

JOIN US THIS LENT

Wednesday Schedule

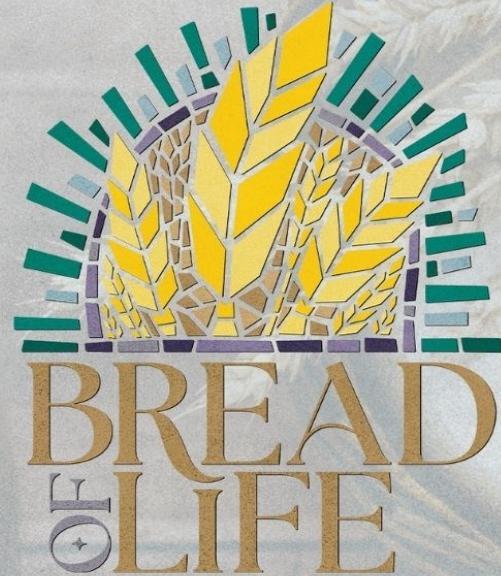
5:30 pm Meal
6:30 pm Worship

February 25 – Hope
March 4 – Hope
March 11 – Augustana
March 18 – Zion
March 25 – Zion

February 18 – Ash Wednesday

5:30 pm
Chili Cook off
6:30 pm
Worship at Augustana

Preachers will rotate among the churches.



CHILI COOKOFF!

FEBRUARY 18

CHILI SERVED AT 5:30

Please drop chili off by 5:15 p.m.,
or anytime during office hours on
February 18.

There will be a free will offering.



thrivent®

Choice Dollars Reminder

Choice Dollars with Thrivent provide for eligible Thrivent members to choose where Thrivent distributes a portion of their funding each year. Eligibility is based on insurance premiums and contract values. If eligible, you can direct Choice Dollars to a favorite organization - like Augustana! 😊

Contact your Thrivent representative to determine if you are eligible or visit the website:

www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-choice



Congratulations

to Kaele and Craig Peterson
on the birth of Bjorn James

NOVEMBER 22 2025

No Rejoice worship meal 2-8-26.

CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

February 22

The congregational annual meeting will be held in accordance with the Constitution of Augustana Lutheran on February 22, 2026. There will be a potluck meal following worship with the meeting immediately after in the Fellowship Hall.

ACTUAL GENERAL OFFERING REVENUE THROUGH 11/30/25:

\$151,542.20

BUDGETED GENERAL OFFERING REVENUE THROUGH 11/30/25:

\$160,375.00

ACTUAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSE THROUGH 11/30/25:

\$197,038.42

BUDGETED GENERAL FUND EXPENSE THROUGH 11/30/25:

\$224,598.00

CHURCH
FINANCES

Year-end financials will be available at the annual meeting.

*GENERAL OFFERING REVENUE DOES NOT INCLUDE OFFERING OUTSIDE OF GENERAL GIVING SUCH AS INTEREST INVESTMENT INCOME, MEMORIALS, THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS, AND MISSION SUPPORT GRANTS FROM THE AUGUSTANA FOUNDATION.



- Augustana Church has an online giving option through Tithely
- 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 and click on the Give button
 - Download the Tithely app to your smartphone and find Augustana Lutheran Church
 - Scan the QR Code
- You can also mail your offering to the church. 308 E. Douglas Avenue, Fergus Falls, MN 56537
- If you are interested in using Simply Giving, contact the office and we will get you an authorization form to fill out and we will get you set up

