

February Calendar 2023

<u>Events</u>		<u>Anniversary & Birthdays</u>	
Friday	3-Feb	3-Feb	(B) JoAnn Givens
	3-Feb		(B) Lee Schaal
Saturday	4-Feb	4-Feb	(B) Sandra Kleinik
Sunday	5-Feb	5-Feb	(B) Errol Rhodes
			(E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School
			(E) 10am Worship Service
Mon.	6-Feb	6-Feb	(B) Paula Gephart
Wed.	8-Feb	8-Feb	(B) Evelyn Meseke
			(B) Dan Summann
Sat.	11-Feb	11-Feb	(B) Lucy Newcomb
			(B) Ryan Summann
Sunday	12-Feb		(E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School
			(E) 10am Worship Service
Wed.	15-Feb	15-Feb	(B) Wesley Rogers
			(B) Ashli Fenton
Sunday	19-Feb		(E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School
			(E) 10am Worship Service
Tues.	21-Feb	21-Feb	(B) Makenna Dothager
Sunday	26-Feb	26-Feb	(B) Chris Cole
			(E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School
			(E) 10am Worship Service
Tues.	28-Feb	28-Feb	(B) John Moyer

Augsburg Immanuel Lutheran Church
Quarterly Voters Meeting
January 15, 2023

Chairman Mo Schukar called the meeting to order and Pastor Landskroener led all present in prayer.

Minutes from the October 16, 2022 voters meeting were printed in the church newsletter. There was no further discussion on these minutes. A motion was made to accept the minutes as posted, seconded, and approved.

Members:

Voting members: Fran Collier

Communicant members: None

Baptisms: Emanuel Brooks, Jr.

Transfers:

Transfer out: None

Transfer in: None

Releases: None

A motion was made to accept the new voting member, seconded, and approved.

Treasurer's Report:

The 2022 annual treasurer's report was presented by outgoing treasurer, Scott Torbeck. A copy of the report is included with these minutes. A motion was made to accept the report as presented, seconded, and approved.

Elders' Report:

All is going well. The elders continue to meet with the pastor on a regular basis.

Pastor's Report:

The pastor continues with the duties of vacancy pastor at Holy Cross in Vandalia.

Trustees' Report:

We had a water leak in the parsonage. The problem has been addressed.

A list of possible projects has been suggested for the church, parsonage, and parish hall. They are as follows:

- Parsonage refrigerator repair/replacement.
- Phone line issues in the parsonage.
- Front porch stairs repair/replace in the parsonage.
- Bathroom window repair in the parsonage.
- New bathroom stools for the parsonage.
- Sink, faucet, and vanity for restroom in the church nursery area.

- New ADA compliant stool for the ladies' room in the parish hall.
- Parish hall carpet cleaning (tabled until after the Ladies' Aid soup luncheon).

Pricing and proposals for these projects will be obtained and presented for approval by the congregation.

Sunday school:

The Christmas program was a success. Thank you to everyone involved in making the program happen. An Easter egg hunt is planned for the kids later this quarter. As usual, we encourage everyone to bring their children and grandchildren to Sunday school.

Bible Class:

Bible class is meeting regularly. Everyone is invited to attend. So please come join us.

Finance Man: No report.

Sexton:

There have been some questions concerning the church's cemetery policy. The sexton has requested that the policy be included in the next newsletter for reference by the congregation.

Old Business:

Pastor Landskroener will serve as the pastoral delegate from our circuit for the 2023 Synodical Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The church officer elections were completed.

New Business:

The congregation has been asked for nominations for the 2023 Synodical Convention. The nominations are as follows:

President:

Rev. Dr. Mathew C. Harrison
Rev. Peter Lange

First Vice-President:

Rev. Peter Lange
Rev. Dr. Lucas V. Woodford

Regional Vice-President – central region:

Rev. Benjamin T. Ball
Rev. Jason Braaten

Attesting Officers for the nominations: Jerry Schukar and Steve Hickerson
A motion to accept the nominations was made, seconded, and approved.

Special Collections:

The following special collections were submitted for the first quarter:

- Ash Wednesday – Fort Wayne Seminary
- 2nd Lenten – AbleLight (formerly Bethesda)
- 3rd Lenten – St. Louis Seminary
- 4th Lenten – Lighthouse Pregnancy Center
- 5th Lenten – Lutheran School for the Deaf, Jacksonville
- 6th Lenten – District Deaf Ministry
- Maundy Thursday – Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School

A motion was made to accept the special collections, seconded, and approved.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded, and approved. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Steven R. Hickerson

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Pastor Timothy J. Landskroener
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February, 2023

Dearly Beloved of Christ,

This month continues the celebration of the Epiphany season through February 19 which is the Transfiguration of Our Lord. That's followed by Ash Wednesday (Feb. 22) and the First Sunday in Lent (Feb. 26). One Feast/Festival that usually gets lost is the Purification of Mary and the Presentation of Our Lord on February 2. "What is that?" you ask.

