



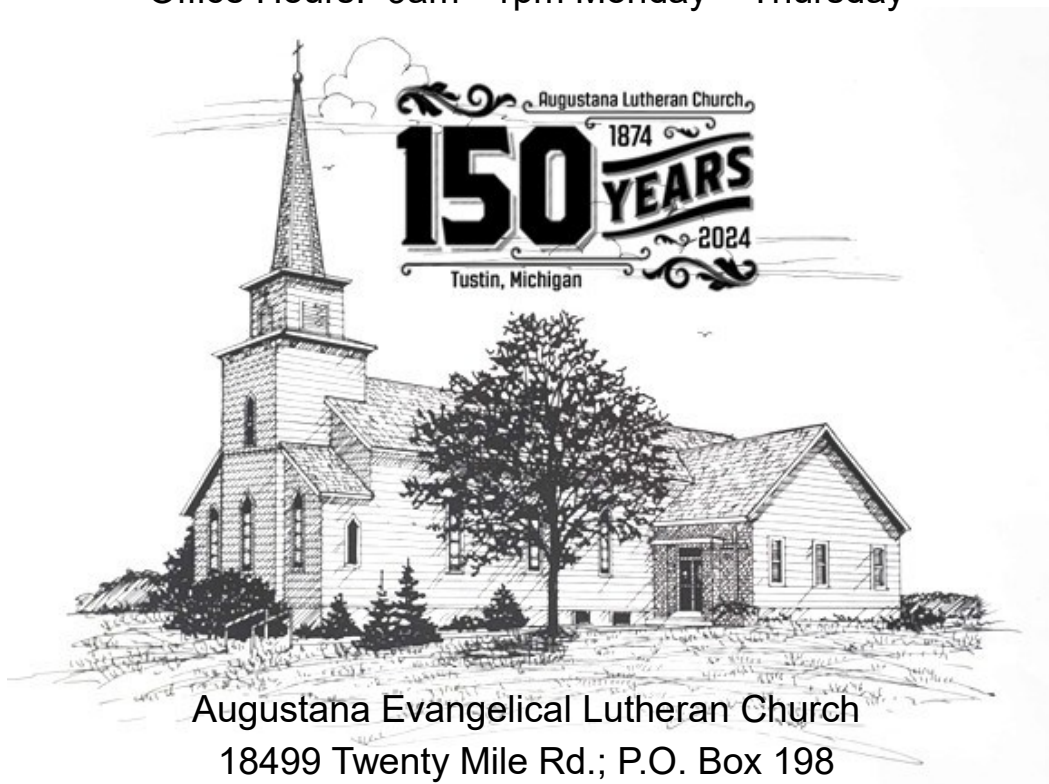
Augustana Lutheran Church Messenger

Pastor - Sharon Van Dam

Secretary - Angela Christie

Pianist - Patty Surguy

Office Hours: 9am - 1pm Monday – Thursday



Augustana Evangelical Lutheran Church

18499 Twenty Mile Rd.; P.O. Box 198

Tustin, MI 49688

Sunday Worship: 9am

Phone: 231-829-3837 Pastor's Phone: 740-296-9176



*"We are called through Jesus the Christ to nurture spiritual growth,
welcome all into worship and serve the needs of others."*

Church Mission Statement

Pastor's Message



“Therefore, let us celebrate, not with the old yeast; the yeast of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.” (1 Corinthians 5:8)

In Paul's letter he tells his followers to celebrate their new life in Christ, with thanksgiving and joy instead of anger or malice.

The dictionary tells us that to celebrate means to “honor, mark, or praise occasion or deed.” Last month we joined together in celebrating 150 years of ministry at Augustana Lutheran Church. And Sunday, July 14, 2024 was a day filled with an abundance of love, joy and thanksgiving. It was also the culmination of weeks of planning and good old fashioned hard work. Visiting clergy joined our service and Bishop Satterlee preached an inspirational sermon. The bell choir performed a beautiful medley of hymns for us. Brief histories were written, a tree was dedicated and a commemorative quilt was blessed. Together was shared a delicious Swedish meal. As your pastor, I want to once again offer my heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of this celebration.

As I reflected on the way in which this special celebration touched so many lives and how much joy it brought to all of us, I started to think about other celebrations. Our lives are full of the special ones, the ones we call holidays like Christmas, Easter, 4th of July, etc. but what, I wondered about the ones that seem more ordinary, more routine. Of course I was thinking about the celebration we, as Christians, have every Sunday. I wondered how often any of us think of attending church on Sunday morning as a celebration? But that what our Sunday morning services really are. Together we celebrate, honor, mark, and praise the birth, life, death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We come together to sing God's praises. We listen to the word of God. We pray together. We receive the body and blood of Jesus in the bread and wine of Holy Communion. And in the Eucharist aren't we truly celebrating with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth? The words of Jesus tell us that he *is the bread of life*. In the 21st century most of us have lost the significance of bread itself. Some of us are allergic to gluten, some of us want to avoid of limit carbohydrates, many of us think as merely the necessary component of a sandwich. So, it's important for us to remember that in the time of Jesus bread was the major source of nutrition for most people. Bread was the very staff of life. And because we believe the words of Jesus, we understand that he is truly the bread of our lives. And every Sunday we have the opportunity to come together to Celebrate.

Peace and Blessings,

Pastor Sharon



August 18th, after Sunday service, the annual meeting & pot luck will take place. Please submit your reports by **August 5th!**

Since there were no meetings last month, approved WELCA and Council Meeting minutes will appear in their entirety in the September edition of The Messenger.



