



St. Augustine of Canterbury

Parish Newsletter

March 2016

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Father Chris' Corner

Dear Faithful and Friends of St. Augustine's,

I will not give you my full report to the AGM – that would be far too long, but for those who could not attend, here are the highlights. I started by saying that I was thinking of suing my seminary for not having taught me all about event and travel management, press and publicity, self-motivation, financial management, and in construction management, as they seem to have been the skills I needed a lot last year!

With “event management”, I was of course referring to all the events around our 150th anniversary. I think we celebrated well.

The Capital Campaign took up a lot of my time too – but I will refer you to the “CC Corner” for details, including an extract from Nina Scheicher’s report. As I have said before, if the project is not to stagnate we will need all of you to contribute. My hope and prayer is that with the same spirit that helped

this church rebuild after the fire of 1966 we will make significant steps this year, both financially and in construction.

I looked back at all the new worship services we had introduced (Wednesday Eucharist, Prayer and Praise, regular family services) and promised again to continue to invite lay leaders to preach now and again, not just at Prayer and Praise. We had 150 services last year (2014: 105) with an average Sunday attendance of 89 (81) people.



cont. on page 3

Looking Back

*Rector's Cross Awards:
Jeanne Nelson and Andy
Pickersgill (Feb. 13)*



*Joint Service with the Alt-Katolisch
Kirche (Feb. 21)*



AGM 2016 (Feb. 13)



*Our newest Clergy Member:
Pastor Dougal (Feb. 7)*

Looking Back

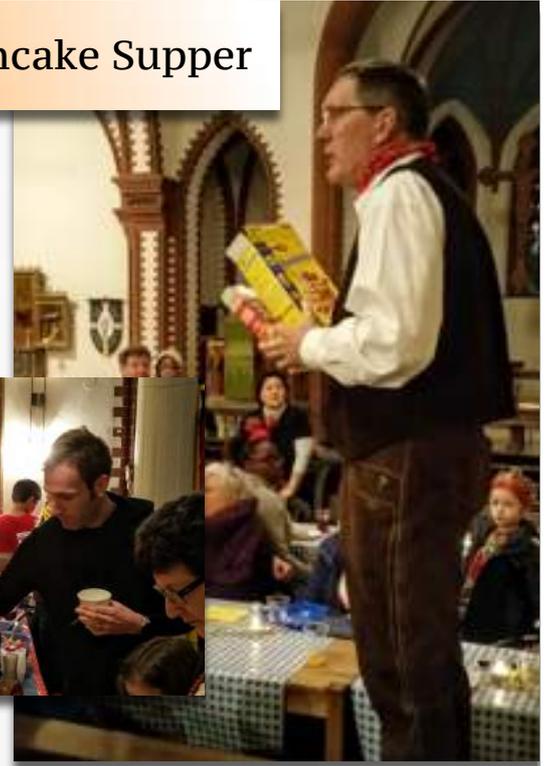
Girls' Night Out

(by Barbara Mueller-Grant)

This month's event, organized by Heidi Grau-Easthill, took place at the Thai Banyan Restaurant in Luisenstrasse, Wiesbaden on February 16th. A nice mix of long-term and relatively new members, 14 in all, came for this evening of good food, lots of laughs, and interesting discussions. From what I heard, some excellent ideas for upcoming activities, but also with regard to Church events, were generated during the evening; the results of which will have a positive impact on our community. Girls' Night out is a great way to get to know members of our church better and Wiesbaden as well. The March meeting promises to be a lot of fun!



Pancake Supper



(Fr. Chris' Corner, cont'd.)

Formation was also one of the Vestry priorities, as it is key to real growth in Christ. I felt that having introduced a proper programme with both regular and seasonal offerings (Coffee and Scripture, Friday Formation, Lenten retreat and course, Advent Quiet Day, adult forums, a growing Sunday school, and the Sharing Faith suppers) and working our way through the results of the survey, we had made significant progress.

Some of the other priorities I mentioned were our commitment to expanding our Mission and Outreach (new partner in Malawi, increased cooperation with Rev. Dorothee Hahn in Romania, work with refugees) and growing the church. Our improved communications (more presence in the press, new website) has helped and we are growing. But we also need you to ensure that everyone who comes through our doors knows

