



# 2023 Messenger

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## Augustana Lutheran Church

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: 9 am

Church Office: 231-829-3837

[www.augustanatustin.org](http://www.augustanatustin.org)

*"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

*For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven ...  
(Ecclesiastes :1)*

It's been my experience that Spring is often one of the most disappointing of the four seasons. Often it begins with a damp and dismal April characterized by gloomy days and rainy skies. Sometimes the dingy winter snow melts, and we start to anticipate Spring's arrival. Then our hopes are dashed by the appearance of more snow and we begin to wonder if winter will ever really end. Then one day the temperature rapidly rises, the flowers and trees begin to bloom as if to make up for lost time. Then within a week or so Summer arrives almost as if Spring never really existed. But this year, Spring has taken it's time to appear. Early flowers have bloomed, while others have waited their turn.

I've really enjoyed the gradual advent of this year's Spring. It's given me a chance to really appreciate the beauty and diversity of the beautiful world God has created for us. One of the things that has really helped me to appreciate the beauty of nature is my long drive every Sunday morning to Augustana Lutheran Church. Most of the drive runs right through Manistee National Forest and I get to admire it's incredible diversity. Rather than being a chore, I actually enjoy my Sunday morning opportunity to drink in some of the majesty of God's handwork.

My prayer for each one of you is that you look for ways to enjoy this season, to take time to marvel at the awesome nature of our God.

Peace and Blessings,

*Pastor Sharon*



# Council Notes

## Augustana Council

AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH APPROVED COUNCIL MINUTES

April 17, 2023

**Members present:** Ted Raven, George Klingler, Sue Carmody, Ken Forsberg, Julie Seguin, and Becky Miller.

Guest: Terry Marquardt – Treasurer. Absent – Heather Hammar

The meeting was called to order by Ted Raven.

**Devotionals** provided by Ted Raven – “Lost and Found” Every day with the Savior.

The agenda was amended with addition of new business; lawn mowing. Motion by Becky and support by Ted. Motion carried.

The March Minutes were not available for review.

The Treasurer’s and Financial secretary’s reports were approved. Motion by Julie, support by Sue.

Motion carried

Communications were shared from Ted. Angela provided Facebook stats for review. See document. The stats provided impressions and people reached.

Committee reports

Building and grounds – George expressed thanks to the Ravens for completing yard work, thatching.

Road clean up is scheduled for April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Church Cleaning is scheduled for June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Personnel – Ted met with Kim, cleaning lady and shared additional areas needing to be cleaned due to bugs.

Kim will provide a list of any cleaning supplies needed; to Ted.

### Old Business

Insurance update. George and Ted met with Dykstra insurance through Grand Rapids. The church and parsonage are well covered.

Storage room clean up. This is an ongoing project. WELCA will be asked to review their inventory and clean the area.

Debit card. Discussion over opening an additional account for petty cash to be available for worship and office supplies, gasoline, etc. The card will stay in the office of the Secretary. Julie made a motion with support from Sue to establish a debit card with a limit of \$500. Angela will receive a ledger sheet with receipts to report back monthly to Terry. Motion carried. Terry and Ted will go to the Lake Osceola Bank (LOSB) for signatures. Becky will send the minutes of this special request to LOSB.

### New Business

New speaker system is needed. George made a motion and support by Ken to research a new system.

Lawn mowing. Discussion over allowing members from the congregation to take a week of mowing and trimming around the church and parsonage. George has spoken to several men in the congregation willing to take a week. We also have the option of using KT mowing.

Continued on next page

**Comments:**

1. Ted questions what we need to display for the Michigan Labor Law Notices.
2. Handbells - lets discuss at the annual meeting.
3. Security committee – do we need cameras on the outside of the church?

The next meeting will be held on May 15, 2023

Devotions will be provided by Becky Miller

Respectfully submitted by

Becky Miller

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**Augustana Lutheran Church approved minutes**

March 20, 2023

Members present: Ted Raven, Julie Sequin, Ken Forsberg, Heather Hammar, and Sue Carmody.

Guests: Terry Markwardt and Connie Burgess.

The meeting was called to order by Ted at 6:39p.m.

Agenda: A motion to approve the agenda was made by Julie and supported by Ken, motion carried.

Minutes: A motion to approve February's minutes as written was made by Julie and supported by Ken, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Julie, and supported by Heather, motion carried.

Communications: none

Building and grounds: none

Personal: nothing to report

Old business:

Rennucci house was a successful event with Ted, Mary, and George and Sue Klinger volunteering the time to serve.

Insurance update was tabled.

Storage room clean up is a slow process but going well.

Media shout is going well with the new update.

New business:

Election of financial Secretary: Doreen Barnes volunteered to become the financial secretary. With a motion made by Heather and support by Sue, a unanimous vote for Doreen Barnes to become financial secretary was had.

Secretary: A motion was made by Julie with support from Heather to officially hire Angela Christie as the new church secretary.

Debit card: Discussion was tabled in order to find out expenses incurred by secretary.