On the 40th day after Christmas, Mary went to the Temple to offer the required sacrifice after giving birth. This fulfilled the law given through Moses:

'If a woman conceives and bears a male child, then she shall be unclean seven days. . . .³ And on the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised. [That's celebrated on January 1.]⁴ Then she shall continue for thirty-three days in the blood of her purifying. She shall not touch anything holy, nor come into the sanctuary, until the days of her purifying are completed. . . .⁶ "And when the days of her purifying are completed, whether for a son or for a daughter, she shall bring to the priest at the entrance of the tent of meeting a lamb a year old for a burnt offering, and a pigeon or a turtledove for a sin offering,⁷ and he shall offer it before the LORD and make atonement for her. Then she shall be clean from the flow of her blood. This is the law for her who bears a child, either male or female.⁸ And if she cannot afford a lamb, then she shall take two turtledoves or two pigeons, one for a burnt offering and the other for a sin offering. And the priest shall make atonement for her, and she shall be clean.'" (Leviticus 12:1-8).

The readings for the day are: 1 Samuel 1:21-28; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-32 (33-40). I encourage you to read them. Here's a summary:

God Gives the Gift of a Child to Destroy Death

The Lord opened the barren womb of Hannah and gave her the gift of the son for whom she prayed, and in grateful response she presented and gave the child, Samuel, to the Lord's service. "*As long as he lives, he is lent to the LORD*" (1 Sam. 2:28). So, too, did Mary and Joseph present the Child promised from the fall, born of a virgin's womb. The true offering wasn't the turtledoves or young pigeons. It was the Child they carried. This Child has come to "*destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery*" (Heb. 2:14b-15). Set free by His advent in our flesh and the promise of what He would do "*in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people*" (Heb. 2:17b), Simeon and Anna rejoiced, and we with them, for we know that we, too, can face death unafraid and "*depart in peace*" (Luke 2:29) when our time comes.

While we won't be celebrating the Presentation together, we will gather to receive God's gifts in the Divine Service on Sundays and on Ash Wednesday. To prepare, it's good to read the

readings for the day during the week before. Here are the readings for the upcoming Divine Services:

Feb. 5 Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 58:3-9a
1 Cor. 2:1-12 (13-16)
Matt. 5:13-20

Feb. 22 Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:12-19
2 Cor. 5:20b-6:10
Matt. 6:1-6, 16-21

Feb. 12 Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

Deut. 30:15-20
1 Cor. 3:1-9
Matt. 5:21-37

Feb. 26 First Sunday in Lent

Gen. 3:1-21
Rom. 5:12-19
Matt. 4:1-11

Feb 19 The Transfiguration of Our Lord

Ex. 24:8-1
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matt. 17:1-9

God bless you always.

Pastor Landskroener

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Pastor's Report for 2022

Baptisms: November 5 - Emanuel "Manny" Demitrius Brooks, Jr.

Funerals:

March 19 - Ronald Harmeier (died March 14)
November 19- Bob Lotz (died November 14)

Released: April 24 - Twana Bauer (at her request, attending another church)

I'm helping to serve Holy Cross, Vandalia, during her vacancy.

2022 Summary

Sunday Services 52
Average Attendance 60
Average Communed 50

Evening Services 14
Average Attendance 30
Average Communed 19 (3 services)

Everyone is Welcome – Ladies' Aid are hosting the Augsburg Fellowship Luncheon is today at 11:30 am in the Parish Hall. Meat & beverages will be provided, please bring side dish or dessert to share.

Ladies Aid meeting will be on Tues. night February 7 at 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall instead of Monday February 6th. I will be out of town on Monday February 6. We will be discussing the soup luncheon scheduled on March 26th.