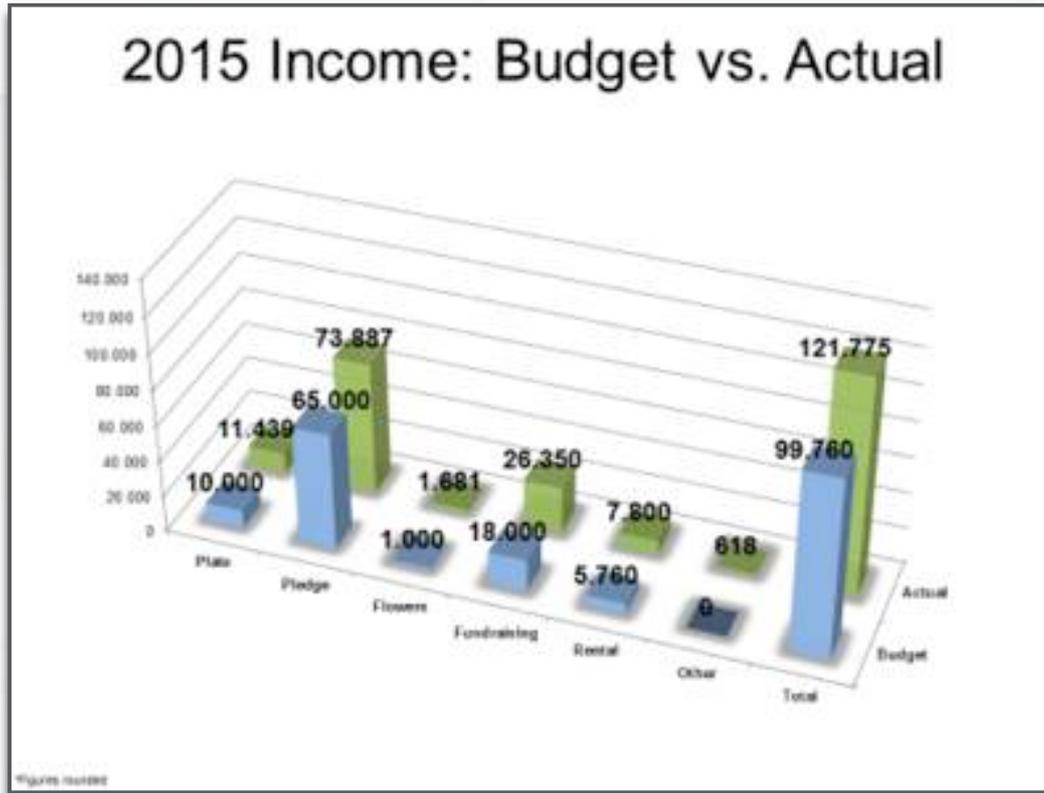
and feels from day one that they are welcome members of this part of the body of Christ.

We continued to work on the process of reconciliation process, rebuilding bridges to the wider church as well as writing to your former rector. While not all wounds are healed, they are healing. As for this year, some priorities are already clear: the Capital Campaign/ building project will continue and we will start preparing to host the Convocation convention in 2017. Other priorities and projects for 2016 will come out of the Vestry retreat in March.

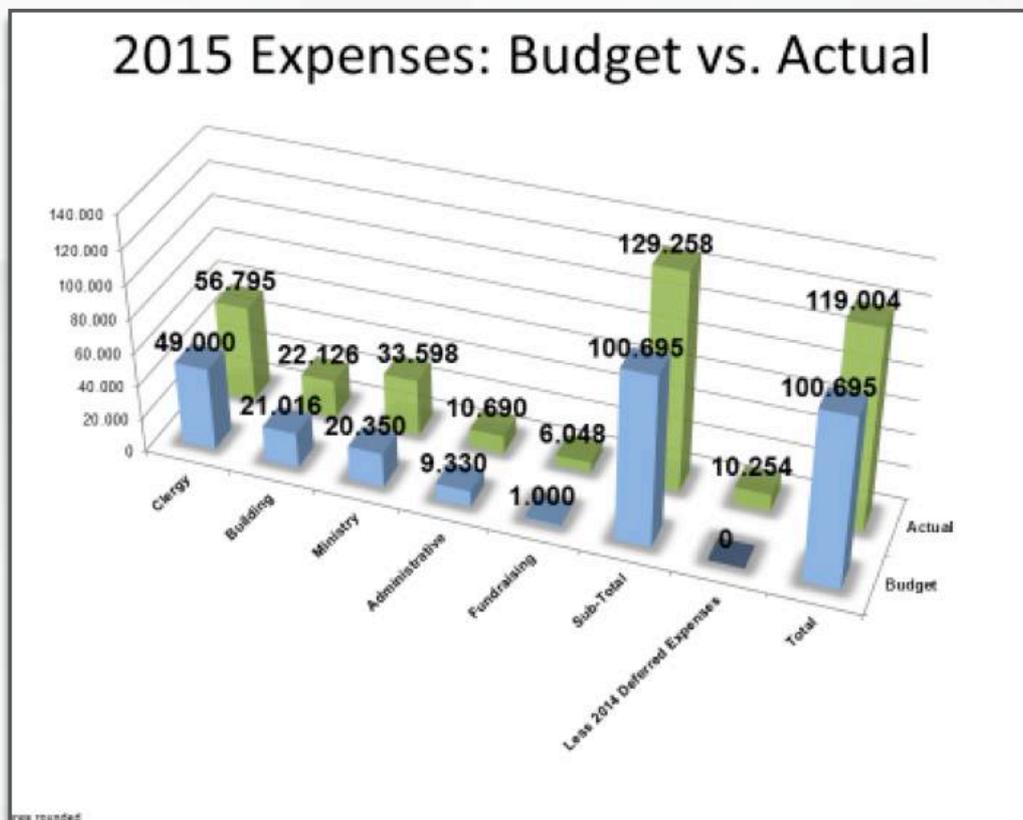
I finished with thanks – to the Vestry, to Douglas, to you all for making Heidi and I feel welcome and valued, and not least to God for this church and for the opportunity to serve here.

