



The Augustanan

April 2008



THE BOND AT AUGUSTANA by Pastor Theiss

Members and visitors at Augustana know what attracts them to this church. The friendliness of the people, the liturgy, the music, the architecture, the diversity, the social ministry programs might be on your list. For those who have a longer history here, it would be the

lasting friendships, the shared stories and struggles of the past, the memories that weave your lives together.

I have had the privilege of observing what holds this congregation together from the vantage point of an interim pastor. I am an outsider to the stories and sagas, the friendships and families, the cultivation of the traditions here, who has been immersed rather abruptly in this congregation's life for the past twenty-one months.

You might expect me to say that what holds this congregation together is the Word and Sacraments around which we gather each Sunday. It's my job to say that very Lutheran line. But I have seen up close that what holds this congregation together is more than our personal preferences for aesthetics or style or people. Those things would not have held us together. The bond that holds this congregation together, despite all that might divide it, is the love of God that we find here in the Eucharist and in the fellowship of the people. Our love for one another in this community comes from our recognition that we are a beloved community. The bond here is made not merely of our preference for this community, but of God's preference for us, displayed in Christ.

I have noticed in my twenty-one months here how strong the bond is that holds Augustana together. You love this church. You are willing to work for it and give generously, even sacrificially, to it. This devotion is not a hobby or diversion; it is your very life together in God. The beauty of community in Christ is evident here at Augustana and that is what will be beautiful and compelling at Augustana in the years ahead.

A Future Full of Promise

by: Lisa Bonds

On Sunday, August 13, 2008, in a nearly unanimous vote, Augustana Lutheran Church voted to name the **Reverend John S. Kidd** as the congregation's new senior pastor. His first public words to the Augustana community, at a "meet and greet" breakfast included the following: "Today is a beautiful day. The sun is shining, spring flowers are blooming and together, we face a day and a future full of promise." I sus-



pect those who have met Pastor Kidd would agree that Augustana does indeed face a future full of promise with our new pastor.

I first met Pastor Kidd through my work at Lutheran World Relief. John worked for Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS) and we met at the Lutheran Center in Baltimore, MD. We exchanged the usual elevator and hallway pleasantries but, given my busyness and multiple distractions, I didn't really get to know a lot about John. My early observations were somewhat superficial – I thought he was full of energy, that he had a deep laugh, and that he was very tall.

Luckily, I got to know John better when we were both chosen to participate in the Thrivent-funded Lutheran Leaders Program. Together with twelve other ELCA and LCMS Lutheran leaders, John and I spent time together at two different retreats meant to allow emerging leaders to explore, enhance and expand their sense of vocation, their calling, their leadership skills and the world of Lutheran employers. We were put into pairs as the first retreat began to ask each other a series of questions that would help guide our exploration of vocation and calling. I was paired with John and it didn't take long to see that John's calling and abilities included bringing diverse people together to achieve unprecedented goals.

Aha! Even though I'm quite sure neither of us thought that in under two years from that retreat John would be coming to Augustana where he'd clearly be able to put his vocation and calling into action with our diverse and motivated congregation.

What follows is an interview I conducted with John and his more "formal" biographical information.

Lisa: What made Augustana interesting to you?

John: *The people of Augustana.* There aren't a whole lot of churches that would be interesting to me. But, I find the mix of people and the energy at Augustana incredibly interesting and exciting. The congregation seems to tap into everything I've done and enjoyed over the years. My most rewarding work has been with multicultural, diverse, Reconciling in Christ congregations that are committed to making a difference. I feel quite strongly that our society...our world needs to see that diverse people can survive and thrive together.

I do feel a sense of calling to serve as Augustana's pastor. I realize that there will be challenges at Augustana, but, frankly, I find those challenges to be real and exciting.

The traditions of Augustana. I love the rich tradition that is clearly honored and acted on by Augustana's active members. I am excited by Augustana's strong liturgical tradition, the incredibly active social ministry, the history of community outreach, and the fact that Augustana engages families, kids and people of all ages and interests.

The relationships at Augustana. As I interviewed with the call committee, I was impressed that so many people told me about their lifelong friendships that had been birthed at and sustained by their connection to Augustana. There are precious few churches where you would hear what I heard time and time from the people of Augustana, "Augustana is where I found community."

