



Augustana Homes are Happening!

Join the Lunch Hour Construction Kickoff!

Tuesday, June 18 | 11 a.m.–noon

5088 E Dakota Ave – behind Augustana Lutheran Church

US Bank's Good Truck will be on-site handing out goodies!



Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver starts construction on Augustana Homes, the community of eight affordable homes being built next to our church and made possible by the land of the Augustana congregation and the support of our Hilltop neighbors. The Construction Kickoff Celebration will include snacks and a brief program with remarks by **Senior Pastor Caitlin Trussell**, retired **Pastor Ann Hultquist** and Habitat Metro Denver leadership and build partners. Bring a friend!

Watch Augustana's publications for opportunities to volunteer on the build, and [see page 13](#) for a progress report.



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

5000 E. Alameda Ave.
Denver, CO 80246

Augustana
LUTHERAN CHURCH

PHONE: 303-388-4678

FAX: 303-388-1338

WEB: 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.

Worship

- **In-Person Worship**, Sundays, 8 a.m.
- **In-Person/Streamed Worship**, Sundays, 10:30 a.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, June 13, 4:30 p.m. is the deadline for the July edition. Email **Lyn Goodrum** (goodrum@augustanadenver.org).

Congregation Council:

President: Heidi Johnson

Vice President: Heather Nelson

Secretary: Nancy Nyhus

Interim Treasurer: Michael Gentes

Brynn Aarestad	Jack Kusek
Betty Boyd	Roger Lipker
Janet Flesch	Pr. Caitlin Trussell
Jayne Howard	Brian Willoughby
Sean-Casey King	Michael Zumwalt

Staff:

- **Caitlin Trussell**, Pastor
- **Karen Ullestad**, Assisting Pastor (interim)
- **William Crossen**, Finance Administrator
- **Christine Peters**, Building Systems Administrator
- **Shanna VanderWel**, Director of Youth and Family Ministry
- **Andrew Peters**, Director of Music and Organist
- **Kevin Padworski**, Chancel Choir Director
- **Angela Howard**, Choristers and Cantabile Director
- **Sue Ann Glusenkamp**, Faith Community Nurse
- **Lyn Goodrum**, Publications Administrator
- **Julie MacDougall**, Volunteer Ministry and Building Use
- **Alice Alister** and **Jesse Crone**, AV Technicians
- **Craig Tamminga**, Facility Manager
- **Asmir Hodzic**, Building and Grounds Manager
- **Ellen Kastens**, **Amy Tamminga**, **Erin Saboe Willoughby**, Wedding Coordinators
- **Kisanet Yohannes**, Director, Augustana Early Learning Center

Recently lifted up in prayer

For hope and healing:

- Lindsey Friedberg Anticknap
- Cyrus Atherton
- Elizabeth Biddle
- Mbili Boyd
- Shonda Cigich
- Baby Samara Coyle
- Nancy Cowee
- Lynn Friesen
- Barbara Grande
- Sandy Heitzman
- Susan Hill
- Adele Klug
- Robert Larson
- Kathy Perkins
- Micah Peters
- Rebecca Shandrick
- Sharon Sjostrom
- Mary Tinker
- Leonard Truxel
- Mieriel

For comfort and courage:

- Pastor Todd Hawkins, former Augustana visitation pastor, in the death of his wife, Kelly Cowling
- Family and friends of Arlien Johnson in her death
- Alan Motes in the death of his stepfather, Ronnie McManus
- Ethel Scott and family in the death of her husband, Fred Scott

Rejoice with . . .

- Anna Marie Stillwell, daughter of Merrill and Emily Stillwell and great-granddaughter of Dorie Fie, in her baptism
- Leia Jo Wesloh, daughter of Jeremy and Crista Wesloh, in her baptism
- Parents Ashley and Derek Porterfield, grandparents Bill and Colleen Porterfield, and great-grandparent Dorie Fie in the birth of Clair Porterfield, May 11

Thank you for the gifts!

Augustana Early Learning Center

- in honor of the baptism of Anna Marie Stillwell
- in memory of Dolly Lager

Music Ministry

Music-making continues during summer!



In the summer while the choirs and handbell choirs are on break, music opportunities continue at Augustana. I have been contacting church instrumentalists and vocalists about summer music. Please contact me (peters@augustanadenver.org or 303-388-4678 ext. 122) if you are interested in playing or singing on a Sunday but haven't heard from me.