Yours in Christ,
Chris+

Special Events: Annual General Meeting



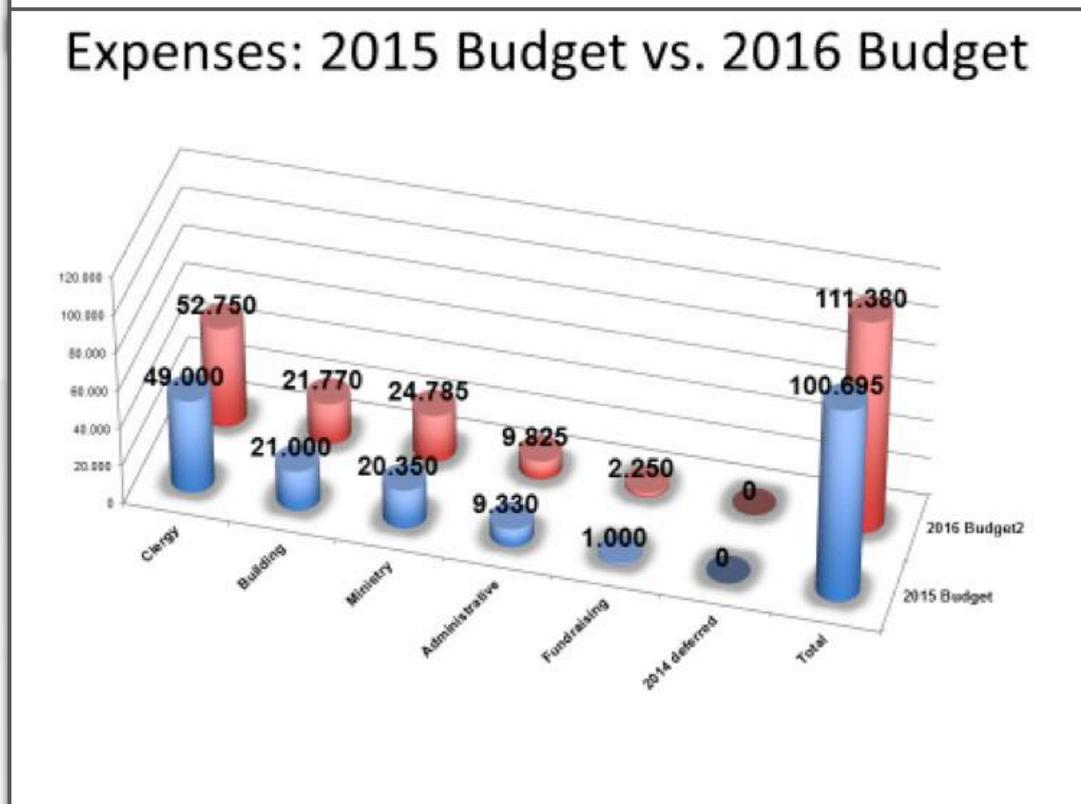
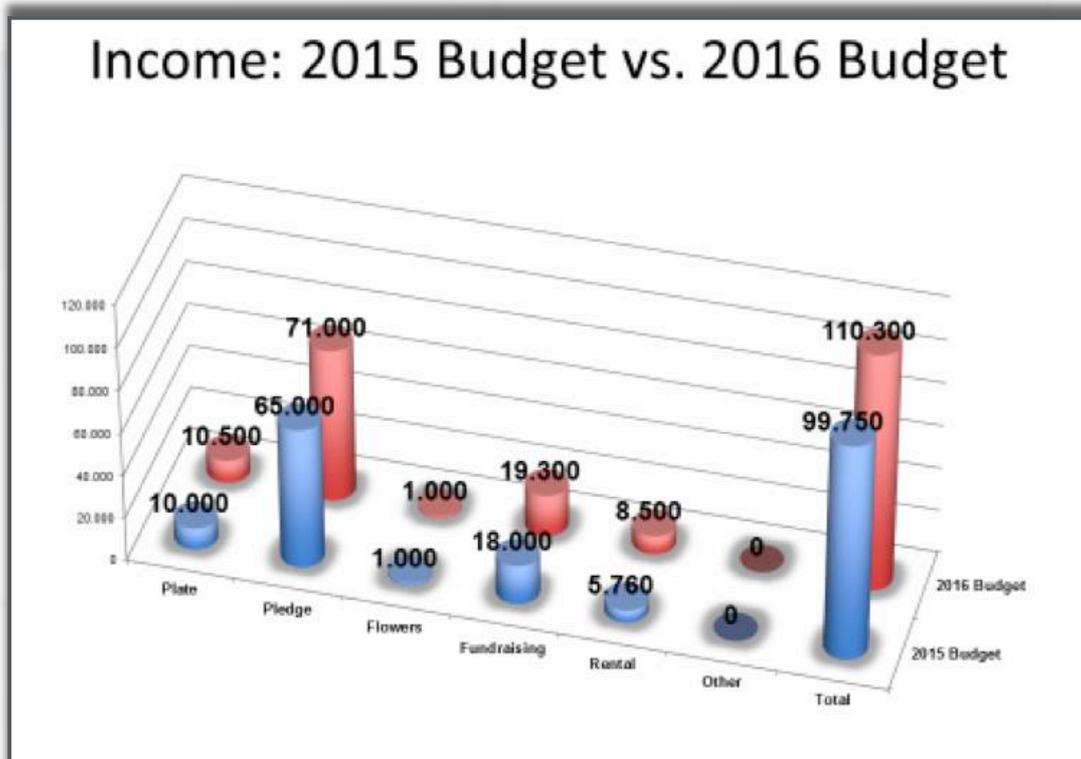
Pledge higher than budgeted due to designated contributions for Romanian mission. Fundraising higher due to successful 150th Anniversary events.