The Augustanan + Surveying the Ministries in our Lives

The future of Augustana. My understanding is that Augustana wants to grow. I can't wait to be a part of creating and sustaining that growth. When I see the number of people active and plugged in to the various areas of activity at Augustana, it is clear that the church has a great deal of life – life that can help the congregation become everything it wants and needs to be in Washington, D.C. and the world.

Lisa: What thoughts might guide your first months of interaction with Augustana?

John: I know that I will need to be attentive to Augustana's past, present, and future. It is important for me and for the congregation to know where we've been, but, the more important question might be this one: Where are we going? We need to ensure that we both honor and learn from Augustana's past as we move forward.

Lisa: What draws you to parish ministry? Why would you want to be a parish pastor?

John: I love the church and all of the more formal and informal parts of being a pastor. But, I also enjoy the person-to-person aspects of serving a parish. I enjoy getting people involved... helping them become engaged. Over the years, I have always recognized the privilege of serving as a pastor. It is an incredible privilege to be present during the life passages of congregation members – that space – weddings, funerals, good times, tough times, regular life, baptisms, job loss, and celebrations – is holy ground.

Lisa: Ok. Enough of the formal stuff...the questions people expect me to ask. How about you and your family – introduce yourself and your family to Augustana.

John: My wife Kate and I enjoy our work and our leisure. We enjoy biking and have taken bike tours of Holland, Tuscany, Umbria and the Netherlands. In her free time, Kate reads and gardens, among other things. In my free time – I am a guitar hacker and bike rider. I love listening to classical guitar and working on my classical guitar skills.

We're both mystery readers. Right now, I'm reading and enjoying a book titled *Old Filth* (which stands for Failing in London Try Hong Kong).

Both Kate and I love walking, so, we're really looking forward to living in DC – close to Augustana. We can't wait to explore the city and the neighborhood on foot.

I've been working on my Italian cooking skills lately. And, I must admit – I think I'm getting pretty good at it. I love the challenge and intrigue of putting together combinations of tastes and flavors that I would have never expected could go together.

Lisa: Every time we interview someone at LWR, I ask the candidate if they're fun. So, are you fun?

John: Yes! I enjoy life. I work hard, but, I know it is important to be able to lighten up and enjoy things. There will be fun in church and humor in my sermons.

Lisa: How about a few more details regarding your family.

John: Kate and I have two daughters – Elizabeth and Christine. Elizabeth, the oldest, lives and works in Baltimore, MD at the children's museum as a development [fundraising] professional, focusing on government and private funding. Christine lives and works in Boston where she's helping Salvadoran immigrant youth stay in school and working to help them reach their goals of attending college.

Kate has lived a life of international studies. She has her M.A. in Russian Studies and her Ph.D. in International Relations. Currently Kate is the Director of the Center for Talented Youth at John Hopkins University.

A Good News Church – Thoughts on Evangelism

“The Ministry of Attraction”

Jim Heinemeier

What first attracted you to this circle of unconditional acceptance at 2100? What will be effective in attracting other people who are desperate for some of that honesty, acceptance and compassion?

Let us count some of the ways!

- + The appearance of our property. Does it invite a person to want to come inside and check us out?
- + The kinds of publicity/PR we do. What are the best media to reach the people in our neighborhoods? Are our media offerings kept up-to-date, or do they publicize an earlier day (or year) in the life of our congregation?
- + A dynamic and appealing web-page. Let's face it; that's how many people find out about life at Augustana! Thank God for Google!
- + Targeting individual demographic groups, with media that will speak to them, and with programs/ministries that are responsive to where real people live their lives in the here and now.
- + Worship that motivates first-time guests to want to keep coming back.
- + A variety of worship styles that will appeal to larger numbers of people in our community. Think about a jazz vespers, a contemplative compline, a family celebration geared to the needs and the wants of children and their long-suffering parents – let your imaginations take you where no one has gone before. I know! I know! I know how much we would hate to break up the "one happy family" that gathers each Lord's Day at 2100. But do we want to grow or do we just want to enjoy ourselves on Sunday mornings? Food for thought! And let's be aware that a variety of liturgical expressions on a given weekend would necessitate having a variety of worship and music teams to bring it off.