Summer Choir

During June and July, all are invited to sing in Summer Choir. This choral ensemble, now in its third year, is open to any age. Summer Choir gathers each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. in Christ Chapel and rehearses an anthem that will be sung in the 10:30 service. I will direct this choir (with the exception of one week when I am on vacation). There's no need to reserve a spot; just show up for rehearsal. I hope that families, spouses, partners, and friends of other singers will consider singing in this group as a meaningful way to

make music together. I thank **Tim Garrington**, **Christelle Menth**, **LyNette Rasmussen**, and **Sharon Schillereff** for volunteering to accompany this ensemble.

Summer Handbell Choir

I also invite you to consider playing in the Summer Handbell Choir. This multi-age ensemble will meet Sundays, July 14, 21, and 28, 9–9:40 am. The choir will play in the 10:30 a.m. service on July 28. If you are interested in playing, please contact me by July 5 so that I can select music matching the number of people participating.

I look forward to seeing you at Augustana during summer worship.

Grace and peace,

Andy Peters

Director of Music and Organist



Welcome Connection

June challenge:

Sing in the Summer Choir!

Welcome Connection is looking to encourage some summer fun! Our June challenge has to do with Augustana's summer choir. All who wish to participate, great voice or not, arrive at 9:45 a.m. to learn the music for that day. Then they raise their voices in song at the 10:30 a.m. service. June's Welcome Connection Challenge is to sing in the choir at least twice or join the supportive masses in the pews to hear God's praise.

Pastor Caitlin accepts Senior Pastor call

I formally accepted the call as Senior Pastor after the Congregational Vote on May 5 which is also my official start date. This is my acceptance letter!

Dear Sinner-Saints of
Augustana Lutheran Church,

I accept with great pleasure the call to serve as your Senior Pastor. Your congregational vote, in addition to the shift that the Call Committee made during our two interviews and alignment between the congregation's Ministry Site Profile and my Rostered Minister Profile, give me confidence that this is the right fit at the right time for congregation and pastor. My excitement knows no bounds!

Last fall, with feedback from the Listening Circles in hand, the Transition Team and Council requested my discernment as to my sense of call with the congregation. Of course, I prayed about it and discussed with

Rob the future possibilities for us and for my work. His support and encouragement are essential. Discernment also included conversations with friends, colleagues, and Bishop Jim Gonia. I returned to Council with a clear personal call to be considered by the Call Committee as the next Senior Pastor. The Call Committee's thoughtful, deliberate process was quite the experience. I'm grateful for their diligence, care, and laughter.

God has graced Augustana with almost 150 years of gospel ministry in Denver. Working with you as people of the gospel in this time and place is an honor and fills me with joy. I'm excited to continue shaping our future together around God's call through Augustana!

Peace,
Pastor Caitlin Trussell

The Process to Call an Associate Pastor

With the congregation's call to Pastor Caitlin Trussell as Augustana's senior pastor, the Call Committee met on May 6 to revise the congregation's Ministry Site Profile (MSP) that reflects the gifts and work sought for the next Associate Pastor. The MSP draft is complete.

Pastor Caitlin also learned a lot during the annual staff evaluations in May. These and other conversations gave valuable feedback and exciting possibilities about their ministries. The Call Committee, Congregation Council, and Personnel

Committee are also part of imagining those possibilities. Summer offers a calmer pace to slow our thinking and be creative towards the main goal of calling the next right pastor.

During June, July, and August, the congregation has contracted with retired Pastor Karen Ullestad to serve part-time, especially in the areas of pastoral care, worship, and preaching. She is an Augustana member whose gifts align with this work. Thank you, Pastor Karen!

AUGUSTANA HAS A NEW SENIOR PASTOR!

You're invited to the

FESTIVAL BLESSING & LITURGY OF INSTALLATION FOR PASTOR CAITLIN TRUSSELL



JUNE 8, 2024 | SATURDAY, 2 P.M.

SANCTUARY AND LIVESTREAM

Snacks and Cookies Reception | Fellowship Hall

Bring a friend!

- **Bishop Jim Gonia** will preach and lead this festive gathering of Augustana friends and staff, community members, deacons, pastors, multifaith leaders, neighbors, and Pastor Caitlin's family.
- You're invited to **wear green** or other bright colors.

Multifaith Leaders, Deacons, Pastors, and Interns are invited to vest and process.

- You're invited to wear the sacred clothes and/or accessories of your tradition.
- There will be a cross leading the procession as we enter the Sanctuary.
- Please participate at your comfort level and contact **Pastor Caitlin** with questions (Trussell@augustanadenver.org). All are welcome!
- **Color of the day is green**, and multicolored stoles are cool too. It's a party!