2015 expenses include over €10,000 deferred/delayed expenses from 2014 (especially final moving costs and one pension fund payment for Priest-in-charge). Ministry over budget due to contributions for Romanian mission (covered by additional pledges) and assumption of piano repair costs. Effective surplus: €2,771

Special Events: Annual General Meeting

2016 Budget as approved by the AGM:



New Vestry Members' Election Results

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Erika Le Roux | Susan Pinnells |
| Andrea Noble | John Richards |
| Karen Onders | Nina Scheicher |

Special Events: Annual General Meeting

Senior Warden's Report

This congregation has grown in all senses in 2015: when one thinks back to our state at the start of the year with uncertainty about the future and very different views on where our future should lie and sees how we have grown in numbers and in grace through the year and learnt “to disagree without being disagreeable” (to quote the former Presiding Bishop) then we have much to give thanks for. Of course, I would be dishonest were I not to place much of the credit for this where it belongs, with the grace-filled leadership and example of Father Chris. On the financial side we have also made amazing strides, raising money not only to cover our running expenses but also to start a very successful Capital Campaign enabling much needed repairs and restoration work to be started on our Church building. The amount of time and effort invested in this by our Junior Warden, Nina, has been fantastic and we all owe her a large vote of thanks. I should also thank all who have contributed in the past year to the life and flourishing of our church community: both those on official and visible groups, as well as everyone who works behind the scenes. We have also been blessed with an extraordinarily talented and committed Vestry. We have not always agreed on everything, but have honestly and with respect discussed differences of opinion always striving to remember that we are there for the good of, and to serve the Congregation as a whole.

The major thing that comes to mind when looking back on 2015 was the fact that this was our anniversary year. We celebrated it well with some 14 special events ranging from lunchtime concerts, English teas, American barbecues and climaxing in a festival Eucharist on 19th July attended by a wide range of special friends including representatives of both the City of Wiesbaden and local Churches as well as former members and a former Rector, Karl Bell.

It has been a privilege to serve as Senior Warden for the past year and I pray that this congregation may continue to grow both in numbers and “in the knowledge and love of our Lord Jesus Christ” in the coming year. Yes, we will still face challenges, but working together in unity we will overcome them all.

Your servant,
Raymond Hodgkinson

Youth and Sunday School

This month of March continues in Lent which is the season of the Church year that helps us get ready for Easter at its end. We have been reading about how we can try spending extra time praying, listening to God's word and helping people as Jesus wants us to. During Lent, we share special stories about Jesus, too.

Our world can be a difficult and fearful place. It's all too easy to feel we are powerless to make a difference. But the truth is, with God's help we can change the world for good a little bit every day.

Mothering Sunday - This is a day of celebration in England when, on the fourth Sunday in Lent, "the Fast" is broken with a special Simnal Cake and a St. Augustine tradition of presenting all women during the service with bright yellow daffodils, handed out by the Sunday School children.