The meeting was adjourned with The Lord's Prayer with no further discussion needed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Hammar



## Member Spotlight: Honoring Devere Byers

On Sunday, May 7 Augustana members, council, and Devere's family and friends, honored him with a plaque, special music and cake. Devere has been a devoted and valued member of Augustana and has taken care of Augustana's lawn and the parsonage lawn for many, many years. He lends his voice on Sunday to all songs and most likely knows every hymn in the hymnal.



Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." -Luke 6:38 NIV

## Uplift Pine River Area Kids

The Uplift program has completed another successful year. We would like to thank the following Augustana volunteers for their devotion to the project: Harvey, Ted & Mary, George & Sue, Julie & Tim, Arvid & Jeanette, Ken & Sandy, Jim & Sue, Terry & Jan. The program could not run without these wonderful people.



Volunteers packed approximately 5,000 food bags and snack bags weekly for approximately 145 students from preschool through high school. The average cost per bag was \$6.00 and Uplift funds come from community donations. Donations are accepted at any time and can be given to Julie Seguin or Jan Marckwardt.



We Love  
Our  
VOLunteers

**PRAYER CONCERNS\*:** Peggy Burns; Sandie Leach; Tom H; Carlton Plyler; Andrea Foster; Julie Bierema; Pamela McCalla; Janice Peterson; Tom R.; Skip Cornett; Leta Hoaglund; Layne Davis, Kyler Ruppert and family; Katie Bigelow; Scott Thompson; Family of Clark Perry; Jeff N.; Scott Martinson; Ryan K.; Men and women serving in the military – Ian Little.



# June 2023 Assisting Ministers

Date	Projector Operator	Communion Assistant	Communion Preparer	Greeters/ Open/Close Church	Lector/ Prayer Leader	Tellers	Coffee Hour Host
June 4	George Klingler	George Klingler	Ted & Mary Raven	Ted & Mary Raven	Mary Raven	George Klingler & Arv Ottberg	Sue Klingler
June 11	Julie Seguin	Sue Carmody	Becky Miller	Becky Miller	Jim Carmody	Ruth Hammar Becky Miller	Sue Carmody
June 18	Mike Barnes	Mary Raven	Arv & Jeanette Otberg	Ted & Mary Raven	Harvey Miller	Ted Raven	Jeanette Otberg
June 25	Julie Seguin	Becky Miller	Becky Miller	Ken F. & Connie B.	Joan Chave	Ted & Mary Raven	Ken F. & Connie B.

## Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Sat., June 3rd –Clean-up Day
- Sun., June 4th– Trinity Sunday
- Mon., June 5th - 9:00 AM-Noon – Food Pantry
- Wed., June 14th- Flag Day
- Sun., June 18th – Father’s Day
- Mon., June 19th at 9:00 AM-Noon – Food Pantry
- Mon., June 19th at 6:30 PM – Council Meeting
- Tues., June 20th at 10:30 AM – WELCA Meeting
- Wed., June 21 First day of summer
- Thurs., June 28th - Deadline for July MESSENGER



### Happy Birthday!

Brian Hammar	6/1
Marian Byers	6/3
Doug Miller	6/7
Ruth Swanson	6/7
Gary Robertson	6/10
Patty Surguy	6/12
Michael Barnes	6/17
Marian Lindquist	6/27



### Happy Anniversary

Jim & Claudia Harder	6/19
Douglas & Marian Byers	6/20
Kenneth & Sandra Goddard	6/20
Michael & JoAnn Connor	6/22

A boy and his dad on a fishing-trip—  
Builders of life’s companionship!  
Oh, I envy them, as I see them there  
Under the sky in the open air,  
For out of the old, old long-ago  
Come the summer days that I used to know,  
When I learned life’s truths from my father’s  
lips  
As I shared the joy of his fishing-trips.  
—Edgar Guest (1881–1959)

“When I was a boy of 14, my father  
was so ignorant I could hardly stand  
to have the old man around. But  
when I got to be 21, I was astonished  
at how much the old man had learned  
in seven years.”

— Mark Twain

**Flag Day** is a celebration of the American flag that occurs each year on the anniversary of the flag’s official adoption, June 14.

What we know fondly as the “Stars and Stripes” was adopted by the Continental Congress as the official American flag on June 14, 1777, in the midst of the Revolutionary War. Colonial troops fought under many different flags with various symbols—rattlesnakes, pine trees, and eagles—and slogans—“Don’t Tread on Me,” “Liberty or Death,” and “Conquer or Die,” to name a few.

The Declaration of Independence made the adoption of an American flag necessary. Previously, each colony or special interest had its own flag.

On the 14th of June, Congress made the following resolution: “The flag of the United States shall be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, with a union of thirteen stars of white on a blue field ...”

Official announcement of the new flag was not made until Sept. 3, 1777.

# WELCA Meeting

Approved Minutes  
April 18, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Mary Raven.