5000 E. Alameda Ave. | Denver, CO 80246 | 303-388-4678 | www.augustanadenver.org

Pastor Karen Ullestad

We're part of the life-giving tree!

O Blessed Spring, where word and sign embrace us into Christ the Vine: here Christ enjoins each one to be a branch of this life-giving Tree.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, 447

These words of Susan Palo Cherwien describe our life together as a congregation. We are gathered by God's word, water, bread and wine. Gathered by an embrace, a surrounding, a welcome into the body of Christ, imagined as a Vine. In this community Christ bids, calls each one of us to be part of the life-giving Tree. This tree offers refuge, nourishment, hope and a strong foundation that the world longs to know. A foundation that is liberated from whatever lures us to "branch off" on our own. A foundation that is weeded and fertilized by the Spirit's tending. A foundation that is rooted in love, as Cherwien writes, a love that even in death promises a new spring.

I am humbled to be joined to the branch of Christ's life-giving Tree, in our corner of the world. May Christ, through us, move with gifts of beauty, wisdom and love.

Pastor Karen Ullestad

pastorkaren@augustanadenver.org



Congregation Council

Building on Augustana's ministry this summer



Congregation President
Heidi Johnson

At the time of this writing, Council is looking ahead to the summer months and progress on several Augustana initiatives supported by our dedicated committees. First, we'll join together to recognize Pastor Gail's tenure with Augustana on Sunday May 19, and her last Sunday with

the congregation on May 26. Thank you again, Pastor Gail, for your guidance and enthusiasm over the past year! Next, we'll celebrate Pastor Caitlin's installation as our Senior Pastor at a special service with Bishop Gonias on Saturday, June 8. We are looking forward to this exciting event and to welcoming family and friends to Augustana as we take this important step forward in our life together.

The Call Committee continues their work on a new Ministry Site Profile for our next Pastor, which will likely be completed by the time this article is published. Simultaneously, Welcome 150 is working behind the scenes, so please pay close attention for updates and opportunities to learn more. Beginning in June, we welcome Pastor Karen as our Assistant Pastor through the summer months, and on June 18, Augustana Homes will go "vertical."

A special thank you to everyone who has made, and makes, these events possible! As we prepare to witness these celebrations, I invite your prayers for our continuing journey.

With appreciation,
Heidi Johnson



In April, your offerings supported a Community Garden-themed Health Ministry Sunday Coffee Hour, a Care of Creation Sunday fair, and Sunday morning worship led by Augustana's youth.



Income Statement for the Year-to-Date Period ended April 30

	April 30, 2024		April 2023	Year-to-Date		YTD 2023
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Actual	Budget	Actual
Revenue	\$76,955	\$101,368	\$107,676	\$439,312	\$455,076	\$421,683
Expenditures	108,508	113,911	110,934	442,276	454,637	429,182
Net Income (loss)	\$(31,553)	\$(12,543)	\$(3,258)	\$(2,964)	\$439	\$(7,499)

April was a difficult month as we recorded a deficit of (\$31,600), (\$19,000) worse than budgeted. Revenue was (\$24,400) less than expected due to a shortfall in offerings while expenses were \$5,400 lower than budget.

For the year-to-date period, we have recorded a net deficit of (\$3,000), (\$3,400) unfavorable to budget. Revenue was (\$15,800) lower than expected while expenses were \$12,400 lower than budget. Both the revenue and the expense variances are attributable to modest differences in multiple categories. The 2024 year-to-date net deficit represents a \$4,500 improvement over the same period of 2023.

Need More Funds?

Augustana programs, groups, and property are eligible to receive designated funds as voted by Thrivent members. Requests for funds should include the name of the organization, amount of money requested, the purpose of the grant, whether requests are being made to other sources, and a contact person with telephone number and/or email address. Send your request by June 26 to KL-cruson@comcast.net so it can be considered at the June 30 Augustana Thrivent Financial meeting.

These Thrivent Choice Dollars have been generously designated by Thrivent members to a special fund at Augustana Lutheran Church. Thrivent members may contact thrivent.com or 1-800-THRIVENT to designate your Choice Dollars at any time.

thrivent®

Thrivent meeting to disburse money and hear about Welcome 150

The June 30 meeting of Augustana's Thrivent members will feature two items:

1. Hear about Welcome 150 from that committee's representative.
2. Make decisions about disbursing Thrivent Choice dollars to Augustana programs, property or groups. All Augustana friends and members are welcome to attend, but only Thrivent members may vote on the decisions. Meet at 11:45 a.m. in the Anna Paulson Room. Lunch will be provided (\$5). Contact **Katherine Cruson** (303-696-7430) by Friday, June 28 for reservations.



