

When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

—TITUS 3:4-5

PROSPECTUS FALL 2024

WELCOME
150 **THE CAMPAIGN TO RENEW AUGUSTANA**

Dear Augustana Community;

We have been listening. Listening to the Holy Spirit through the development and ongoing updates of the strategic plan. Listening to the community as we reach out in service. Listening to you during the transition time, the pre-campaign study and various awareness events about Welcome 150.

We heard very clearly your passion for ministry in this place. We heard your desire to renew our space as we renew our ministry under new leadership. You also told us your desire to see the entire project implemented while we keep our day-to-day ministry strong.

This booklet shares both our plans for our Annual Ministry and Mission as well as the Welcome 150 Campaign. Both are critically important this year. Our Annual Ministry and Mission needs to grow by \$1,350 per week or about \$70,000 next year to keep up with inflation, provide for insurance increases, and to make up for donors who died or moved away.

The Welcome 150 Capital Campaign has a goal to raise \$8.5 million with projects to be implemented in three priority levels.

- » Priority 1—Sanctuary Renewal, Organ Refurbishment, and Energy Efficiency
- » Priority 2—Curb Welcome, Fellowship Hall, More Energy Efficiency, and Meeting Space Renewal
- » Priority 3—Narthex Expansion

These projects will enable us to better live into the strengths you shared with us that are most important to you as a congregation:

- » Our excellent traditional worship service and embrace of music,
- » Our welcome and inclusion of children and adults of all ages, abilities, and attributes, and
- » Our response to the gospel message through our Compassion and Action with our Neighbors (CAN) Ministry.

This is a significant effort. When we think about what God has accomplished through Augustana for the last 150 years, we realize that together we can make a tremendous impact and reach our goals.

Pastor Caitlin Trussell
Senior Pastor

Katrina Tamminga Crook, *Chair*
Welcome 150 Campaign Team

Dane Vierow, *Chair*
Welcome 150 Work Group

LEADERSHIP

We're fortunate to have exceptional staff and lay leadership within the congregation. These leaders guide our lives together and give of their faith, time, skills, and money to lead well.

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Heidi Johnson, <i>President</i>	Nancy Nyhus, <i>Secretary</i>	Sean-Casey King
Heather Nelson, <i>Vice President</i>	Brynn Aarestad	Jack Kusek
Michael Gentes, <i>Treasurer</i>	Betty Boyd	Roger Lipker
	Janet Flesch	Brian Willoughby
	Jayne Howard	Michael Zumwalt
		Caitlin Trussell, <i>Senior Pastor</i>

WELCOME 150 STEERING TEAM (CAPITAL CAMPAIGN)

Katrina Tamminga Crook, <i>Steering Team Chair</i>	Heidi Johnson, <i>President of the Congregation</i>
Josie Cockrell, <i>Events Team Chair</i>	Ed Havranek
Paul Edstrom	Denise Sanderson, <i>Information and Inspiration Teams Co-Chair</i>
Lisa Boe-Sims, <i>Inspiration Team Co-Chair</i>	Bill Crossen, <i>Finance Administrator</i>
Beth Finke, <i>Information Team Co-Chair</i>	Pastor Caitlin Trussell, <i>Response & Gratitude Team Co-Chair</i>
Ron Glusenkamp, <i>Response & Gratitude Team, Chair</i>	

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Larry Rasmussen, <i>Chair</i>	Jo Martin
Greta Devol	Dale Penny
Jim Dierker	Bill Crossen, <i>Finance Administrator</i>
Michael Gentes, <i>Council Treasurer</i>	Caitlin Trussell, <i>Senior Pastor</i>

WELCOME 150 WORK GROUP (PROJECTS & PRIORITIES)

Dane Vierow, <i>Architect, Chair</i>	Craig Tamminga, <i>Augustana Facilities Manager</i>
Paul Blanchard, <i>Engineer, Property Committee</i>	Bill Crossen, <i>Finance Administrator</i>
Greg Hempelman, <i>Engineer, Property Committee</i>	Kent Mueller, <i>Assisting Pastor of Communication Technology & the Arts</i>
Christine Peters, <i>Building Systems Administrator</i>	
Erin Saboe, <i>Welcome Connection Ministry</i>	

