



# December 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<b>3</b> <b>9:15-10:00 am</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>10:00 am—Worship</b> <b>11:00 am—1:30 pm</b> St Lucia lunch	4	5	<b>6</b> <b>12:00 pm</b> Worship Board Meeting <b>3:30-5:00 pm</b> StoryKeepers @ Zion	<b>7</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Piecemakers Quilting in Fellowship Hall <b>12:00 pm</b> Bible Study in Library	8	9
<b>10</b> <b>9:15-10:00 am</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>10:00 am—Worship</b> Pop-up Christmas	11	<b>12 11:30 am</b> Ruth Circle @ Hunan Springs <b>12:00 pm</b> Deborah Circle in Fellowship Hall Light Christmas Lunch	<b>13</b> <b>3:30-5:00 pm</b> StoryKeepers @ Zion  <b>4-5:30 pm</b> Confirmation	<b>14</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Piecemakers Quilting in Fellowship Hall <b>12:00 pm</b> Bible Study in Library	15	16
<b>17</b> <b>9:15-10:00 am</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>10:00 am—Worship</b> <b>2:00 pm—Carols &amp; Cookies</b>	18	19	<b>20 11:30 am</b> Ladies Lunch @ Cally's	21	22	23
<b>24</b> <b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b> <b>4:00 pm—Worship</b>	<b>25</b> <b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	26	27	28	29	30
<b>31 9:15-10:00 am</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>10:00 am—Worship</b>						



# January 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <b>New Years Day</b>	2	3 <b>3:30-5:00 pm</b> StoryKeepers @ Zion	4 <b>9:00 am</b> Piecemakers Quilting in Fellowship Hall <b>12:00 pm</b> Bible Study in Library	5	6
7 <b>9:15-10:00 am</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>10:00 am</b> —Worship	8	8 <b>9:15 am</b> Ruth Circle in Fellowship Hall <b>12:00 pm</b> Deborah Circle in Fellowship Hall	10 <b>3:30-5:00 pm</b> StoryKeepers @ Zion <b>4-5:30 pm</b> Confirmation	11 <b>9:00 am</b> Piecemakers Quilting in Fellowship Hall <b>12:00 pm</b> Bible Study in Library	12	13
14 <b>9:15-10:00 am</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>10:00 am</b> —Worship <b>11:20 am</b> Stewardship Board Meeting	15 <b>12:30 pm</b> Men's Lunch @ Pizza Ranch	16	17 <b>3:30-5:00 pm</b> StoryKeepers @ Zion	18 <b>9:00 am</b> Piecemakers Quilting in Fellowship Hall <b>12:00 pm</b> Bible Study in Library	19	20
21 <b>9:15-10:00 am</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>10:00 am</b> —Worship	22	23	24 <b>11:30 am</b> Ladies Lunch @ Cally's <b>3:30-5:00 pm</b> StoryKeepers @ Zion <b>4-5:30 pm</b> Confirmation	25 <b>9:00 am</b> Piecemakers Quilting in Fellowship Hall <b>12:00 pm</b> Bible Study in Library	26	27
28 <b>9:15-10:00 am</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>10:00 am</b> —Worship	29	30	31 <b>3:30-5:00 pm</b> StoryKeepers @ zion			



## BLESSING OF THE QUILTS



We blessed the quilts and thanked the quilters on Nov. 12 during worship. Their hard work is evident in the beautiful quilts on display.



**Give to the Max – Success!**

We are thrilled to report we made our \$10,000 goal for Give to the Max.

Thank you to everyone who generously gave to this important fundraising day for Augustana.

We also received one of the \$150 bonuses from GiveMN for one of our early gifts on our Give to the Max page. The grand total for Give to the Max will be announced in December. In this season of thanks, we can't say thank you enough.