WELCA NEWS

Augustana's WELCA meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 10:30am and is open to all women of Augustana Lutheran Church.

Our August meeting will be held at Green Acres in Cadillac on **August 20 at 10:30am**. Car pooling is always available. Please plan to join us and spend time with our Green Acres friends.

Another successful Christmas in July party at Burke's Waterfront Restaurant. Make sure to join us next year for all the fun!



PRAYER list

PRAYER CONCERNS: DeVere & Marian Byers, Colley Family; Cindy; Linda; Pat Gustad; Fay Bartrand; The Goddards, Jayne Siglin; Janice Peterson; Anissa; Carlton Plyler; Vicky Grandi; Jack Forsberg; Katy Draper; Men and women serving in the military – Ian Little.

150th CELEBRATION WRAP-UP

What a glorious day we had for our 150th anniversary on July 14. Everyone's planning and hard work paid off. The first service with Bishop Satterlee in attendance and the bell choir playing couldn't have been better. Many former pastors got up during the celebration service and spoke of fond memories at Augustana and caught the congregation up on their current lives. The quilt that the ladies made was presented and blessed along with the tree planted for the occasion. There were at least 120 guests who stayed for the Swedish luncheon. The food was outstanding and plentiful. Once again Augustana people came together and displayed the glory that is God.





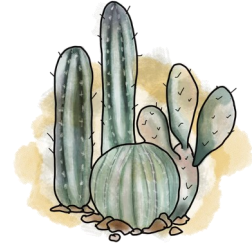
All photos taken and shared with permission by Becky Miller

August 2024 Assisting Ministers

Date	Projector Operator	Communion Assistant	Communion Preparer	Greeters/ Open/Close Church	Lector/ Prayer Leader	Tellers	Coffee Hour Host
Aug 4			George & Sue Klingler		Ken Goddard	George Klingler	
Aug 11		Sue Carmodhy			Jim Carmody		Sue Carmody
Annual Meeting Aug 18	Becky Miller			Jan Marckwardt	Joan Swanson		X
Aug 25	Julie Seguin						

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Food Pantry, *August 5, 2024 9-12pm*
- **Annual Meeting, August 18, 2024**
- Food Pantry, *August 19, 2024 9-12pm*
- WELCA Meeting, *August 20, 2024 10:30am at Green Acres*
- Deadline for September Messenger, *August 27, 2024*



Happy Birthday!

Joan Swanson – August 10
Sue Carmody – August 16
Connie Burgess – August 23
Mary Annette Gorden – August 28
Pat Otberg – August 30
Sue Klingler – August 31



Happy Anniversary

Pastors Phil and Sharon VanDam – Aug. 1
Doug and Becky Miller – Aug. 2
Terry and Jan Marckwardt – Aug. 3

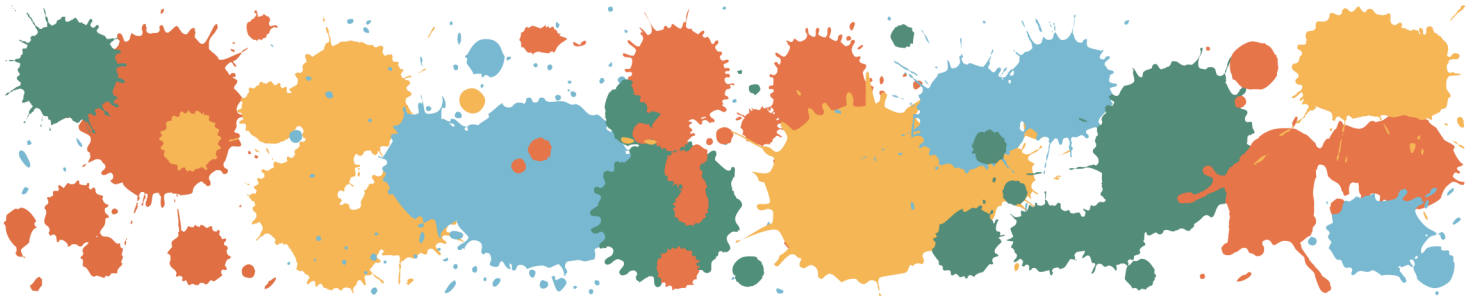
Co-laborers with Christ

Rusty Stevens, a ministry leader in Virginia, described trying to finish mowing the lawn before dinnertime. His 6-year-old son darted in front of him and grabbed the mower handle. But when Stevens stopped pushing, the mower soon stopped.

The busy dad fought the urge to tell his son to get out of his way and instead offered to help. Stevens began pushing again, leaning over and walking awkwardly to accommodate his eager assistant. Although the mowing commenced, it was slow-going and not as efficient as the solo effort.

That's when Stevens realized a ministry parallel: "This is the way my heavenly Father allows me to 'help' him build his kingdom!" The church leader pictured God busy "seeking, saving and transforming the lost, and there I was, with my weak hands 'helping.'"

Although God surely can tackle all the work of ministry and evangelism alone, he "chooses to stoop gracefully to allow me to co-labor with him," said Stevens. What a blessing and privilege that God lets us work alongside him!



August 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		Quilting Club every Tuesday 1pm 		1	2	3 
4	5 Food Pantry 9-12pm 	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Annual Meeting	19 Food Pantry 9-12pm	20 WELCA at Green Acres 10:30am	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 Newsletter Due	28	29	30	31