Woolf,
Lake Street Church of Evanston, IL



"In every heart there is an
inner room, where we can
hold our greatest treasures
and our deepest pain."

—Marianne Williamson

Understanding Your Grief

Zoom Bereavement Support Group

- Sundays, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.
- Starting Sunday, April 11 through Sunday, June 20
- Facilitators: **Sue Ann Glusenkamp**, FCN
and **Debbie Carter**, LPC
- Cost: 90 minutes each Sunday and \$30 to cover cost
of books
- Scholarships are available
- Registration required by Easter Sunday, April 4
- Limited group size to first 10 registrants
- Each participant will receive two books to guide the
journey
- To register, contact **Sue Ann** ([glusenkamp@
augustanadenver.org](mailto:glusenkamp@augustanadenver.org))

Saying goodbye to a loved one is never easy, but losing someone during a pandemic adds another dimension to grief and loss. If this has been your experience, you are invited to join this group and learn ten essential touchstones for finding hope and healing your heart. Your loss can be before the pandemic as well. We will use the curriculum written by Dr. Alan D. Wolfelt of the Center for Loss and Transition in Fort Collins, Colorado (<https://www.centerforloss.com/>).

Following pandemic safety guidelines we have decided to hold our support group in the Zoom format. Participants will receive a recurring Zoom link to join each Sunday morning, and can remain in the comfort of their own home. If you would like to participate but do not have access to a computer or the internet, please contact Faith Community Nurse, **Sue Ann**, (303-388-4678 ext. 106) for alternative planning.

Augustana Foundation

Peeking in the Past . . . 10 years ago

Bells rang out for the 40th Anniversary

Ten years ago, the majestic sound of Augustana's three bells was again reverberating from the 115-foot-high bell tower. It was as though the bells were both announcing and thanking the Augustana Foundation on its 40th birthday.

After months of silence, the landmark symbol of the congregation was once again ringing. More than 50 years earlier, the bells had been cast of the highest-grade bronze (80% virgin red copper, 20% tin) especially for Augustana Lutheran Church by Petit-Fritzen in Holland. They were donated by Augustana member Ellen Kramer in memory of her parents.

With the system for ringing the bells no longer working and the bells needing repair, the Foundation Board worked with the Property Committee on a plan to refurbish the bells. When costs were known, the Board decided to underwrite this effort in recognition of its 40th Anniversary. Members of that Board were Jack Bartels, Greg Bickle, Todd Engdahl, Darryl Farrington, Kevin Flesch, Alana Hankins, Janis Johnson, Ted Kouba, and Colleen Porterfield.

"The bells needed care if they were to keep ringing for the next four decades and more," it was noted. The largest bell sounds G, measuring 41 inches in diameter and weighing 1,540 pounds. The middle bell sounds B, and it is 32 inches in diameter weighing 750 pounds. The smallest bell sounds D and measures 27

inches in diameter weighing 440 pounds. The bells were refurbished in 2011 by Verdin Co. of Cincinnati, Ohio.

As the Congregation Council and Foundation Board prepared to celebrate this 40th birthday, they also recognized the need to pause, evaluate future needs, and plan for the next 40 years. It was determined that Augustana should establish a reserve fund to help ensure the future of its facilities, just as the creation of the Augustana Foundation Fund 40 years earlier had provided support. They called this effort The Next 40 Years Fund.

As the congregation acknowledged Augustana Foundation's 40th Anniversary Year on November 20, 2011, among the printed words were these:

"We are celebrating the Foundation's 40th anniversary and giving thanks to God for that work, for all who have supported the Foundation with their gifts and their time and for all who received grants that assisted their ministries."

In the years that followed, more than \$40,000 was contributed to The Next 40 Years Fund. That 40 thousand dollars for 40 years has a nice ring to it too.



Donor Recognition

Eldon Hemmingsen Bequeathed Condominium



Eldon Hemmingsen was a 47-year member of Augustana who passed away September 22, 2017. Prior to his passing, he executed and recorded a beneficiary deed granting ownership of his condominium in Windsor Gardens to the Augustana

Foundation. Eldon's home became the ownership of the Augustana Foundation upon his death.

In the months that followed, a property analysis was completed, and the decision was made to sell. After the property closed on January 24, 2018, Eldon's beneficiary deed became an uncomplicated cash gift. The Augustana Foundation gratefully accepted the Eldon Hemmingsen legacy gift into its endowment fund.

Born and raised in Iowa, Eldon moved to Denver in 1967 where his occupational life spanned retailing, operational management, registered stockbroker, and airport security. He retired in 2005. Eldon was an active member of Augustana serving on numerous committees including serving as Treasurer of the Congregation Council. He was a frequent scripture reader on Sunday mornings.

Eldon Hemmingsen will be remembered as a very spiritual man. He will be fondly remembered for the reserved Coffee Hour seat he held at the southeastern-most table in Fellowship Hall. He will be also long remembered for his generous and lasting gift to the Foundation.

Announcing a \$10,000 Board Match

To demonstrate their unwavering support for the 50 for 50 Campaign, Board members challenged themselves to collectively contribute \$10,000 for a match program.

In thanking the Board, President Kari Blanchard applauded their generosity and enthusiasm for the match concept and affirmed the significant difference it will make in the campaign.

The Augustana Foundation Board believes in the enduring worth and power of its endowment fund to transform generously given small and large gifts received today into the inspiring and transformative grant awards of tomorrow.