THE ANNUAL MINISTRY AND MISSION RESPONSE

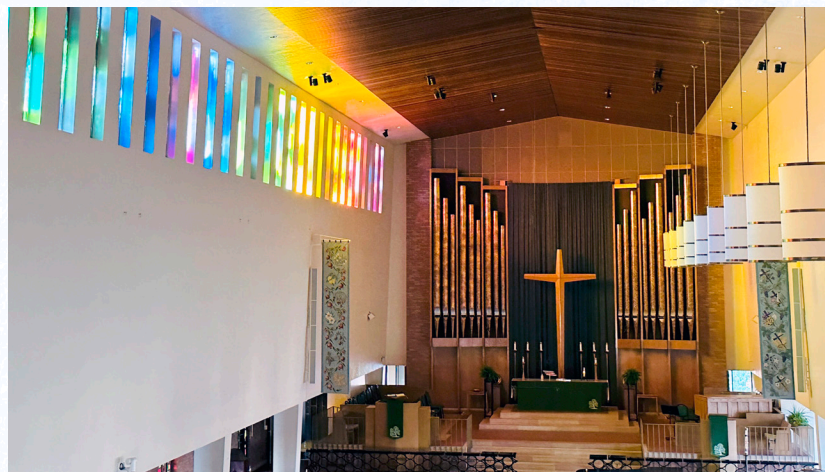
Sustaining Augustana's ministry excellence includes your ongoing offerings for 2025 that ensure ministry continues in the congregation and community together with the gift of our dedicated ministry staff and incomparable campus. Each of us has stories about what our congregation means to us. Some of our stories are quieter, like our ongoing ministry involvement and volunteering week-to-week or the connections we have with each other and being missed when we're not in worship. Other stories include big moments and milestones in our lives of faith. Both our quiet and compelling stories combine into a powerful gospel witness for God's sake, for our sake, and for the sake of the world.

"Pastor Caitlin helped Don accept death without fear"

Paula and Don were living in Missouri and considering a move to Denver to be closer to their children. They were lifetime Lutherans: Don was raised LCMS and Paula was adopted through Lutheran Children and Family Services. In January 2023, their daughter discovered Augustana through the website and suggested to her parents that they should visit the church as it looked like a friendly and inviting community. Don was diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer that July and they moved to Denver in August.

On their first Sunday at Augustana, Paula filled out a request for prayer card, but Don was hesitant, fearing that Pastor Caitlin would just ask them to join a committee or serve as an usher. Paula made the visit alone. Paula felt a real connection with Pastor Caitlin and shared many life stories. Don then agreed to a 30-minute visit by himself. During his visit, he texted Paula several times to extend the meeting. Don was a very private person, but when Paula arrived that day to pick him up, she found him and Pastor Caitlin sitting outside on the wall laughing. Paula says, "That day, Pastor Caitlin became OUR Pastor. Through subsequent visits, she helped Don accept death without fear."

Paula found Augustana's grief group to be just what she needed after Don's death. Each Sunday, Paula can visit Don in the



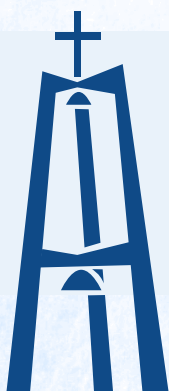
Memorial Garden where, she says, "He can hear the choir singing and the children playing."

"We are truly worshipping God"

"We found what we were looking for in a new church home at Augustana", shared Deborah and Bob Penn. Having been Methodist until five years ago, we discovered that Augustana is beautiful inside and out. They went on to share, "the organ is beautiful, the organ and vocal play literature is beautiful, and is always a high standard. And, the congregation sings! Oh my, do they sing!" When asked further about the ministry at Augustana, they shared, "Augustana is a very comfortable church. We love the openness of communion. When you come in the door, you are one of us."

Continuing our Ministry

As we engage in this capital campaign, it is critical we keep our annual stewardship strong so that stories like Paula's and the Penn's continue to happen. In 2025, we need to grow our annual ministry budget by about \$1,350 per week (\$70,000 per year, or 7% overall). This is to keep up with inflation, insurance increases, and to make up for giving lost from members who have died or moved away.



"The good news of Jesus shapes faith in worship visitors, long time members, and generations yet to come. Refreshing Augustana's buildings will shape how we gather as a congregation now - welcoming everyone to worship Jesus and grow in faith - and will serve as a gathering place for the wider community."

—PASTOR CAITLIN TRUSSELL

PLAN SUMMARY

PRIORITY 1 \$5 MILLION

- » **Sanctuary Renewal**—Complete renewal from pew cushions to making the chancel flexible and more accessible for all
- » **Organ Refurbishment**—Returning the organ to excellent condition for leading worship and for concerts
- » **Energy Efficiency**—Replacing AC chillers as well as light bulbs and new windows

PRIORITY 2 \$2 MILLION

- » **Curb Welcome**—Landscaping and signage
- » **Fellowship Hall**—Renewing the fellowship hall with lighting, flooring and air conditioning
- » **More Energy Efficiency**—Renewing of the domestic water system, more lights and fixtures, and possible solar installation
- » **Meeting Space Renewal**—Removing asbestos and improving lighting and flooring, and upgrading technology capacities