And now for the "piece de resistance"! Here you go: Ours must be lives—where we live, work, play and socialize—that attract people; lives that are honest, unpretentious, accepting, joyous, serene, compassionate, involved, responsive; lives that look a lot like the Life of the One we follow. And as his powerful spirit fills us more and more, our lives will look like his more and more. After all, that's why we dip our fingers in the Font, and listen to the Message, and participate in the Meal, and rub shoulders with the Family each Lord's Day. Thus, we look more like him.

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And that, my friends (as Senator McCain would put it), is going to attract people to 2100. When they come, we will be ready to welcome them with open arms and loving hearts? Such a ministry of welcoming sounds like an article possibility for next month's newsletter!

Until then, Easter Joy and Pentecost Power!

Sunday School Picnic

Augustana will celebrate the end of our Sunday School year on Sunday, June 1, with a picnic -- at church, as our hospitality hour. Weather permitting, we'll have fun and refreshments outside, in the courtyard and sidewalk areas.

As you would expect, we need help from you parents! Esther Rege and I are co-chairing this event, and we need folks to set up before church, and to bring lawn chairs and picnic blankets. We also need those with ideas for making this fun and special for our big and little Augustanans.

Contact me if you can help!

*Thank you,
Sonya Waidler*



Council also responded to a request received from Mike Olson to consider amending the constitution to change the Lay Leader of Council from Vice President to President. It was decided that, given the length of time since the constitution was created, a task force should review it and determine if a number of changes might be in order so that action could be addressed in a wholistic rather than piecemeal manner.

A cost estimate for updating the sign at the front of the church was referred to the property committee. An offer from Alan Sutherland to install stained glass windows in the narthex as a memorial to his parents was reviewed and a task force was authorized to work through the design and installation process.

Council also voted to formally express appreciation to Peter Berube for his many years of serving as Teller Coordinator, and to Mary Schooley for agreeing to assume that position.

In recent weeks, Council has been in active communication via email as dates are being outlined for the transition that should ensue from the congregational meeting on April 13th.

*Barbara E. Solt
Council Secretary*

Green Food for Thought



Earth Day is April 22! Here's some background – and something to ponder in terms of our participation.

“Earth Day is a name used for two different observances, both held annually during spring in the northern hemisphere, and autumn in the southern hemisphere.. These are intended to inspire awareness of and appreciation for the Earth's environment. The UN celebrates Earth Day, which was founded by John McConall in 1969, each year on the March equinox, while a global observance originated by Gaylord Nelson as an environmental teach-in, and since January 1970 also called Earth Day, is celebrated in many countries each year on April 22, including the US.” - Wikipedia

What can each of us do this Earth Day – and all year long, for that matter – that will bless our lovely little blue Planet. As in blessing it, rather than speeding its demise, as so many seem intent on doing.

Here are some Green Food for Thought offerings. May they inspire and motivate each of us to be part of the solution:

- + “Replacing one regular light bulb with a compact fluorescent bulb will save 150 pounds of carbon dioxide each year.” - Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light
- + “Walk, bike, carpool or take mass transit more often. You'll save one pound of carbon dioxide for every mile you don't drive.” - Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light
- + ““Using a screen-saver conserves energy when your computer is idle? False!” Screen-savers were never designed to save energy. They were actually intended to prevent ‘phosphor’ burn on CRT screens (and, these days, on plasma screens). Nowadays, they function primarily as a form of entertainment

Augustana Church Council Report

Most of the March meeting was devoted to the report from the Call Committee in which the recommended candidate was presented to Council.

The Council met in executive session to discuss the report and to engage in discussion with the Call Committee, and decided to proceed to meet with the candidate on March 16th. As it occurred, all Council members were able to be present on that day, whereas Easter and various members' schedules would have meant otherwise delaying the process for more than a month.

Council met with the candidate and his wife at the home of Larry Anthony and then met again in executive session, after which it was unanimously decided to proceed by recommending the candidate to the congregation and to begin compensation package negotiations. John McKirgen agreed to lead the Personnel Committee in this process. At a special meeting on March 18th, John was formally elected chair of the Personnel Committee, which now includes: Irene Heinemeier, Sam Leubke, Paul Beddoe, and Barbara Solt, who recused herself from involvement in the compensation negotiations. Council approved the compensation package as presented by the Personnel Committee.

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on PCs. However, setting your display to blank out after a period of inactivity can make a difference. Best to forgo the pretty picture, though." - Sierra Club's "How Green is My PC?"