From left: Janet Philipp, Pastor Caitlin Trussell, Deacon Shanna VanderWel, Pastor Karen Ullestad, Nancy Nyhus, Pat Miller, Pastor Gail Mundt, Pastor Frank Philipp

Augustana at the Rocky Mountain Synod Assembly of the ELCA!

For three days, April 25–27, more than 400 people from the Rocky Mountain Synod were present in Loveland for the annual synod assembly. People come together from all walks of life in the five states represented in our synod, believing in the oft-repeated statement of Bishop Jim Gonia, “we ARE better together.”

Augustana was well-represented in many ways:

1. **Pastor John Bengston**, retired, was present and honored for his 60th anniversary of ordination, as was former member, now retired, **Pastor Carl Hansen**.
2. **Deacon Shanna VanderWel** was honored for her 10th anniversary of ordination.
3. **Betty Boyd** was honored for the 40th anniversary of the start of the Advocacy ministry in the RMS, of which she was key. She spoke on the importance of Advocacy and the work that has been done through the years. Pictures were shown on the screens, and there were familiar faces from Augustana at various places of importance, such as the steps of the Capitol.
4. **Kay Bengston** received a shout-out, and her picture was on the overhead screen for her important leadership role in Advocacy.

5. The music for opening worship was led by our own **Andy Peters** on the piano, with hymns and special music led by **Emily Murdock** and **Blake Nawa`a**.
6. **Pastor Caitlin**, **Deacon Shanna** and **Pastor Gail** were there as your rostered leaders.
7. **Pastor Karen Ullestad** was with the Augustana group as a retired pastor and voting member.
8. Your voting members were **Pat Miller** and council secretary **Nancy Nyhus**.
9. Next generation: A child, **Reina**, and grandchild, **Mbili**, were present and welcomed into the RMS assembly community.
10. Retired **Pastor Frank Philipp** and his wife, **Janet**, attended—as Janet is on the Synod Council as secretary and was on the stage in her position during the business meetings and elections.
11. **Jo Ann Wacker-Farrand** traveled to Loveland to speak to a resolution, “Justice for Palestinians and Israelis” which was voted on and passed.
12. The beautiful tapestry banners that hung over the stage all weekend, were created by **Ken Phillips**, a friend of Augustana and a creator of banners hung during Lent in Christ Chapel.
13. Last but certainly not least, the **Rev. Deacon Sarah Bjornebo**, member of Augustana and Assistant to the Bishop for Communication & Innovation, was the event coordinator, keeping us all apprised of where, when and how we were to move through the Assembly.

Pastor Gail Mundt

Impressions from voting members Nancy and Pat

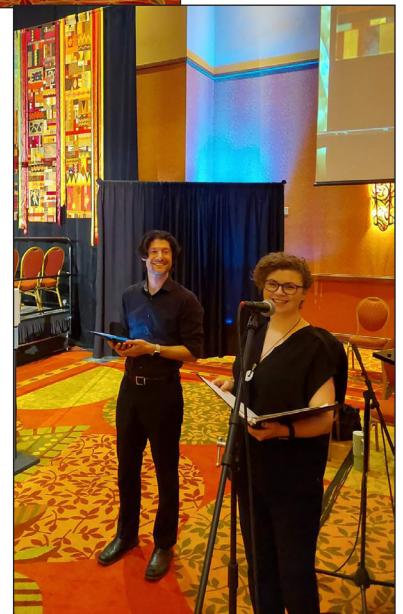
We were both honored and humbled by your trust in us to represent Augustana at the 2024 Synod Assembly in Loveland, CO. Gathering with the theme of “On Our Way Together,” our time was a

continued next page



Pastor Bengtson and Pastor Hansen (two in the middle) were recognized for the 60th anniversary of their ordinations.

Blake Nawa`a, Emily Murdock and Andy Peters helped lead music.



Thanks to Pastor Caitlin for the photos!

whirlwind as we prayed together, listened together, sang together and voted together.

Five ballots over the span of 48 hours took us from a nomination list of fourteen candidates, to nine candidates who gave speeches, to five candidates, to three candidates, to two candidates. The newly elected Bishop was Rev. Meghan Johnston Aelabouni, the Synod's first female Bishop. She and her family will pack up and move from their home in Jerusalem, and she will begin her new position in July.