Sausage Supper: St. Peter's Lutheran Men's Club will once again be holding their Sausage Supper with sausage, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, and all the fixings on February 19, 2023, with serving beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the St. Peter's Lutheran School Gym. Carry Outs will be available. Pre-orders for sausage and ribs will once again be offered and encouraged ahead of time, with deadline to order being January 27, 2023 – **a limited amount of sausage will be available on day of the supper – order early!** To order, please call one of the following: John Lotz: 618-553-5585, Tim Brauer: 618-267-6229, David Schaal: 618-292-3732, St. Peter's Lutheran Church: 618-349-8321 (after 12 PM)

St. Peter's Lutheran School, St. Peter, Illinois is seeking a 1st and 2nd Grade teacher beginning in the 2023-2024 school year. St. Peter's Lutheran is a Christ centered LCMS school, Biblically based, and state recognized. For more information, please contact Principal Dr. Larry Wooster (lwooster.spls@gmail.com) by either e-mail or in the school office (618-349-8888; 701 E 3rd St, Saint Peter, IL 62280)

UNANSWERED BIBLE QUESTIONS... Issues, Etc., a radio-talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio, will have Pastors Bryan Wolfmueller and Brian Kachelmeier respond to your unanswered Bible questions. You can submit your question via email: talkback@issuesetc.org, Facebook: [facebook.com/issuesetc](https://www.facebook.com/issuesetc), or the Issues, Etc. Comment Line: (618) 223-8382. You can listen to the interview at your convenience at [issuesetc.org](https://www.issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

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.

Please Sign attendance books in the pew, so Pastor is better able to serve you.

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.

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@augsburgchurch.com or text 618-367-3355

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

Contact Pastor Landskroener 330-204-4180 for a Pastoral visit.

4. My Citizenship Is In Heaven

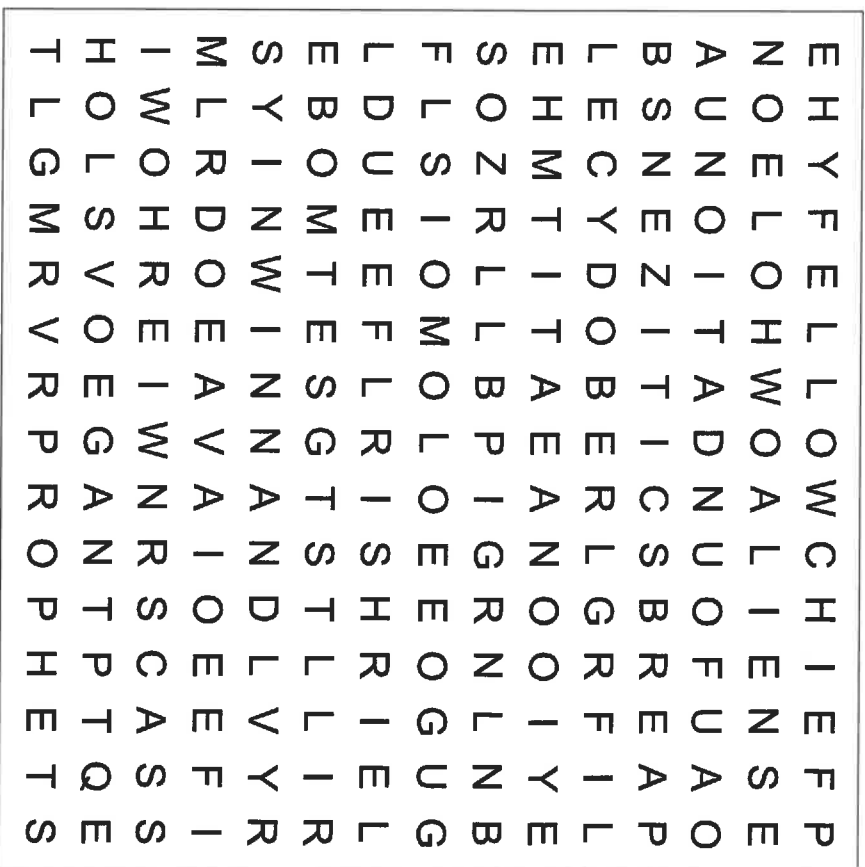
Ephesians 2:19-222 NIV

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Philippians 3:20-21 NIV

But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.



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4. My Citizenship Is In Heaven

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| ALIENS | DWELLING | LIVES |
| APOSTLES | EAGERLY | LONGER |
| AWAIT | ENABLES | LOWLY |
| BODY | FELLOW | MEMBERS |
| BRING | FOREIGNERS | PEOPLE |
| BUILDING | FOUNDATION | PROPHETS |
| BUILT | GLORIOUS | RISES |
| CHIEF | HIMSELF | SAVIOR |
| CITIZENS | HOLY | TRANSFORM |
| CONTROL | HOUSEHOLD | WHOLE |