**Are you ready to sing in the holidays? Let's get together for some Christmas carols and cookies.**

**We'll be singing everything from Away in a Manger to Jingle Bells to get our hearts ready to celebrate Christmas.**

**Aren't a singer? That's ok. Almost anyone can eat a cookie or two. So come join the fun, 2 p.m. Sunday Dec. 17. Come for a little while or the whole time and bring a friend.**



**AUGUSTANA**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

# ST. LUCIA CELEBRATION

**Sunday Dec. 3**

**11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

**Augustana Lutheran Church  
308 E. Douglas Avenue  
Fergus Falls**

**Meal and Quilt Sale**

**\$15 for adults  
\$5 for ages 4 to 12  
3 and under free**



## **Menu**

**Swedish Meatballs  
Homemade Mashed Potatoes  
Gravy  
Corn  
Swedish Rice  
Lefse and Dinner Rolls  
Pumpkin Pie  
Christmas Goodies**

**To-go meals will  
be available**

**A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Salvation Army.**



We said thank you to Patti Rix for her time as office manager on Sunday, Nov. 26. We are grateful for the time Patti has dedicated to Augustana.



Thank  
you

The Conference 7 Women of the ELCA Gathering was hosted by Augustana on Oct 28. Eighty-five women from 20 churches attended. Augustana had 24 women in attendance.

Marcia Pfeifer was the guest speaker and talked about her personal story as an abused and stalked woman. She started a program to help other abused women with personal products that would help when they were able to get away from the abusive situation.

Thank you to all the women and the men (dishwashers and coffee makers) who made it possible to host the Gathering. Also, thank you to the women who donated pans of bars. A special thank you to Pastor Amy and Kari Johnson who ran the sound system and recorded the event and Patti Rix for all her help.

If you are interested in watching the program, go [www.augustanalutheran.org](http://www.augustanalutheran.org).

Conference Committee:

Mary Peterson, Karen Schimming and Esther Youngberg





# ALL SAINTS SUNDAY



## Christmas Program

This time of year, we all love to hear the story of Mary and Joseph and especially the baby Jesus. So it's time to throw ourselves into the story and do our own version for our Pop-Up Christmas program during worship on Dec. 10. No rehearsals, no fretting over angel halos being crooked or the shepherds losing the sheep. We are going to tell this miraculous story in a new way together. (Don't worry – if you don't want to move about the sanctuary, we need townspeople too. They stay in one place.). So bring your best inner child, keep an open mind and let's tell the greatest story of the Savior being born.



## Penguin Patrol



Winter 2023-24

On Sunday mornings we need a volunteer to arrive an hour prior to worship and salt/sand ice and clean out the snow that has blown into the doors. It usually takes about 30 minutes total. Please sign up at welcome center or call the office.



## Men's Lunch

## Pizza Ranch

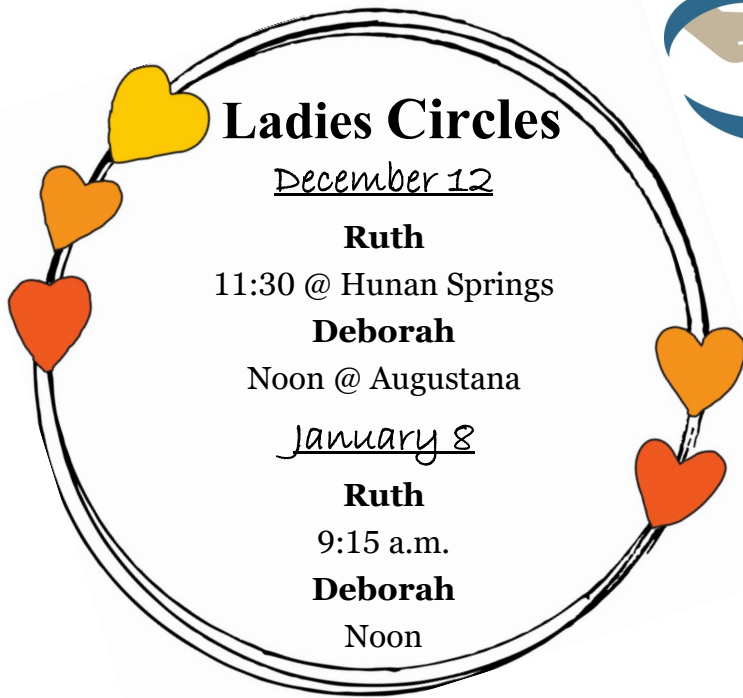
## Dec. 18 and Jan. 15

## 12:30 p.m.

## All are welcome!







**Remember  
your  
Offerings**

Augustana Church now has an online giving option through Tithely per ELCA recommendations.

