

Augsburg Church

July 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	5	6	7 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline 7:00 pm Council Meeting	8	9	10
11 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Voter's Meeting	12 6:00 pm VBS	13 6:00 pm VBS	14 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline 6:00 pm VBS	15 6:00 pm VBS	16 6:00 pm VBS	17
18 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	19	20	21 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline	22 7:00 pm Elders Meeting	23	24
25 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	26	27	28 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline	29	30	31

Augsburg Church

July 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 (B) Adrianna Sasse	3 (B) Bob Crippen
4 (B) Jami Berry (B) Jerry Schukar	5	6	7	8 (B) Doug Stein (B) Haele' Ruble	9	10 (B) Logan Smith
11	12 (B) Hunter Sasse (B) Lila Knecht (B) Rhonda McCaslin	13	14	15 (B) Kevin Schaal	16 (B) Mark Meadows	17 (A) Michael & Tammy Sasse 04
18	19	20 (A) Brad & Sherry Courson 02	21	22 (B) Amanda Walk	23 (B) Colleen Wefer (B) Lisette Ehrat	24 (B) Fran Collier
25 (B) Fran Cole	26	27	28 (A) Michael & Diana Bauer 73	29	30	31 (B) Lisa Wasmuth (B) Ruth Ann Moyer

Immanuel Lutheran Church Augsburg
1297 E 900 Ave
Shobonier, IL 62885
618-846-8383

website: augzburgchurch.com email: augzburg@augzburgchurch.com

Pastor Timothy J. Landskroener
Cell: 330-204-4180 Email: lawandgospel@hotmail.com

July, 2021

Something Worth Dying For

As we celebrate Independence Day, July 4, we do well to remember the closing words of the Declaration of Independence, “And for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.” The men that signed that Declaration were willing to risk everything for the freedom and independence that document sought to express. Furthermore, many of those signers did lose everything. Throughout the years since then, many others have given of themselves, some even their very lives, to maintain that freedom. And we enjoy the benefits.

I recently attended a class entitled, “To the Point of Shedding Blood: Christian Martyrs in the First Three Centuries.” The title comes, in part, from Hebrews 12:

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. ⁴ In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. (Heb. 12:1-4).

This passage reminds us that we are not alone in the struggle of living as a Christian in an ungodly world. We see Christians persecuted in many ways, including unrelenting lawsuits, harassment, and other things. There’s a baker and a florist, who are still under attack because they would not use their talents to celebrate a homosexual marriage or trans-gender reveal. Some are being cancelled from Facebook and other social media for saying that marriage is only to be between one man and one woman for life, that there are only two genders (sexes), that someone can’t just change from one to the other, and much more. Then there is the demonic and divisive teaching of Critical Race Theory that is infiltrating our schools and much of the entertainment we see. And certainly not to be forgotten are those who have shed their blood and given their lives in Muslim countries for being Christians.

Still, as the passage reminds us, we have not yet resisted to the point of shedding our blood. We can certainly give thanks to God for that. Still, as it becomes ever more difficult for us, it is helpful and encouraging to know that others, having faced similar struggles and

persecution, persevered and kept the faith. Their stories remind us that God's mercies are new every morning and that He is faithful to His Word.

And the greatest encouragement is that Jesus takes care of His Church from front to back, from beginning to end. He is also the prime example of suffering. He endured everything—temptation, hunger, thirst, sadness, grief, loss, pain, betrayal, abandonment, death, and more—so that you would be His, a forgiven child of God. And we see in His suffering the focus of an athlete. He had one goal in mind and He didn't let anything get in the way or stop Him from reaching that goal, His cross. For there was a goal to the pain, even as anyone who has had knee or hip surgery knows well.

Indeed, we see similar focus on the part of those trying to make the Olympic team. All their training, all their suffering, all their discipline, everything they've endured has been for the goal of competing for a chance to go to the Olympics. And when they make the team, they are ecstatic. Yet, that is not the end. The goal is to win an Olympic medal, preferably a gold one.

So using Jesus as your example and your goal, lay aside "every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and . . . run with endurance the race that is set before you." Like those early martyrs, get rid of everything that gets in the way of your Christian walk. Don't let anything distract you from faithfully striving to live as the child of God that you are. Don't miss a single meal at the training table of the Lord as He gives you His Body and Blood for the nourishment of your body and soul. Don't miss any opportunity to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest God's holy Word. For only then will you have the strength needed to endure and finally win the prize, eternal life with Jesus.