It's difficult to put into words just what it felt like to be in a room of 400+ people of faith focusing together on doing God's work. The positivity in the room instantly created a sense of fellowship and family. It was an experience we will never forget. We want to thank our family at Augustana for sending us on this wonderful adventure.

Nancy Nyhus and Pat Miller

Pastor Karen enjoyed community as the body of Christ

It is always a treat for me to attend a synod assembly, or any large gathering of the church. Worshiping and deliberating business with 400 other faithful folks reminds me we are part of the world-wide community of believers. We don't always agree. But we pray, and sing, and vote and even dance (!) together as the body of Christ in our corner of the world. Through the many presentations, we saw that there are new and vibrant ministries all around the synod and the ELCA.

A particular highlight was to celebrate the ministry of Bishop Jim Gonia and to welcome the gifts of our new Bishop, Meghan Johnston Aelabouni. We are blessed to have such faithful leaders.

I left the assembly understanding more clearly the statement Bishop Gonia says as often as he can, "we are church, better together!"

Pastor Karen Ullestad



Worship

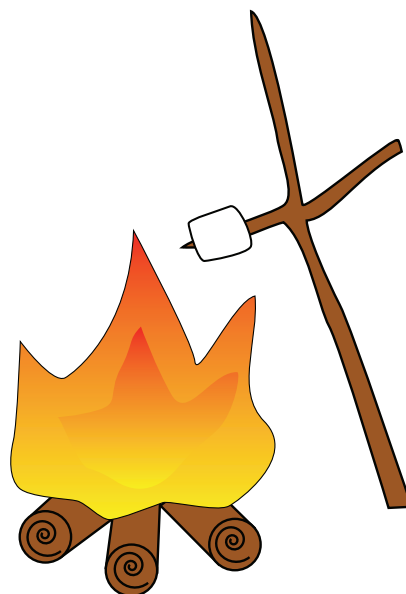
S'more Fun and Worship begins in June!

Wednesdays, June 5, 12, 19, and 26 and July 10, 17, 24, and 31, Quist Park

Supper 5:30 p.m. | Worship 6 p.m.

Family friendly meal with s'mores and camp-style worship in Augustana's Quist Park! Pizza or sandwiches will be available for dinner each week. You are encouraged to bring a water bottle and chair or blanket.

Contact **Deacon Shanna VanderWel** (303-388-4678 ext. 107 or shanna@augustanadenver.org).



Children, Youth, Family



VBS campers learned about and tried out the organ at last summer's Vacation Bible School.

Register for Vacation Bible School by June 15!

Register by June 15 for Day Camp on Augustana's website for participants and volunteers (<https://www.augustanadenver.org/vacation-bible-school/>). Registration is capped at 40! Day camp will run at Augustana July 8–11, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. each day.

Vacation Bible School Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to house counselors and provide a few more meals for the campers and Sky Ranch Staff the week of July 7–12. If you are interested in sharing your home or a meal, please contact **Deacon Shanna VanderWel** (303-388-4678 ext. 107 or shanna@augustanadenver.org).

Kids go to camp this summer

This summer, 22 of Augustana's children and youth are heading to Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp. Some of these campers for their first time! We invite you to remember them in your prayers as they discover God in new ways and build new friendships.

Study/Fellowship

Book Group

Join us on Monday, June 17 for a potluck in the Anna Paulson Room at 11:30 a.m. to discuss future book titles. Please bring a dish to share and ideas to help establish a reading schedule for the months ahead. Our group will take the summer off and reconvene in September.

For information, contact **Ellen Kastens** (303-475-7877 or ekkastens@gmail.com). All are welcome.

Women, Wine and Word

Women, Wine and Word will take the summer off and resume meeting in August with a social time. It has been educational to study the book of Revelation this spring under the leadership of Pastor Karen Ullestad. Many thanks to Pastor Karen! We are looking for ideas for books or topics for the fall. If you have ideas, please contact **Katy Lunsford** (katy.p.lunsford@gmail.com). Enjoy your summer, and we look forward to gathering once again in August.



In 2028, Augustana Lutheran Church celebrates the 150th anniversary of our founding! Our Welcome 150 initiative is rooted in Augustana's Strategic Plan:

Committed to welcoming new people to our faith community, caring for our neighbors and the world, we will improve the care of our current facilities and look for meaningful ways to share them with the community.