Palm Sunday - The Bible tells us that when Jesus entered Jerusalem near the time of the Passover Festival the people of the city went out to meet him with branches of palm trees, shouting, "Praise God! God bless him who comes in the name of the Lord! God bless the King of Israel!" There will be no Sunday School class this day as we all will gather together upstairs for this special service after we receive our woven palm crosses.

Easter Sunday - This is the happiest day of the year for Christians. After the solemn Holy Week, everyone rejoices that the dead Jesus became alive again. The Sunday School children help to decorate

(Author: Jeanne Nelson)

Don't forget to pick up a special Easter remembrance of our shared joyful Eastertide to give to your family! Special colorful springtime flowers can be found in the Easter garden at the front of the church beneath the German Osterbaum.

Here are some ideas to inspire you to perform acts of generosity that encourage kindness to ourselves, our neighbors and our planet.

1. Make someone laugh
2. Write to someone and thank them.
3. Light a candle and pray for someone.
4. Talk to someone new at church
5. Hug someone who needs it.
6. Give a friend a good book or CD
7. Do a chore for someone.
8. Have a TV free day.
9. If you see some litter on the ground, pick it up and throw it away.
10. Help a bug out of the house rather than squash it.



Next Youth Group Meeting!

Come join us for our next meeting at:
Saturday 5th @5:30 At the Church

Capital Campaign - "A Strong Tower"

On 16th February we invited our architect, the contractors, the city, the WCSC, donors of our new lamps, and the press to a brief dedication ceremony. As Father Chris said in his introduction:

"In the Anglican our tradition, we dedicate objects by putting them to the use they were intended for. A church portal is both an entrance and an exit. It therefore fulfills its purpose when it is beautiful and inviting and if the way in is well-lit. Our job as a community, as the beneficiary, is to ensure that our doors are open and that we welcome the people who come through the door, but also that we use the exit to go out into the world - where our help and our witness is needed."

At our AGM on Saturday Nina Scheicher, Junior Warden, gave a detailed overview of the project so far. Here are some of the highlights from her report:

WORK CONCLUDED 2015

- Sandstone Portal Renovation complete
- New period carriage lamps mounted
- Water Drainage System on northern façade
- Gable cross sandstone base replaced
- Lighting rod system renewed on northern façade
- Anti-pigeon wires mounted on sandstone ledges
- New street number plate '3' purchased and mounted
- Fire protection door undercroft kitchen
- New lighting in undercroft / Sunday school
- Repaired roof leak over choir loft
- Crack assessment by static engineer (sacristy)
- New P.A. System

NEXT PROJECTS.

- Glass Construction under Choir Loft (EUR 20 K) in 2016
- WC Refurbished / easier access (EUR 10 K) in 2016
- New Heating System (EUR 70 K) in 2016/7

(to include transformation of heating room into modern kitchen and former kitchen into new second toilet)

- Eastern Façade Drains/piping (EUR 15 K) in 2017
- Sturdy Plasterers
- Building Committee Members
- Fundraising (Fine Arts, Coffee Hour...)
- Donations for ongoing work through 2017 ff



**Eine Kur für die
Englische Kirche:
Be part of it!**

The special bank account is:

St. Augustine's Capital Campaign

IBAN: DE64510700240033802003

BIC: DEUTDEDB 510

Upcoming Events

Lenten Offerings:

Stations of the Cross: Fridays, 4th, 11th, and 18th at 19.00 at the Church.

"Journeying with Luke": Fridays, 4th, 11th, and 18th at 19.30 at the Church.

05: Women of the Church planning meeting

05: Youth Group

06: Adult Forum "The Universe is Fine-Tuned for Life," 12:00

07: Girls' Night Out: Pub Quiz at "Scotch N Soda," 19.00

17: Vestry Meeting, 18.30

19: Vestry Retreat, 09.30 - 16.00

11-13: Parish Lenten Retreat

Holy Week and Easter

20: Palm Sunday

23: Service of Tenebrae

24: Maundy Thursday Agape Meal at 18.00 followed by Eucharist and Foot Washing at 19.00

24-25: Overnight vigil from 20.00 through 07.00 at the Church

25: Good Friday Solemn Liturgy at 7.00 and Solemn Liturgy with Eucharist at 19.00

26: Great Vigil of Easter at 19.00

27: Easter Day Festive Eucharist and Easter Egg Hunt

Holy Eucharist and Bible Study at Villa Clementine: Wednesdays at 10.00 (2nd, 9th, 16th).

19: Concert "Die Gedanken sind frei," 19.00 at the Church.

Save the Date!
Time and Talents Auction
April 16th

Fr. Chris will be away March 3-5 (Council of Anglican Episcopal Churches) and March 9-10 (German Council of Churches).