Watch the pages of the Augustana Newsletter each month for more ideas on greening our Planet. Which Planet, after all, is one of God's greatest and most remarkable gifts to us, the stewards of that creation.

Stewardship is about how we live our lives. Being a steward is being a grateful and generous manager, custodian, trustee, caretaker of what belongs to Someone Else – and that includes our personal lives, our church, our work and our care for Planet Earth.

Mortgage Madness – Half Way There!



Check out the Mortgage Madness poster in the narthex, graciously supplied by our graphic artist in residence, Eric Louttamus. It shows that by Easter we had received enough cash to cover six months of mortgage payments – \$60,000 in Accessibility donations since the beginning of Advent. As

of the end of March the exact amount received since December 1 was \$66,042, bringing us close to covering a seventh monthly mortgage payment.

Our "necessary" goal is to reach \$120,000 by the end of November, a full year's mortgage payments. But we also have a "stretch" goal of \$170,000. If we can meet that goal, we will be able to pay down an additional \$50,000 in principal, as we did last year, thereby cutting further the length of our mortgage from its original 20 years. Moreover, the extra money we pay back early brings the ELCA Mission Investment Fund, our lender, that much more immediate cash to lend to other Lutheran congregations for worthy causes such as accessibility.

Any amount – small or large – can be contributed, designated for Accessibility. Some options: \$10,000 = one month's mortgage payment; \$7,500 = 3 weeks; \$5,000 = 2 weeks; \$333 = 1 day. Smaller donations are also a great way to honor family members and Augustana friends on their birthdays.

We thank all our members and friends for your continuing support. Have you noticed how much use our elevator gets – not only by our older members but also by babies in strollers?

Your Stewardship Team

Building Committee



We are reviving the "Building Use Committee" here at Augustana, and we need your help to get it started and volunteers to make it work!

So far we have two volunteers, LeeAnn Hart and Chip Fenton. In the past, Council and Property committee members played a major role in working with the tenant, but we would like to start a new committee to focus on Augustana's needs, as well as those of our current and future tenants.

Augustana learned recently that our current tenant, ALTA, will **not** be renewing the lease for the 2008-2009 school year; they will stay through the end of July 2008, so this committee will also work on finding a new tenant.

This is an exciting opportunity for Augustana, and we ask that you prayerfully consider taking part in this renewed and very important committee. We are especially interested in any ideas you may have for potential new tenants, or contacts you may have in the commercial real estate business who could assist us in locating a suitable tenant. If you are interested or want to learn more, please contact the office or Rebecca Roth.

Happenings Around the Metro DC Synod

Lutheran History Program

The Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic is hosting their Spring Program on Sat., Apr. 15 from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Dr. Renate Wilson, Ph.D., will present "The Linnaeus Americanus of the New Republic: Gotthilf Heinrich Ernst Muhlenberg and his Atlantic Network," exploring the life of this pastor, pioneer college president (of the now-Franklin and Marshall College), natural scientist and son of American Lutheran patriarch, Henry Melchior Muhlenberg. The program will be held at Holy Trinity Lutheran in Lancaster, PA (directions). Cost is \$20 (\$18 for members) including lunch. Registration required. Contact Lee Knepp with questions at 570-765-2358.

Botswanan Bishop and Pastor to Speak at Grace Lutheran

The Rt. Rev. Cosmos Moenga, Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Botswana (ELCB), and the Rev. Tshenolo Moenga, his wife, will speak at Grace Lutheran, DC, on Sat., Apr. 19 at 2 p.m. The topic will be "The Churches' Mission in Africa Today: Why Water is Stronger than Blood." In addition to being the Bishop of the ELCB, Dr. Moenga is President of the Lutheran Communion in Southern Africa and Vice President of the Botswana Council of Churches. A multicultural reception will follow the speech. For more information, call 202-829-9400.

Social Ministries Corner



Appleton, Wisconsin • Minneapolis, Minnesota
800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) • www.thrivent.com

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.” John 13:34.

Augustana Church strives to keep this new commandment in our outreach to the poor, hungry and disadvantaged in our community. Here are just a few ways that you can too, almost any Sunday of any month:

First Sunday of the Month: Next time you come to church on First Sunday, take a close look at your bulletin and notice the envelope insert for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. ELCA World Hunger helps fund more than 200 relief and development projects in the US and many more overseas. Want to double your money? Use the envelope to make your donation at Augustana, and Social Ministries will try to match your contribution, dollar for dollar, when we send contributions to ELCA World Hunger!