From Our Pastor

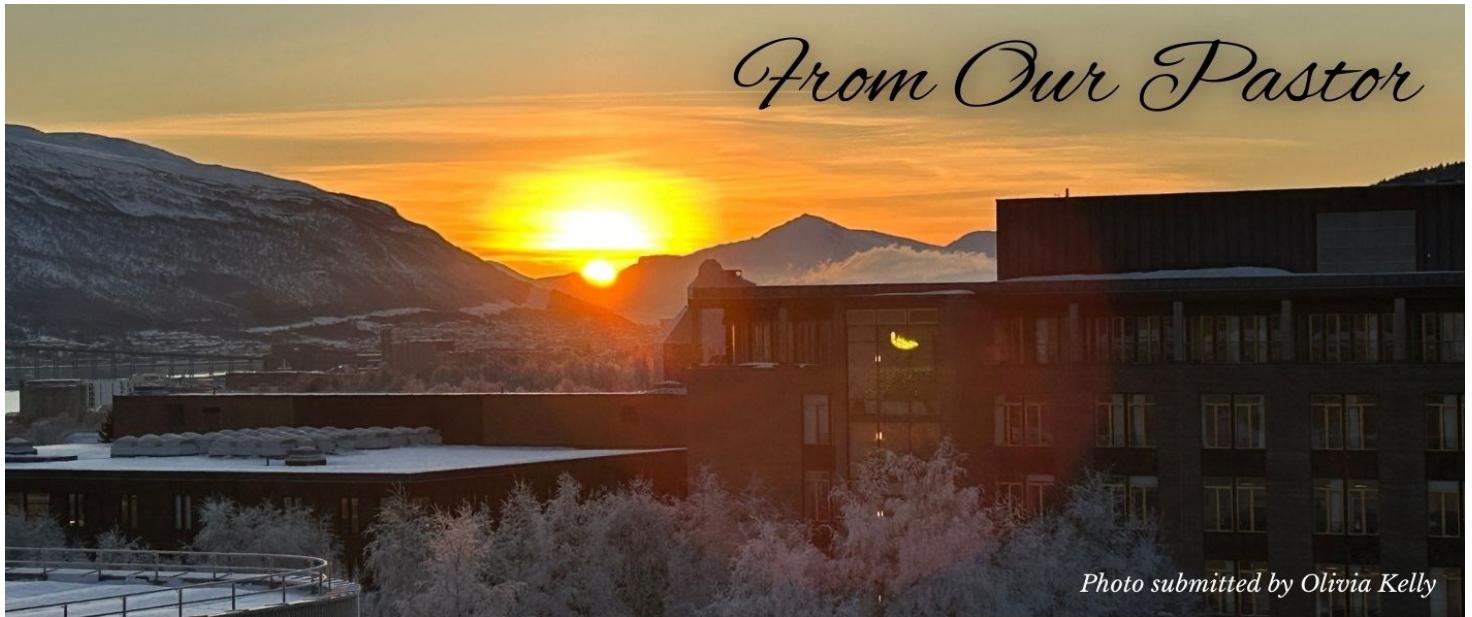


Photo submitted by Olivia Kelly

Dear friends,

Christina Rosetti wrote the beautifully haunting words to the Christmas song, “In the Bleak Midwinter,”

*In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow
In the bleak midwinter, long ago*

I feel this song in my bones in January. Christmas is past and we are in the heart of Epiphany on our way to Lent. Here in Fergus Falls we are steadily gaining daylight with each passing day and I know our bleak midwinter, with all this snow, is easing forward as many of us look toward Spring.

My older daughter left to study at the Arctic University of Norway in Tromsø the beginning of January. She arrived in the time in which the sun did not rise in Tromsø. We think about Alaska and northern Norway as the Land of the Midnight Sun – but with that distinction, the inverse is also true. While there was a bit of light during this Polar Night, there was no sun.

And then on January 21, the people of Tromsø rejoiced. It was the Day of the Sun and for the first time in weeks the sun rose above the horizon. The university students celebrated with doughnuts that are dubbed “sun buns,” grateful for the return of that reddish orange ball in the sky. The SUN had returned.

As we leave Christmas and head into Lent, we wait for the SON - God’s son, Jesus. Rosetti’s second stanza of her poem begins, *“Heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain; heav’n and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.”* Many of us long for the concreteness of Jesus in the flesh to ease our anxious hearts or our pain. While not always visible, perhaps each morning when the sun arises, we should rejoice that the son of God did arise. The Son of God who takes away the sins of the world meets us each day – whether the sun is visible or not. Even in places that the sun does not rise, we know the light of Christ shines in both the physical and the figurative darkness and the darkness has not overcome it (John 1:5).

We celebrate the Day of the SON every Sunday as we come together to worship God. We even have Sun Buns (doughnuts) though ours aren’t the biscuit type they have in Norway. They will do just fine. You are invited, to get some new light in your life. Come worship the SON, and he will drive out the darkness with love.

With thanks and praise,

Pastor Amy

AUGUSTANA
LUTHERAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2026

Official Newsletter of Augustana Lutheran Church



9:15
Coffee Hour
Coffee and treats
in fellowship hall

10:00
Worship in the
sanctuary

11:00
Coffee
fellowship
continues

MISSION STATEMENT

**"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."**

Augustana
Staff

Pastor
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Productive Alternatives

Boiler Operator
ED SHEA