HOLY WEEK PREPARATIONS AND ASSISTANCE

Apart from coming to the services and living through the events of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, his last meal, betrayal, suffering, death and then the triumph and joy of the Resurrection, we also hope that you will be able to contribute by:

- Bringing food for the simple supper on Maundy Thursday (bread, cheese, olives, dates, grapes, water, juice, wine - soup is provided)
- Joining the All-night Vigil after the Eucharist on Maundy Thursday until 7 am Good Friday (one hour slots - two people needed for each hour); middle of the night /early morning "watchers" always needed!
- Bringing flowers (cut fairly short) for the Flowering of the Cross on Easter.
- Bringing Easter eggs (candy/chocolate only please) for the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Day!

Upcoming Events

Women of the Church

All women of our church who are interested in the future of the "Women of the Church" are invited to an afternoon of sharing stories from the past and planning for the future.

Saturday, March 5 at 3pm at the Parsonage, Schützenstr. 2, 65195 Wiesbaden

Please let me know in advance if you are planning to come!

Easthill.grau@t-online.de



W.O.C. "Girls Night Out"

Monday, 7th March 2016 - Pub Quiz/Trivia Night

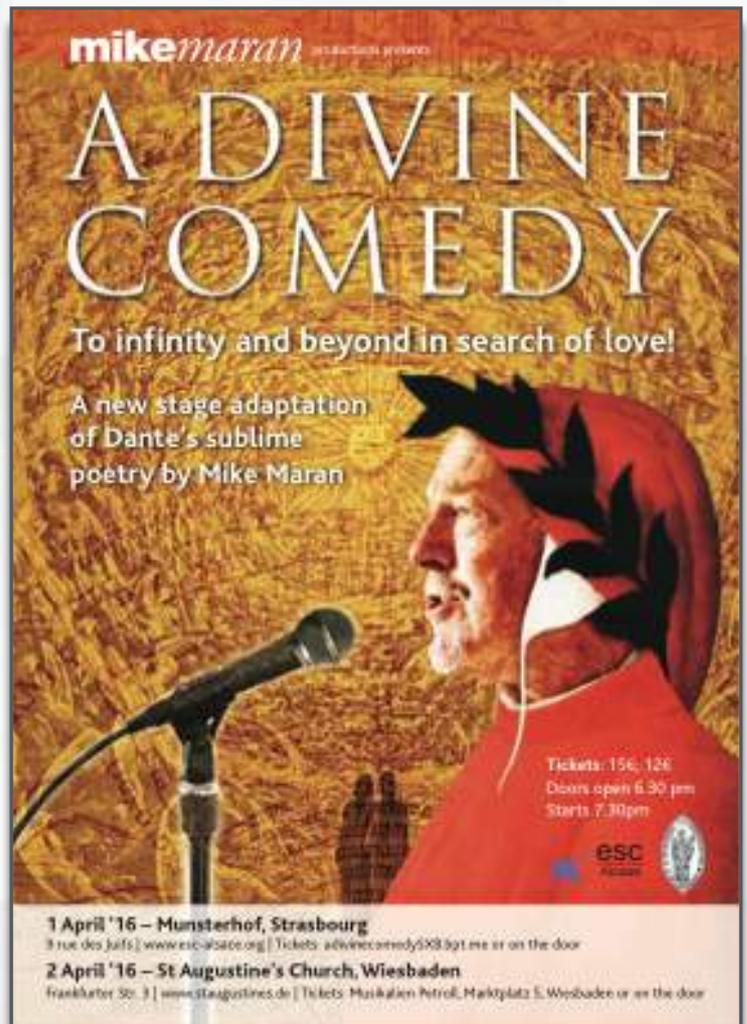
The next Girls' Night Out will be a pub quiz at "Scotch n Soda", Goldgasse 9 downtown Wiesbaden. The quiz will start until 8pm and will probably go on until around 9:45/10:00pm, but we will meet from 7.00 pm at the pub. The quiz costs is 3 euro per person and all monies are split between the top 3 winning teams ... and we want to be those teams, don't we!

Please let Heidi Grau-Easthill know if you're coming as we will have to book tables.