Our Welcome 150 Workgroup has been diligent in imagining and studying projects needed to care for, update, and improve our facility. We will now be seeking feedback for prioritizing our comprehensive visions.

Workgroup presents Welcome 150 potential projects:

Curb Welcome: includes signage on Alameda, enhanced exterior lighting, new external signage and way finding, and planting additional trees and improving exterior landscape.

Energy Efficiency: replace failing integrated exterior wall/window structures on south side of sanctuary and west side of education wing, install energy-efficient light fixtures, weatherize windows and doors, update domestic hot water systems, explore potential solar energy projects.

Fellowship Hall Refresh: update aesthetics with new bright/attractive lighting fixtures and flooring, build an all-gender, ADA restroom as a companion to the basement restrooms, add air handling system to bring AC to kitchen and Fellowship Hall, asbestos remediation as required for remodel process.

Hospitality and Accessibility: expand narthex by installing glass walls to enclose the covered portico, build new all-gender bathrooms, and

continued next page

Attend a Q&A about Welcome 150 projects

In the Anna Paulson Room:

- Thursday May 23, 11 a.m.–noon
- Sunday, May 26, noon–1 p.m.

Via Zoom only:

- Wednesday, May 29, 7–8 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88660887950?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88660887950?pwd=NElrGhWdTBFQGFYWEF2M3FhT0g0UT09)
[pwd=NElrGhWdTBFQGFYWEF2M3FhT0g0](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88660887950?pwd=NElrGhWdTBFQGFYWEF2M3FhT0g0UT09)
UT09

create a hospitality/coffee station; asbestos remediation in narthex and stairways, replace system-wide air conditioning chiller, refresh restrooms throughout the building, refurbish the elevator.

Meeting Space and Classroom Renewal Across the Generations:

analyze the available space in education/office wings and reconfigure and refresh, refurbish education wing mechanical room, renovate south education wing, improve lighting and install new flooring in classroom, meeting, office and rehearsal areas, install natural playscape in courtyard, improvements to the Augustana Early Education Center, asbestos remediation as required for remodel.

Organ Refurbishment: clean and rebuild mechanisms and leather wind chest bellows, clean and restore all pipework, replace and rebuild entire east wall of original failing speaker cloth, improve console to align with renewed organ electronics.

Sanctuary Renewal: music and liturgy comprehensive renewal to align with our theology and our accessibility needs, new flooring throughout sanctuary, improve lighting and enhance AV systems, new seating cushions, north window replacements, AC for choir room and east restrooms, improve ventilation for liturgy and music areas, asbestos remediation in aisle ways as required for remodel.



Augustana Homes

Going vertical soon!

In April, construction began on the large retaining wall on the south side of the site. Once the retaining wall is completed, the crews will begin work on the foundations for the units, and the construction of the piers and grade beams for the units which will last for an estimated 10 weeks. This work is scheduled to be completed by the middle of July.

The vertical construction portion of the project, which includes the framing, sheathing, exterior trim, etc., is projected to begin this summer. Watch the Sunday announcements and ePistles for volunteer opportunities to work with Habitat for Humanity and the new homeowners starting in June!



Health Ministry

June is Men's Health Awareness Month

June is Men's Health Awareness Month, a nationally recognized period for **AWARENESS, PREVENTION, EDUCATION, and FAMILY ENGAGEMENT** for the health and well-being of men and boys.

The purpose of Men's Health Awareness is to encourage early detection and treatment of preventable health problems and heighten awareness among men and boys.

The June 2024 Statement from the Men's Health Network states: "Stronger Together, Better Forever: Building Better Health for Men & Boys, Lifelong."

Living longer and healthier!

Take control of your health by:

- Getting a yearly check-up from your healthcare provider. Your best chance of avoiding health problems that afflict men are prevention, self-examination, and regular physician visits.
- Regular screening can catch many health problems in an early stage, when treatment is most likely to be successful.

Did you know?

- Women are 100% more likely than men to visit the doctor for annual exams and preventative services.
- 1 in 2 men are diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime compared with 1 in 3 women.
- In 2010, there were 88.9 men for every 100 women in the age group 65–69.
- Depression in men is undiagnosed contributing to the fact that men are four times as likely to die by suicide.

Men's Health Network

Connect today for more encouraging information:

- Info@MensHealthNetwork.org
- P.O. Box 77476
Washington DC 20013
- www.MensHealthNetwork.org

Bless the Years photos: Ever wonder what happens at Bless the Years?