PRIORITY 3 \$1.5 MILLION

- » **Narthex Expansion**—Enclosing the portico with glass walls to enlarge the narthex and reconfiguring the space to improve flow and hospitality.
- » **Meeting Space**—Improving lighting in final spaces and more mechanical upgrades
- » **Natural Playscape**—Installing playscape in courtyard for children 6-12 years old



The conceptual drawings for the front of the Sanctuary renewal reflect a three-fold goal: Accessibility for all in the worship leadership spaces. Bringing the Word-Meal-and-Font together and moving them closer to the people which better reflects our Lutheran theology. Unifying the choir while creating a more flexible space to enhance worship and other community events.



The Welcome 150 Work Group spent extensive time discerning the projects of this campaign. They are happy to share current documentation on each of these projects and more as plans develop.

www.augustanadenver.org/welcome-150

“Augustana has survived for nearly 150 years because those who preceded us gave thoughtful consideration and financial support to bold initiatives that they believed would benefit Augustana for future generations. As a result, we are a strong and robust congregation today with an opportunity to provide similar support to those who will follow us. Welcome 150 represents an opportunity to position Augustana to continue to thrive for generations to come.” —WILLIAM P CROSSEN



WELCOME 150 CAMPAIGN – GOAL \$8.5 MILLION

WHAT IT WILL TAKE TO ACHIEVE OUR GOAL TOGETHER.

To fully attain our goal of \$8.5 million for the three priorities, the following gifts in the quantities listed is one way to achieve our goal:

NUMBER OF GIFTS	VALUE OF GIFT	RUNNING TOTAL
1	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000
1	\$900,000	\$2,150,000
1	\$750,000	\$2,900,000
2	\$500,000	\$3,900,000
4	\$250,000	\$4,900,000
6	\$100,000	\$5,500,000
10	\$75,000	\$6,250,000
14	\$60,000	\$7,090,000
17	\$30,000	\$7,600,000
20	\$15,000	\$7,900,000
25	\$9,000	\$8,125,000
28	\$6,000	\$8,293,000
40	\$3,000	\$8,413,000
48	\$1,095	\$8,465,560
58	\$600	\$8,500,360

CALCULATING YOUR GIFT

Over time, gifts make a significant difference. You are encouraged to make a three-year commitment. The following may be helpful in calculating your gift to the Welcome 150 Campaign.

AMOUNT PER WEEK	AMOUNT PER MONTH	AMOUNT PER YEAR	3-YEAR AMOUNT
\$481	\$2,084	\$25,000	\$75,000
\$415	\$1,800	\$21,600	\$64,800
\$370	\$1,600	\$19,200	\$57,600
\$277	\$1,200	\$14,400	\$43,200
\$256	\$1,111	\$13,332	\$39,996
\$192	\$833	\$10,000	\$30,000
\$160	\$694	\$8,333	\$25,000
\$128	\$555	\$6,666	\$20,000
\$96	\$416	\$5,000	\$15,000
\$64	\$277	\$3,333	\$10,000
\$32	\$138	\$1,667	\$5,000
\$23	\$100	\$1,200	\$3,600
\$12	\$50	\$600	\$1,800
\$6.50	\$28	\$336	\$1,000
\$3.85	\$17	\$200	\$600

BEST WAYS TO MAKE A GIFT

Most people think about writing a check to make a gift or using their credit card if they are on a website. However, there are three methods of giving that can be far better than writing a check.

1. If you are age 70.5 years old or older and have a traditional IRA you are eligible to make a contribution directly from your retirement account to a charity and have it count as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). You will not owe income tax on this distribution as it will go directly to the church. So, you avoid income taxes, get to make a meaningful gift to Augustana, and have it count as your Required Minimum Distribution. If you are 70.5 years old and have a traditional IRA, this is almost always the best way to give.
2. If you have appreciated stock, mutual fund, or another asset you can gift it to the church and avoid capital gains taxes and get credit for a charitable gift. There could be a significant tax savings depending on your tax bracket. The tax savings can make this a great way to make a gift.
3. Making a regular gift every month from your checking account can allow many people to make a bigger gift than they ever thought possible. A gift of \$30 per month (\$1 per day) comes to a total gift of \$1,080 over a three-year period of time. A gift of \$100 per month is \$3,600.

Everyone's situation is different. This campaign will be successful if everyone prayerfully determines the best way for them to make their meaningful gift to the appeal. A meaningful gift is specific to your household. We each have different means from which to give. There is no one size fits all. Please pray about and discern how God is calling you to be involved. Contact your Financial Advisor to structure your gift; when you are ready, Bill Crossen, Augustana Finance Administrator at crossen@augustanadenver.org can assist in executing your transaction.