Also on First Sunday, before or after services, come to the Fair Trade booth in the Social Hall. We offer coffee beans or chocolate to help raise funds in support of Lutheran World Federation. LWF brings these items to us in ways that help farmers in developing countries. The Church of Sweden supports us during their hospitality time (before Augustana’s services), and the fun continues during our hospitality time.

Second Sunday of the Month: We will soon initiate a regular program of community outreach through correspondence every second Sunday, right in our Social Hall. We have conducted these programs on various Sundays in the past, but the Social Ministries Committee would like to make them more frequent. We may send notes to our adopted children at schools in Palestine on one Sunday, or cards to troops stationed in Afghanistan or Iraq on another Sunday, or letters to our Congressmen on “Bread for the World” Sunday. Whatever the cause, we will try to make the second Sunday our regular outreach day.

Food for Fourth Sunday: Donations are collected in the front of the church and will be blessed during the service at time of Offertory. We have a food and supply pantry that is a resource to hungry people who contact the church office, as well as for N Street Village, the Transitional Housing Corporation, Martha’s Table and other community agencies. We can always use more non-perishables to keep on hand for the needy at our doorstep. Check out the “shopping list” on Augustana’s web-site. Help us stock the church’s shelves, feed the hungry, and love your neighbor!

What else is new? Our Augustana Visionary Task Force reported that our church is interested in doing more social ministries work. In the months ahead, we plan to organize a “Social Ministries Summit.” We need your input in order to make this event happen. Please contact Social Ministries chair Brian Danaher at dana-herb@hotmail.com or our Council liaison John Isbell at jsi34@msn.com to share your ideas.

Options for tax rebates are stimulating
Not all choices equally valuable for long-term financial well-being
By Greg C H Roemer

“What should I do with the money?” That question will be discussed this spring across kitchen tables, backyards and water coolers as couples, neighbors, co-workers and friends begin receiving income tax rebates.

More than 130 million Americans will benefit from this one-time infusion of cash aimed at stimulating the U.S. economy. Most households will receive \$600 to \$1,200, while lower-income people, Social Security recipients and disabled veterans are likely to receive at least \$300. Additional dollars will be given to qualifying tax filers with children under age 17.

The options for spending one’s rebate are, well, stimulating. Consumer electronics? Travel? Clothes? Bling? The rebates are meant to encourage consumer spending, but that strategy may not be the best long-term decision for many individuals and families.

If you haven’t already spent (or pre-spent) your rebate, then consider these common sense suggestions for making the most of your income tax rebate.

Start or increase your emergency fund: Unexpected bills happen – a lot! Establishing a cash reserve is important to financially surviving sudden car repairs, medical bills, broken appliances and thousands of other unanticipated outlays. Set a goal of building a minimum of one month’s living expenses for your emergency fund (two- to three months is better).

Pay down your credit card debt: If you carry a balance on your credit card from month to month, you’re likely paying for that privilege. Often, cards feature attractive, low interest rates initially only to jump up after a period of time. The loser in this deal? Those who carry big balances on their cards. Get out of the vicious high-interest cycle. Pay down your balance now, and pay off your balance each month.

Save for retirement: It’s never too soon to begin preparing for a financially secure retirement.

Traditional and Roth individual retirement accounts (IRAs), and 401(k) and 403(b) retirement plans are among the more common tools to build one’s retirement savings. Lest you think this option is not worth your time, consider that \$1,000 put into a tax-deferred account earning a modest 6 percent each year will grow to \$10,286 over a period of 40 years. That’s no small change!

Protect your health, property, income and life through insurance: When accidents happen, someone pays. If you’re not protected, that someone is you! Health insurance, property insurance, disability income insurance and life insurance are designed to protect you and your loved ones from risks that can devastate your financial stability. If you’re not currently insured in one of these areas, consult a trusted financial services professional for guidance.

Give back to others: Nothing may be more satisfying than giving to others. Devote a percentage of your rebate to support people in need or a cause you are passionate about. You’ll never regret this decision.

Greg C H Roemer, FIC, of Washington, DC is a Financial Consultant with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, a Fortune 500 financial services membership organization helping nearly 3 million members achieve their financial goals and give back to their communities.