The Board anticipates this matching gift program will encourage first time donors. Don't miss this opportunity to make twice the impact with your gift! Gifts will be matched until this Board match of \$10,000 is reached.

Augustana Foundation



The Augustana Foundation is celebrating its 50th Birthday!

Join the 50 for 50 Campaign to extend its impact in church and community.

Watch for details about a virtual toast to this 50-day campaign in mid-May.

[Support the Augustana Foundation Today](#)

Augustana Foundation

50th Anniversary Gala*



Friday, November 5, 2021 Augustana Lutheran Church

*Gala Concept: A grand celebration affair (maybe dressy or maybe casual) for Augustana members and friends, broader church community, past grant recipients, award recipients, and honored guests. Likely hybrid, using some live streaming capabilities. This signature event is being planned and implemented by the Augustana community to honor and celebrate Augustana Foundation's milestone year.

Likely dimensions include ticketed food and drink, music and entertainment, speakers, awards, impacts from grant recipients, donor recognition, fun and fellowship.

Volunteers are needed to plan and implement the Augustana Foundation's 50th Anniversary signature event.

- All volunteers welcome!
Individuals, families, ministry groups
- Fun event to celebrate the Foundation, an important Augustana ministry
- Bigger commitments (Planning Committee)
- Smaller commitments (e.g., invitations, tables, decorating, publicity, photography, technology, serving)

Committee will determine theme, speakers, invitations, publicity, food, donor opportunities, and just about everything else.

April is recruiting and getting organized month. Please contact **Marilyn Stember**, Coordinator, (50th Anniversary Project Marilyn.Stember@CUAnschutz.edu 303-550-1235) to express your interest! Or call Augustana's office (303-388-4678) and leave a message.



**HONOR THE PAST.
CELEBRATE THE PRESENT.
PREPARE THE FUTURE.**

AUGUSTANA ARTS



There is no question that the past 365+ days have been challenging for all families. Yet, despite the complications posed with offering in-person concerts, Augustana Arts continued to find creative ways for providing enriching music performances for our audiences, young and old. This included two Friday night “Relax and Unwind” concerts, two culinary concert experiences, a cultural collage of great classical music, and a percussion/storytelling concert. With the help of many fine musicians and artists, the music remained alive and well within our hearts. For children in our outreach program, the need to keep music alive in their young lives was also an important mission for Augustana Arts. Even though our in-person sessions were paused for most of 2020, we were thrilled to offer several small group lessons for students via Zoom as an afterschool and Saturday City Strings program. In

addition, teachers created and distributed downloadable and video resources for students including music sheets, tuning demonstrations and fun activities. Indeed, these life changing encounters touched lives when it was needed the most, and we were glad to continue to share the gift of music with children who may not otherwise have the opportunity for this life-transforming experience.

In celebration of the arts and the powerful impact of music on young lives, join us as we Celebrate Music Encounters with virtual performances from our Music Encounter teachers. The virtual performance by our teachers will air on Friday, April 16 at 7 p.m. via our website. There is NO cost to attend, but your donations are appreciated. Visit www.AugustanaArts.org to register, and a link will be sent to you for watching.

5000 E. Alameda Ave.
Denver, CO 80246

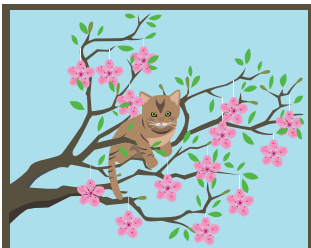


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APRIL



BIRTHDAYS

- 1** Abigail Buchanan
John Flory
Daniel Nimrod
- 2** Jim Apple
Samuel DiStefano
Laurance Johnson
- 3**
- 4** Diane Foley
- 5** Earl Conrad
Ginny Kusek
Joe Lewis
Robert Reinert
- 6** Robert Brown
Cecilia Pederson
Joel Sigdestad
Sandra Simpson

- 7** Berit Backes
Jan Brown
Beverly Garvin
Isabelle Howard
Ryan Sims
- 8** Robert Miller
Kera Terwilliger
- 9** Elliott Herrboldt
Millie Motes
- 10** Brenda Bucklin
Michael Graham
Erin Williams-Vohs
- 11** AJ Atherton
Makyla Moody
- 12** Doug Boyd
Erin Brown
Liv Triplett
- 13** Alex Kah
- 14** David Gottenborg
- 15** Maria Brotherston
Grant Lutz
Krista Walker
- 16** Kathryn Buol
Vale Triplett
- 17** Travis Sims

- 18** Laurel Bennett
Karen Edeen
Dan Taron
Douglas Wittich
- 19** Wayne Arden
Ashley Ezpeleta
Alma Flory
Nancy Kall
Dawn Nesheim
Lesley Smith
Reina VanderWel
- 20** Phyllis Ashliman
Matthew Beavers
Isaac Nemechek
Victoria Shiveley
Alex Tripp
- 21** Rachel Mangione
- 22** Christopher Carter
Betty Nyby
- 23**
- 24** Arvid Brekke
Cassandra Carter
Margery Sumberg
James Vaughters
- 25** Randall Holmberg
- 26** Doug Ray
Anneliese Rohr

- 27** Wayne Olson
Nyla Pulley
- 28** Alanah Blair
William Crossen
Amber Schweitzer
Brian Willoughby
- 29** Christopher Lager
- 30** Malakai Cooper
Dick Larson
Thomas Miller

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