Many thanks to **Duane Howell**, resident photographer for our Bless the Years gatherings. Duane not only takes photos of worship and lunch, but he also generously develops these photos for our enjoyment! For the most recent photos from our May 8, 2024 Bless the Years, walk by Augustana's office to see fun photos on display of this blessed and happy event.

Here's a sample of what you'll see!



Compassion and Action with Our Neighbor (CAN) Ministry

Augustana celebrates successful Undie Sunday and Care of Creation Sunday

Because the CAN Ministry Team has sponsored several activities over the past few weeks, I need to take a few moments to thank those who generously donated gifts and to those who orchestrated these activities. The entire Augustana family has truly demonstrated their compassion, faith, and God's love in action.

Undie Sunday was a huge success: **2,003 diapers** and **6,965 wipes** were donated to Foster Source; **2,278 feminine products** were divided between George Washington High School and Ruby's Market; **401 pairs of socks**, and **350 undies** were given to McMeen Elementary. Thank you to all who donated these essential gifts. A special thanks to **Amy King** who organized the event and to all those who distributed the donations.

Augustana members and friends contributed **131 Personal Care Kits** to Lutheran World Relief. In 2023 the kits were sent to Ukraine, Uganda, and victims of tornado disasters across the U.S. A big thank you to **Jean Gall** for her leadership and dedication.



Celebrating Augustana's Undie Sunday success are Bill and Rhonda Crossen, Sue Ann Glusenkamp, Sharon Schillereff, Erin Saboe and Brian Willoughby, and Brian Bernhard.

Thank you to the Creation Care Team who organized a special Adult Forum. Informational tables displayed useful suggestions that will produce a positive impact on our earth. A special thanks goes out to **Robin Hoffman, Katy Lunsford** and **Bonita Bock** and all those who set up and coordinated each table's activities. ([See also page 18.](#))

Since CAN Ministry will not be sponsoring the Summer of Service activity, we encourage everyone

to continue volunteering with your special organization and consider volunteering with Habitat for Humanity and Holy Hammers. More information regarding CAN Ministry's involvement with the Augustana Build will be forthcoming.

If you have questions or want additional information, contact **Laura Libby** (laura.alibby@gmail.com) or **Annie Nessa** at amnessa@comcast.net. The next meeting is Sunday, June 9, noon, Anna Paulson Room. Everyone is welcome.

Annie Nessa,
CAN Ministry Co-chair

Human Dignity Delegates challenged to enlarge their circle of engagement

Human Dignity Delegates (HDD) met with Thomas Weiler, lead organizer with Together Colorado. We were challenged to think of five people from our circles we could invite into this space. Have you thought of five friends who would be willing to begin on the ladder of engagement? This engagement could be as simple as looking up their State Senator and Representatives and joining their respective newsletters or signing up for alerts from Together Colorado, Rocky Mountain Synod Advocacy office (<https://www.rmselca.org/advocacy>) or the ELCA Advocacy office.

During the summer we will discuss opportunities for you to engage and put your faith into the public space. Additionally, HDDs will be recommending books and movies for this summer to further educate ourselves on racism and the impacts on our communities. Titles will be made available via email. Keep on the lookout.

HDDs will resume meetings in August. For additional information, contact **Beth Black** (comosh@aol.com) or **Katy Lunsford** (katy.p.lunsford@gmail.com).

Augustana Foundation

Augustana Foundation announces Second Quarter Grants:

- Augustana Capital Improvement Fund for planned improvements to the building and campus
- Augustana Lutheran Church for an energy audit required to meet standards set by new city and state regulations
- Augustana Early Learning Center for scholarships for low-income families
- Augustana Welcome Connections to further community outreach
- Habitat for Humanity for support of the building of Augustana Homes
- Lutheran Family Services-Rocky Mountain for support of fundraising
- Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp for outreach programs at upcoming youth gathering and homeless initiatives in Denver
- Restoration Outreach for their summer youth program on East Colfax

Seeking New Foundation Board Members

The Foundation board is looking for a few new members for a three-year term (or two!). Committees include Development/Communications; Finance/Investment; Grantmaking; and Governance. If you have skills in any of these areas, or are simply interested in the Foundation, please reach out to **Kari Blanchard**, Foundation President, (pkblanchard@comcast.net or 303-881-3301). New members need to be identified in June and approved by the Congregation Council in August. Your participation would begin in January 2025.



Annie Nessa and Dane Vierow discuss compost tea.
Thanks to Fran Rew for these photos!