(0611) 50504302, (0157) 85530125, easthill.grau@t-online.de

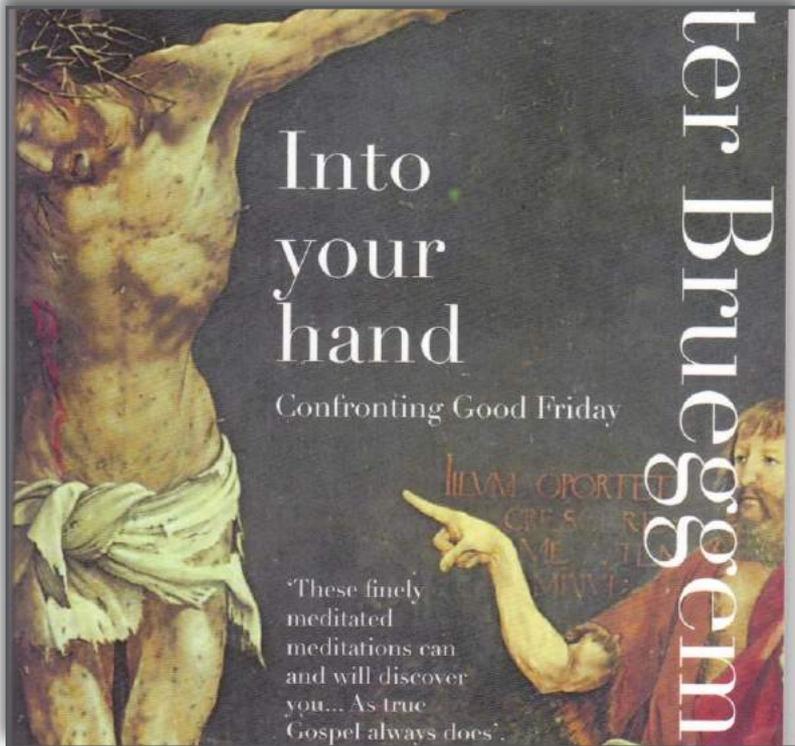
Birthdays

- 1 - Lawrence Richards
- 2 - Anna Altvater
- 4 - Christine Spethmann
- 6 - John Adam
- 12 - Rhodri Britton
- 13 - Julia Feldross
- 14 - Wolf-Dieter Donecker
- 15 - Jillian
- 16 - Brian Buckley
- 17 - The Rev. Douglas Robinson
- 20 - Andy Pickersgill
- 22 - Pat Mindedal
Gabrielle Vogel
Sofia Rosales
- 25 - Erika Le Roux
Robert Milan
- 27 - Jan Milan
- 28 - Shirley Blenkinsop
- 29 - Leena Eilitta



Pastor's Picks

This month's book – "Into your hand: Confronting Good Friday" by Walter Brueggemann – was my Lenten read. Though as it turned out, the book didn't last long into Lent: just 2 days! For one thing it's not a long book at 40 pages, and for another it's simply a lovely read, despite the "heavy" theme: A series of seven reflections on the "Seven Last Words of the Cross."



Walter Brueggemann is actually a renowned Old Testament scholar and says of himself – far too modestly – that "I have no particular expertise in New Testament texts." Well it doesn't show. Each chapter pairs one of the last words with a psalm, sometimes one that is the basis of what Jesus says (e.g. Matthew 27:46/Mark 15:34 and Psalm 22: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?), other times a psalm helps give greater depth and meaning to Jesus' words. And it is of course in the choice and knowledge of the psalms that Brueggemann as an Old Testament scholar comes into his own.

For example, he compare and contrasts the "I thirst" of John 19:28 with Psalm 42: "As the deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God," reminding us that Jesus' thirst at this moment, just before his death was both physical and spiritual – and soon to be fulfilled.

But Prof. Brueggemann is also a political animal and a critic of many aspects of American society and so does not hesitate to add today's context to the other two layers of meaning. In his reflections on the "It is finished" of John 19:30, we are not only reminded of the various uses of "it is finished" in the Old Testament (Creation, the Tabernacle, the settlement of the Promised Land), and of the defeat of the power of death that this stands for, but also that: "The Friday victory is the defeat of the roman Empire and all empires (including ours) that depend on muscle and militarism."

This is a lovely little book, full of insight. And you still have time to read it before Good Friday!

Do You Know the Answer?

On which day did God create chickens?

Email newsletter@staugustines.de if you know! Prize includes fame and glory for the winner.

Last month's winner: Veronica Rejmers!

Outreach

UTO Ingathering

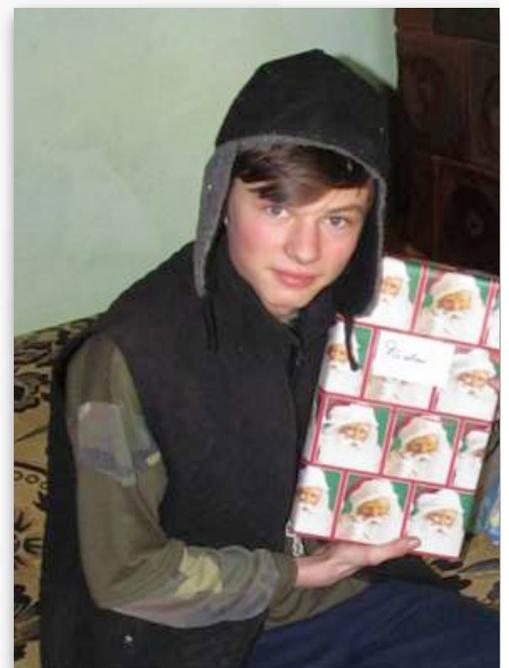
Our UTO Spring Ingathering will be scheduled in late spring. The “UTO Blue Boxes” can be found on the tract rack at the back of the church, please take one home with you. UTO Brochures are available, as well. Each time we thank God for the blessings of this life, we drop a coin into our family’s Blue Box. The collected amount is then sent to the UTO offices in New York City where it becomes part of a fund within the Episcopal Church which supports mission projects all over the world. (UTO Coordinator, Kay Hollis)