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Greg can be reached at 202-249-9886.

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Your Busy Social Calendar (for Augustana Social Ministries)

April 13	<p>Social Ministry Appreciation Luncheon and Roundtable, sponsored by Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area – Discuss what it means to “Go in Peace! Serve the Lord!” at Clyde’s of Gallery Place from 1-3pm</p> <p>Global Day for Darfur, sponsored by Amnesty International and other organizations and churches, seeking full deployment of United Nations peacekeepers in Sudan; on the Mall between 12th and 13th Streets.</p>
April 19	<p>The Church’s Mission in Africa Today, “Why Water is Stronger than Blood,” a special multi-cultural festival with guest speaker Rt. Rev. Cosmos Moenga, Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Botswana and his wife the Rev. Tshenolo Moenga, Grace Lutheran Church, 4300 16th St., NW, starting at 2pm.</p>
April 21	<p>“The Abolition of Homelessness,” Community Council for the Homeless at Friendship Place, a lecture at Perry Auditorium at the Washington National Cathedral, 6:30 – 9:30pm.</p>
April 26	<p>“Kick the Silence” Tournament, first annual charity kickball tournament in support of the DC Rape Crisis Center, which raises awareness of all forms of domestic violence and sexual assault, 10am – 6 pm, Harriet Tubman School, 3101 13th St., NW. See www.dcrcc.org</p>
April 27	<p>Food for Fourth Sunday – Food and supplies collected for the Augustana-Maria community pantry</p> <p>Santa Maria Fellowship – An ambassador from Augustana attends worship with the Santa Maria congregation</p>
MAY	
May 3	<p>Martha’s Table, Augustana serves sandwiches and soup to people on the streets of DC, 4:45 – 6:30pm</p>
May 4	<p>Swedish Sunday! A very special Högmassa of the Swedish Church, 9am</p> <p>ELCA Monthly World Hunger Appeal</p> <p>Fair Trade First Sunday – coffees and chocolates offered in Social Hall as a fundraiser for Lutheran World Relief</p>
May 11	<p>Mother’s Day – Celebrate all the special women of our lives! Flowers will be presented to make the day special.</p> <p>Pastor Theiss Day at hospitality time !!</p> <p>National Lutheran Home Prep-Festival – Donate your jewelry, crafts, knickknacks, books to be collected and sold at the NLH Spring Festival.</p>
May 12	<p>Energy Workshop, by Greater Washington Interfaith Power & Light, along with the Washington Ethical Society, teaching how to lower energy bills and our impact on the environment, 7750 16th Street, NW, 7 – 9pm.</p>
May 17	<p>National Lutheran Home Spring Festival, 9:30am to 2pm, with jewelry, hand-made crafts, baked goods , plants, books and various items for sale. NEW: A silent auction!</p>
May 18	<p>Augustana’s Global Mission Sunday and the Feast of St. Eric, Patron of our St. Eric’s Chapel and early missionary.</p>

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May 23 - 24	ELCA Global Mission Event "Come to the Table: In Remembrance of Me," at Trinity Lutheran Church in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. The President of Lutheran World Relief and Director of the ELCA Global Mission Unit will speak. See www.metrodcelca.org for more info.
May 25	Food for Fourth Sunday – Food and supplies collected for the Augustana-Maria community pantry Santa Maria Fellowship – An ambassador from Augustana attends worship with the Santa Maria congregation
	JUNE
June 1	Farväl, Svenska Kyrkan! Come and wish the Swedish Church well as they venture home for summer, to return in the fall for our fiftieth (50 th) anniversary together! 9am service ELCA Monthly World Hunger Appeal Fair Trade First Sunday – coffees and chocolates offered in Social Hall as a fundraiser for Lutheran World Relief
June 7	Martha's Table , Augustana serves sandwiches and soup to people on the streets of DC, 4:45 – 6:30pm
June 8	Father's Day Cards will be signed during hospitality time to be sent to our troops stationed in Iraq or Afghanistan. This program is coordinated with ELCA's Bureau for Federal Chaplaincy Ministries.
June 22	Food for Fourth Sunday – Food and supplies collected for the Augustana-Maria community pantry
June 29	Santa Maria Fellowship – An ambassador from Augustana attends worship with the Santa Maria congregation

Other Services and Programs

Lutherans Concerned/North America holds its "Hearts on Fire" Assembly with North American "Reconciling in Christ" Conference, in support of churches welcoming all GLBT people. See www.lcna.org/assembly for more information and to register.