You can access the online giving a few different ways. Here's how!

- Visit Augustana's Facebook page and click on the link
- Visit [augustanalutheran.org](http://augustanalutheran.org) and click on the Give button.
- Download the Tithely app to your smartphone and find Augustana Lutheran Church.
- Mail your offering to the church. 308 E. Douglas Avenue, Fergus Falls, MN 56537
- Scan the QR Code to the right.

If you are interested in using Simply Giving, contact the office and we will get you an authorization form to fill out and she will get you set up.



Actual General Offering Revenue through  
 10/31/23: \$106,704.02  
 Budgeted General Offering Revenue through  
 10/31/23: \$125,668.00  
 Actual General Fund Expenses through  
 10/31/23: \$143,141.96



**TO FULFILL WHAT THE LORD HAD SPOKEN BY THE PROPHET.**

*Matthew 1:22, ESV*



**AUGUSTANA LADIES WILL MEET AT  
 CALLY'S CAFÉ ON  
 DECEMBER 20 & JANUARY 24  
 @ 11:30 A.M.  
 ALL ARE WELCOME!**



join us for a  
candlelight service  
*Christmas Eve*

Sunday, December 24  
4 p.m.  
Augustana Lutheran Church

**\*No morning worship Dec. 24\***





## FROM OUR PASTOR

---

Dear friends in Christ,

We know it's time – time to get our hearts and minds ready for the birth of the Savior. Meditating on the words of the gospel of Mark we hear:

*"Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight."*

Many of our paths in life are not straight forward. Most of the time we take meandering routes with twists and turns and perhaps even a metaphorical detour. Setting our eyes on the Lord and directing ourselves toward God can be hard. We often turn to prayer as a last resort instead of our first stop.

As way of preparation, I'd like to challenge you in this season of love, peace and sometimes stress, to start your day with God. That might be as simple as when you get up, to thank the Lord for the day and ask God to walk with you in it. (God's always with us, but sometimes asking for a divine escort can make the day feel even better.)

Other options might be reading a daily devotional, picking one of the gospels and reading a little each day or telling yourself you will find three ways God is working in the world today. However you decide to spend time with God this Advent, preparing for the Christmas season, is up to you.

Know that I will be praying **for** all of you during this Christmas season. And if you have special prayer needs, I'd be happy to pray **with** you as well. God desires for us to walk with each other in our joy and sorrow. The path we walk together might not be straight – but the way becomes clearer with help from one another and especially from the Lord.

God's path to us is clear and constant. May our path to God this season be filled with grace and peace.

Pastor Amy



# AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH

308 E. DOUGLAS AVENUE | FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA 56537 | 218-736-5308



## Sunday

**9:15 - 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour –**

Coffee and treats in the fellowship hall.

**10:00 a.m. - Worship in the  
sanctuary**

**11:00 a.m. - Coffee Fellowship  
continues**

*Did you know our*

*worship services are online?*

Worship while you're away! Our Sunday services are livestreamed on the church's YouTube channel. Watch the service live, otherwise the recording is available immediately after the service.

<https://augustanalutheran.org/>

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS DUE Wednesday at noon	NEWSLETTER ANNOUNCEMENTS DUE the 15 <sup>th</sup> of each month	Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday 10:00 a.m.— 3:30 p.m.	MISSION STATEMENT:
<b>Pastor Amy Kelly</b> pastor@augustanalutheran.org (701)730-8385	<b>Ed Shea</b> Boiler Operator	<b>Tara Johnson</b> Financial Manager augustanafinance@gmail.com	“We are called and blessed by God's grace, His Son, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit into fellowship through Word and Sacrament to worship, minister, evangelize and teach the world around us.”
<b>Meghan Stringer</b> Music Director msmusicmeg@gmail.com	<b>Jen Sternhagen</b> Communications communications@augustanalutheran.org	<b>David Habedank &amp; Jeremy Hayhurst</b> Custodial/Productive Alternatives Staff	
	<b>Patti Rix</b> Office (218)736-5308 office@augustanalutheran.org		