Those early martyrs took their faith seriously, and they are encouraging for us. They refused to burn a pinch of incense to the cultural, though false, gods. Like Daniel and the three young men from centuries before, they refused to bow the knee to an idol or the demand not to pray to anyone but the king. They refused to worship the traditional gods. Those martyrs had incredible biblical literacy such that they could, and did, give an account for the hope that was in them. That's why learning so much of the Bible, the Catechism, and hymns by heart is so important. Likewise, don't let yourself be isolated from your brothers and sisters in Christ. Encourage and be encouraged by gathering with them often to receive our Lord's gifts. In short, learn from the martyrs that there is something worth dying for, after all, Jesus died for you and wants you to spend eternity with Him.

God bless you in your suffering for the faith once delivered to the saints and bring you at last to your heavenly goal.

In the love of Christ,
Pastor Landskroener

Church Council will meet Wednesday, July 7 at 7:00 pm
Voter's Meeting will be held on Sunday, July 11, following the service.

For a Pastoral visit, please contact Pastor Landskroener

VBS will be held July 12 to July 16 from 6 pm to 8:15 pm. A light dinner will be served at 5:30 pm. Volunteers are welcome and needed. If you are able and willing to help in any way, please contact Mandi Austin at 618-367-2285, or Janet Williams at 618-846-4411.

SANCTIFYING YOUR VOCATIONS WITH THE WORD OF GOD... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's teachings include: What I Wish My Non-Lutheran Family Knew about Election; The Colors of the Church Seasons & Festivals; The Seven Deadly Sins; Political Censorship and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

Bulletins are printed on Wednesday evenings. Contact Scott if you would like to have something placed in the bulletin. You can send emails to Storbeck@augsburchurch.com or Church email augsburchurch@augsburchurch.com call @ 349-6152, call or text 367-3355, or hand him a note. Must receive bulletin note by 4:00 pm Wednesday afternoon to make in the bulletin for Sunday morning. Thank you, Scott Torbeck

Trimming Stamps for Mites -- Trim each stamp leaving paper measuring 1/8 of an inch or less around the stamp. Be careful not to trim too close to the stamp. No corners or edges should be cut. The stamps must be 100% complete. If there is a group of stamps trim around the whole group.

Augsburg is collecting Christian materials, Bibles, Portals of Prayer, Sunday School and VBS materials, Lutheran Witness, books, etc., to be given to the mission in Butler to distribute worldwide. Please put them on the table in the middle of the basement.

Parish Hall reservations – If you would like to plan an event or meeting to use our Parish Hall for any reason, this also includes Church activities, you will need to contact Scott or Karen Torbeck. If not asked, we don't know. Use of the Parish Hall will be determined by the first reservation made.

Church office is looking for help in maintaining accurate records for Augsburg. Have you moved since our last directory or had a change in marital status or phone number changes? Have you noticed a birthday or anniversary that is incorrect or missing? Please notify Scott Torbeck to get our Church records updated.

Do you have a cell phone? Do you text? Do you have a home phone? Some do some don't. How do you want to be contacted by the Church? The Church would like to contact you via text with any info, updates or closings. To receive a text message, you will need to give us your cell number. Normal text fees will apply. Please provide info to Scott with a note or email storbeck@augsburchurch.com or text 618-367-3355

Want to learn more about the Augsburg Church and area history? 100th anniversary books are still available for sale. They are only \$15.00.

Ladies Aid cookbooks are still available for \$10.00. Contact Linda Rhodes

Traditional Christian Hymns

Word Search

S U R V E Y P D K F Y U K P L
H C Z K G H N I O W L P B I P
N E S I R E N U L F O R V B F
B D B A I G N I U A H E E G E
G A E R I D K F F I S D C X R
A T F S A G L A Y T P L M H M
K Y G T S L Q Y O H L O R Y P
Y W I M E E W R J F N F W V S
S O A W L Z L X Q U M N J E D
N J V X I Q Q B R L T V G V R
G T Q R G N G G G N S A Z K C
E S H K Q O F V R E L Z E I M
P X P O S R F F A S P Q Q R F
S S E R T R O F C S B I W Z G
U G Z M Z U F K E Q R B N P I

A Mighty FORTRESS Is Our God
All Hail the POWER of Jesus' Name

Amazing GRACE

Because He LIVES

BLESSED Assurance

Christ the Lord Is RISEN Today

Great Is Thy FAITHFULNESS

How GREAT Thou Art

HOLY, Holy, Holy

How Firm a FOUNDATION

It Is WELL with My Soul

JOYFUL, Joyful, We Adore Thee

What a FRIEND We Have in Jesus

When I SURVEY the Wondrous Cross

Instructions:

Find and circle the words in ALL CAPS listed above. Words may be forward, backward, vertical, or diagonal within the puzzle.

© Memory-Improvement-Tips.com

You may copy & distribute this word search without restriction as long as this copyright notice remains in place.