Legal Counsel for the Elderly has a "Self Help Office" to serve seniors who may have legal questions, need to file a complaint, check for benefits, get a health care power of attorney or many other needs. Call 202-434-2094 to schedule an appointment.

Habitat for Humanity is looking for Augustana volunteers to help kick-start a program for 2009 to help foster affordable housing in DC. If you know how to distinguish a hammer from a saw (or even if you don't) Habitat and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans wants YOU for this fun program!

"Camp 'Do Justice'" is open to all youth who have completed 8th through 12th grades. From July 28-Aug. 1, St. Paul's Lutheran will coordinate daily activities from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., taking youth to places in the city to do community service, such as nursing homes, summer camps and homeless shelters, while focusing on the urging in Micah 6 to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God.

Please contact our Social Ministries chair Brian Danaher at 202-518-0935 or at danaherb@hotmail.com if you are interested in obtaining more information about these programs.

‘Way Down Yonder in New Orleans

The weekend of May 18th the choir will travel south to sing in the bayou country. Sunday morning they join with the choir of St. Charles Avenue Baptist Church for a special musical service. Later that afternoon the choir presents the Office of Vespers and a concert at St. Paul Lutheran Church, the first German Lutheran church in New Orleans (and possibly in the entire Mississippi valley), founded in 1840.

They will stay at The Lamothe House Hotel, an 1830’s townhouse on the edge of the French Quarter and a few blocks from St. Paul. After their rehearsal Saturday morning, the choir has been invited to join members of the church and neighborhood for lunch, courtesy of one of the Lutheran churches in Baton Rouge. That church has a special ministry to Lutheran churches in the areas ravaged by Katrina: it sends a catering team of superb cooks to serve hundreds of plates of gumbo and jambalaya to those in the community. St. Paul is located in an older, higher section of town, and although it received significant hurricane damage, it suffered no flooding.

Sunday morning begins with beignets and café au lait at Café du Monde on Jackson Square. The choir then takes the St. Charles Avenue streetcar uptown to St. Charles Avenue Baptist Church. Afterwards they walk next door to Audubon Park for a picnic lunch of shrimp and/or roast beef po’boys. Following an afternoon of rest and an evening of Vespers and concert, the choir enjoys dinner at Feelings Café, two blocks from St. Paul. This entire area was once plantation property, and the restaurant now occupies most of the buildings of the original D’Aunoy Plantation.

We hope you will join us for a preview of our trip, as we present the same Office of Vespers and concert on Pentecost afternoon, May 11th, at 5:00 p.m., here at Augustana.

Birthdays
of the
Month



April

- 4 Heidi Hanson, Austin Miller
- 8 Brian Rivas, Jen Ray
- 9 Margaret Mushala
- 10 Ilsa Grace Larson
- 11 Elisabeth Knauff
- 12 Ross Buntrock
- 14 Richard Mumford
- 21 Ben Cutler
- 22 Esther Sorenson
- 25 Joshua Mushala
- 27 Patricia Richter
- 28 Elizabeth Nash Kennedy
- 29 Courtney Allen

May

- 1 Kathy Garrison
- 3 Amy Yergey Gibbs
- 9 Sidney Stolz
- 12 Pauline Hancock
- 14 Tanya Gist
- 16 Phillip Assis, Jennifer Nordin
- 21 Jon Quam
- 23 Elesi Wanzunula
- 25 Robert Anderson
- 26 Charles (Eddie) Van Aken
- 27 Irene Heinemeier
- 29 Bridget McKirgan
- 30 Chris Vierling, Rayshad Whitaker

2008 Council & Chairs

2008 Congregational Council

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Christian Ed - Bob Luoma	202/546-1324	gluoma@boo.net
Finance - Greg Roemer	202/249-9886	greg.roemer@thrivent.com

Parish Concerns

In our prayers, let us include the following:

+ Members: Louise Anderson, Pearl Cox, Celia Davenport, Herman Davis, Sr., Dorothy Gladney, George Krafthofer, Bill Reid, Don Werner.