AJ and Morgan Levy offered guidance on sorting trash, recycling and compost at Augustana.

Care of Creation

Care of Creation exhibited by many!

Sincere thanks to Augustana members and friends who offered their time and talents on Earth Day Sunday, April 21, displaying their ideas for caring for creation at the Augustana Earth Fair that took place in Fellowship Hall. And thank you to others who participated by visiting the fair. If you were not able to attend, visit with any of these folks about their demonstrations to learn how you can also expand your own care for God's good earth!

With gratitude to:

- **Dane Vierow** - How to make compost tea to nourish your house plants
- **Don Troike** - How to become a member of the compost program individually, bring your household compost to church. (Membership also reduces the cost to Augustana!)
- **Christine Peters** - Xeriscaping and native plants while saving precious water resources
- **Karen and Ron Lambert** - Grow your own vegetables, and learn about Augustana's community garden
- **Duane and Jean Gall** - Happy Beetle Recycling for extensive recycling of items, creating a no-waste household
- **Katy Lunsford** - Ridwell also offers extensive recycling possibilities

- **Richard and Fran Rew** - How we can be citizen scientists to better understand the needs of our planet
- **Robin Hoffman** - Computer quizzes and games with an educational emphasis to learn about care of creation while you play
- **AJ and Morgan Levy** - For demonstrating good sorting practices when recycling and composting while reducing trash for the landfill
- **Annie Nessa and Bonita Bock** - For healthy snacks for kids and adults alike
- **Paul Frank** - Support person
- **Seki** - For setting up and taking down all the tables for these displays to be properly presented

*Quickening Spirit,
You have given to me my breath this day.
Gratitude for all the life I have been part of
Gratitude for my body, and my spirit,
Gratitude for each person,
Gratitude for each creature,
Gratitude for this tiny piece of your living planet
that came into my sights this day.
In the Oneness of all your creation, grant us peace.*

From the **Celtic Wheel of the Year**
by Anglican priest Tess Ward



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8am Worship/Communion 9:30am Kids in the Courtyard 9:45am Summer Choir 10:30am Worship/Communion Noon Augustana Knitters	3 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers 1pm Welcome Connection 4pm Welcome 150 Lead Team	4	5 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers 5:30pm S'mores Fun & Worship	6	7 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers 11am Bulletin Assembly	8 2pm Installation of Pastor Caitlin Trussell
9 8am Worship/Communion 9:15am Health Ministry Team 9:30am Kids in the Courtyard 9:45am Summer Choir 10:30am Worship/Communion Noon Executive Committee Noon CAN Ministry	10 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers	11	12 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers 5:30pm S'more Fun & Worship	13 2pm The Tower deadline 60+ Ministry	14 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers 11am Bulletin Assembly	15
16 8am Worship/Communion 9:30am Kids in the Courtyard 9:45am Summer Choir 10:30am Worship/Communion	17 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers 11:30am Book Group	18 11am Augustana Homes Lunch Hour Construction Kick-off 7pm Congregation Council	19 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers 5:30pm S'more Fun & Worship	20 10am Sarah Circle	21 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers 11am Bulletin Assembly	22
23 8am Worship/Communion 9:15am E-4 Mental Health 9:30am Kids in the Courtyard 9:45am Summer Choir 10:30am Worship/Communion	24	25 1pm The Tower Assembly	26 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers 5:30pm S'more Fun & Worship 6:30pm Alzheimer's Support Group	27	28 9:45am Augustana Firm Believers 11am Bulletin Assembly	29
30 8am Worship/Communion 9:30am Kids in the Courtyard 9:45am Summer Choir 10:30am Worship/Communion Noon Thrivent						

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Simon Bernhard
Alfred Born
Annika Theiss | 18 Claire Miller | 27 Amelia Stratton
Lynn Veit
Marianne Woodward |
| 3 Christopher
Garrington
Anna Reinert
Allison Terry
Walker James | 12 Suvi Miller
Betty Waters | 19 Elizabeth Black
Mara Jacobs
Stuart Motes | 28 Judy Edwards
Richard Farrand
Tilly Fontaine |
| 4 Hunter Arnell
Doug Hein | 13 Carol Troike | 20 Felix Devol
Norman Gay | 29 Robert Beeman
Deb Hempelman
Courtney Jacobs
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| | | 25 Nancy Cowee | |
| | | 26 Anya Bornhijm
Caroline Johnson
Anne Stratton | |

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