OUR LONGER-TERM LEGACY

In addition to Welcome 150, which works with currently identified projects, Augustana's leadership will develop a strategy to care for the facility and expand ministry long into the future.

- » Establishing clear goals and gift acceptance policies for legacy giving.
- » Evaluating the role of The Augustana Foundation related to ongoing capital projects.
- » Creating a distribution policy for major gifts in excess of an established dollar amount.

The pre-campaign study revealed that many of you have already included Augustana in your estate plans and many more are willing to consider a legacy gift. We have great confidence that during this appeal and over the coming years we will identify enough expectancies to plan for the ongoing care of our campus. This is a tremendous legacy that we can leave to the next generations that call Augustana their church home.



"What I love about Augustana is its wonderful tradition and its spirited embrace of the future. Augustana provides our family with a place to worship, grow in faith, and serve. The staff and members of Augustana strive to let their lights shine. Augustana is a holy place for unholy people."

—RON GLUSENKAMP



COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What am I being asked to do for the Welcome 150 Campaign?

A: We are inviting you to complete an intent card with two financial commitments—one over three years to the Welcome 150 campaign, and one for your one-year commitment to the Annual Stewardship Campaign for 2025 that ensures ministry continues in the congregation and community together with the gift of our dedicated ministry staff and incomparable campus.

Q: When do my gift payments for the campaign begin?

A: Unless you prefer a different timetable, the offering period begins December 1, 2024. The intent card has a place for you to indicate how and when you will fulfill your commitment.

Q: How long does the campaign last?

A: The capital campaign will last for three years: through November 2027. However, if you feel you can make a larger gift by extending the time, you are welcome to do so. You may also make a one-time gift or contribute over less than three years.

Q: Is it possible to just make gifts to the campaign without making a specific commitment?

A: Yes, but written responses, while never legally binding, give us an indication of what we can expect and permit us to plan for additional financing. Please fill out an intent card indicating how you will respond even if you do not make a commitment. The response from the congregation will be a compelling story as we prepare for even more impactful ministry.

Q: Will I be asked to give a specific amount?

A: You will be asked to prayerfully consider an amount based on the gift chart to reach our goal. If every gift on the chart is fulfilled, we will exceed our goal. Most important is to identify a meaningful gift that is specific to your household. We all have different means from which to give. There is no one size fits all.

Q: Do all gifts to the campaign have to be cash?

A: No. Gifts of property, appreciated stock, required minimum distributions from an IRA, mutual funds, cash value from insurance policies or policy loan proceeds, certificates of deposit (CDs), bonds, and annuities are just some of the ways we can give. For those who qualify, giving via a Required IRA Distribution may be the best way to contribute. All of these gifts may be subject to restrictions and limitations and each giver's circumstances are unique, so it is wise to consult your financial advisor or accountant.

Note: Contact Bill Crossen at 303-388-4678, crossen@augustanadenver.org to make non-cash gifts. Important! Do not sell the asset yourself or you will be unable to avoid capital gains tax. If you are trying to capture a capital loss, you may want to sell the asset yourself. Please consult your tax advisor on the best approach for your own circumstances.

Q: What is the advantage of giving appreciated stocks or property?

A: You can avoid capital gains taxes and possibly also receive a tax deduction in the amount of the appreciated value.

Q: How do I make a gift of appreciated stock?

A: Have your broker transfer shares from your account to the church. We will sell the stock and you will receive gift credit for the average market value on the day it is transferred. Contact Bill Crossen at the church office for transfer information.

WELCOME 150 PRAYER

Good and gracious God,
We celebrate your grace revealed in
the open arms of Jesus on the cross.
By his resurrection, you renew us daily in our baptism,
and sustain us as the risen body of Christ in the world.
Give us courage to let our welcome be your welcome.
Reassure us of your abundance
as our efforts and our offerings unite
to renew Augustana for your purposes.
Deepen our connection with you, each other, and
the community through Welcome 150.
We thank you for your Holy Spirit who empowers us,
and prays for us with sighs too deep for words.
We love you God, thank you for loving us first.
In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

CHURCH STAFF

Caitlin Trussell,
Senior Pastor
Karen Ullestad,
Assisting Pastor (interim)
Kent Mueller,
Assisting Pastor (interim)
William Crossen,
Finance Administrator
Christine Peters,
Building Systems Administrator

Deacon 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
Kisanet Yohannes,
Director, Augustana Early Learning Center

Augustana

LUTHERAN CHURCH

...a place where hands reach beyond the wood and
stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and
live the Word made known. Where all are welcome.

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