+ Friends and Family: Julio Azpuru-Bernhard (Azpuru); Jeffrey Berry (Bob & Alice Anderson); Connie Boorer (Hunter); Ruby Brooks (Anthony); Edith Bowers (Bowers); Melissa & Kevin Brown (Larisch); Judy Cashner (Cashner); Sean Castilla (Laughlin); (Teresa Cross (Knauff); Mindy Davis (Isbell); Beverly Anderson Fauser (Louise Anderson; Patricia Franks (Knauff); Pat Frohman (Hunter); Betty Grady (Werner); Dorothy Hairston (Burton); Leona Harper (Knauff); Dorothy Holderbein (Heinemeier); Irma Holderbein (Heinemeier); Guy Jacobs (Berube); Denise Kellam (Bucci); Sara Kepple (Richter); Jennifer Kileo (Hart); John Larson (Kahler-Larson); Ann Lockwood (Werner); Samantha Lopez (Kahler-Larson); Frank & Celeste Lotz (Knauff); Adelaide Lusambilli (Markle-Elder); Ken Merritt (Hunter); William Moon (Wassum); Bruno Muzzi (Markle-Elder); Chris Nelson (Burch-Nelson); Fernando Otero (Pizza); Marion Papacosta (Roth-Renne); Carrie Reynolds (Knauff); Veronica Richardson (Knauff); Marvin Safrit (Bowell/Anderson); Dave & Chris Sharp (Hart); Val Smith (Pizza); Janet Spleen (Jaeger); Caleb Richter-Tate (Richter); Diana Tate (Richter); Jim Tate (Richter); Nancy Telford (Richter); Jancye O. Washington (Burton); Cay and John Wiant (Larisch); Joleita Yurchak (Roth-Renne).



+ In Christian Sympathy with Jon Quam on the death of his father Clifford Quam in Montana last month.

+ Those who were baptized at the Easter Vigil: Dylan Chung Roemer; Anthony Whitten, Jr.; Beimer Noil Joya, and Kaylee Sarai Joya

+ Those who were received at the Easter Vigil: Melanie Caesar; Gina Jaeger; Steve Jaeger; Jacqueline Nader; and Al Young

+ The Augustana Call Committee: Ruth Sorenson, Chair, Josephine Allen, Brian Danaher, Robert (Chip) Fenton, LeeAnn Hart, Tommie Robinson, Jr., and Rebecca Roth, ex officio.

Thank You to all our volunteers who assisted at God's Altar during Holy Week. The deacons, lectors, special readers, acolytes altar guild, ushers, and tellers all made the many services of Holy Week very special. A huge thank you to the choir for their wonderful voices. And finally, our deep appreciation to Kevin Canfield, whose talented use of flowers and plants always glorifies God, especially at Easter.

Thank You to all our volunteers who assisted with the Gala Reception following the Easter Vigil.

Thank you to Salome Burton, Ingrid Margrave, Chuck Leath and Carol Vezzetti for assisting in preparing and mailing the letter concerning next Sunday's Special Congregational Meeting.

Thank You: Augustana and its Social Ministries Committee wishes to thank everyone who has contributed food and supplies for the benefit of the victims of the major fire at a Mount Pleasant apartment building last month. We are working with Santa Maria and local relief agencies to reach out to the displaced residents and help them in this time of transition. Thank you also to those who have sent financial contributions through Thrivent Financial to help assist the residents.

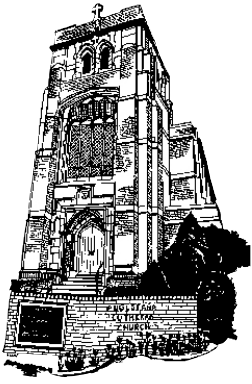
Members of Augustana,

It was suggested to me that many would appreciate a notice about the condition and location of Bill Reid, our dear member, now 100 years old.

He was taken to Sibley Hospital when he was found unable to straighten up after six hours in a kneeling position, when he tried to pick something up from the floor. He has been transferred to Manor Care Health Services, 8700 Jones Mill Rd., Chevy Chase, MD 20815-4729. He is stable and alert and would enjoy receiving cards.

Pastor Norm Theiss

The Augustanan + Surveying the Ministries in our Lives



The Augustanan

Surveying the Ministry
in Our Lives



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The Augustanan is published by Augustana Evangelical Lutheran Church once a month. All correspondence should be addressed to The Rev. Norm Theiss, 2100 New Hampshire Ave. NW Washington, DC 20009-6507

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