Those present: Barb Hazlett, Mary Annette Gorden, Joan Chave`, Jan Marckwardt and Sue Klingler.

Joan Chave` read a devotional titled "The Ant is a Teacher".

Correspondence: None

The Minutes from the March 21, 2023 meeting prepared by Jan Marckwardt were presented with a motion to accept by Mary Annette Gorden and second by Barb Hazlett. The Minutes were approved.

The Treasurer's report: The Treasurer's report for March 2023 prepared by Jan Marckwardt was presented. The balance in the account as of March 31, 2023 is \$703.09.

Mary Annette Gorden read the WELCA purpose statement.

## OLD BUSINESS:

Mary Annette informed the group that the Easter flowers given to Augustana's members who are residents of Green Acres was very well received. Mary Raven helped Mary Annette to deliver the flowers and they visited with the residents from Augustana. The WELCA ladies agreed that this should be done again in the future.

It has been confirmed that our May WELCA meeting will be held at Green Acres. It was decided that we will car pool from Augustana at 9:45.

Also confirmed is our Christmas in July event to be held at Cast Iron Kitchen in Cadillac on Wednesday, July 19 beginning at noon. All women are invited and a \$5 gift to pass is suggested.

Barb Hazlett reminded the group that she be presenting a talk on Human Trafficking at Big Rapids High School on June 28. She also will be attending Homeland Security training on April 22.

NEW BUSINESS: None

NEXT MEETING: The next scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at Green Acres in Cadillac at 10:30 with car pooling available and leaving the church at 9:45.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10:53 with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted  
Jan Marckwardt



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## Seasonal humor

For summer weddings:

- The wedding was so beautiful, even the cake was in tiers.
- Did you hear about the two spiders who got engaged? They met on the web.
- Two cell phones got married. The reception was terrific!
- Why did the King of Hearts and the Queen of Hearts get married? They were perfectly suited.

For baseball season:

- I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger and bigger. Then it hit me.
- What did the baseball glove say to the ball? "Catch ya later!"
- Why are frogs good baseball players? Because they're good at catching flies.
- Why did Cinderella get kicked off the baseball team? She ran away from the ball.

And for Father's Day, some dad jokes:

- My dream job is to clean mirrors because I can really see myself doing that.
- We're renovating the house. The first floor is going great, but the second floor is another story.





Ladies! WELCA will be celebrating “Christmas in July” this year at Cast Iron Kitchen in Cadillac on **Wednesday, July 19 at noon**. Bring a friend, bring a relative, bring a neighbor, bring a \$5 gift to pass. **All women are welcome!** A sign up sheet will be on the table in mid June. Car pooling will be available.

## Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

### LEROY RECYCLING

Recycling in LeRoy is 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Village Garage in LeRoy the first Saturday of the month except for January and February. Items accepted for recycling include clear glass bottles and jars (no broken pieces and remove lids), cardboard, newspapers, magazines, paper, cans, aluminum, plastic milk containers, #1 (clear only and

no clam shell containers) and #2 plastic containers (remove all lids and tops), Styrofoam (except packaging peanuts) and unbroken compact florescent light bulbs (CFL’s). **Separate all of your items and crush as much as you are able to help conserve space.**

The program is associated with Recycle of Osceola County, Inc. in Reed City.



DEWING CENTER • 202 S. Albert St • LeRoy, MI

### Thursday, June 15 at 5:30pm **Safe Canning & Food Preservation**

Enjoy your delicious garden produce now and later! MSU Extension will be at Dewings Center to demonstrate water bath canning, and discuss pressure canning and food preservation.

Using up-to-date research based methods, the MSU Extension Food Safety team provides food preservation education, techniques and resources that will give participants knowledge to safely preserve foods at home. Free Admission | Donations to Benefit the Center are Appreciated

### Saturday, June 17 at 7pm **LIVE BLUEGRASS MUSIC**

A northern Michigan band instilled in hard-driving traditional bluegrass. Having released three CDs, they've performed at Farmfest, Buckley Old Engine Show & many festivals, jamborees, square dances & more. They work out of Fife Lake, MI as the host band for the Springfield Recreation Area, an all day jam on the Saturday of Memorial Day and a Bluegrass Festival the last Saturday in July.

Free Admission | Donations to Benefit the Center are Appreciated

### Saturday, July 8 at 3pm **LIVE MUSIC CONCERT**

Steven Paul, award winning fiddler and banjo player from Copemish, Michigan, will be in concert at Dewings Center, in the Village on Albert Street, on the Saturday of Razzasque Days, 3pm to 4:30pm.

Free Admission | Donations to Benefit the Center are Appreciated



# June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		 Quilting Club every Tuesday 12pm		1	2	3 Church Clean Up 
4	5 Food Pantry 9-12pm 	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Flag Day 	15	16	17
18 Father's Day 	19 Food Pantry 9-12pm Council Meet- ing 6:30pm	20 WELCA Meeting 10:30am	21 1st Day of Summer 	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 July Newsletter Due	29	30	