Romanian Mission

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ of St. Augustine’s in Wiesbaden,

It took a while before I am now finally sitting down to write and thank you for your ongoing support. Since last year you have taken on the ministry of collecting donations for my ministry here in Romania, a ministry I can hardly thank you for high enough as it makes it so much easier for me to keep the donations I receive and use here transparent. The detailed accounting I gave recently to your priest, Chris +. I pray that you will be able to continue doing this ministry as I am aware that restrictions in the German system may cause difficulties.



This boy’s father died many years ago and his mother has not been able to find work. They are living from a little pension which mainly only covers the expenses for the house and food. Even school utensils become a problem..

Romanian Mission (cont.)

Second I also want to thank Theo Patsios who faithfully continues to offer products from my ministry here which support the persons who make it directly or which help to cover various expenses here which are related to my ministry. This of course means a Thank you to all of you who are buying when Theo puts out the Romanian goods for sale.

Besides this of course I received yet another time three boxes of Christmas packages from you for children here. Thank you so much! A few packages of those helped to fill a number of boxes for a group of children at Star of Hope, a local NGO. Then some single children received one as well.

But most of your packages went to a village called Buda-Osești. It is about 80 km from Huși and has a high number of gypsy residents. It is a very poor place with lots of young families but most without any income. I brought food packages there as in years before, but also asked the priest to call some children. There was however a misunderstanding and the neediest children for who the packages were meant had not come, but only their parents. So in agreement with the priest, who apologized for the miscommunication, the parents received the packages to hand them to their children – well at least one was there.



Around Wiesbaden

Shopping Experience in Wiesbaden

By: Madeline Bohr

With more than 80 stands, the Easter Market will be attracting crowds to the city centre of Wiesbaden from March 11th to 13th, 2016. The Wiesbaden Easter Market will be open on Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The businesses and shops in the city center will be open on Sunday from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Needless to say, Easter bunnies will be mingling among the passers-by at the Wiesbaden Easter Market, organized by Wiesbaden Marketing GmbH, which will dominate activities in the pedestrian zone from March 11th to 13th, 2016. They will be giving children little surprises and, together with stilt-walkers, will entertain the guests who will be spoiled for choice at the approximate 80 Easter Market stands offering regional, national and international handcrafts. The great fabric market at the Dern'sches Gelände, the Wiesbaden automobile exhibition at the Schlossplatz and the shops open for business on Sunday, March 13th, are traditions at the Easter Market.

The popular hay figures, without which the Easter Market is unimaginable, accessories for home and garden, a wide range of jewellery made from silver, precious stones, shells or pearls, pottery, Easter ornaments and natural brushes characterize the range of goods at the Easter Market stands from Rheinstraße to Mauritiusplatz. Food and wine stands will "provide sustenance". Here, visitors will find delicacies including honey and almond pastries as well as cheese and cold meat specialities. There will be culinary treats at the Dern'sches Gelände too on Sunday when the great "Holland" mobile fabric market entices the visitors to discover new fabrics and haberdashery at a total of 140 stands. Automobile fans will get their money's worth at the Wiesbaden automobile exhibition at the Schlossplatz. Here, the exhibition association of the Wiesbaden-Rheingau-Taunus vehicles guild with renowned car dealerships from the city and surrounding area will show around 150 of the latest car models.



Nachrichten Wiesbaden

17.02.2018

Sanierung der anglikanischen Kirche: Erster Bauabschnitt ist fertig



Kirchenvorstand Nina Scheicher mit dem anglikanischen Pfarrer Christopher Easthill vor dem gerade sanierten Sandsteineingang. Foto: wita/Paul Müller

Kirche anderswo

Wozu in die Ferne schweifen ...

...wenn das Gute liegt so nah!

Ein schönes Sprichwort, das zu der hier vorgestellten Kirche passt. Denn jederzeit kann man in Wiesbaden eine „Reise ins Ausland“ machen und zum Mittagessen wieder zu Hause sein! Die Rede ist von der „Anglican / Episcopal Church of St. Augustine of Canterbury“, der Englischen Kirche in Wiesbaden.

In einem historischen roten Backsteingebäude am Kurpark feiert

ten werden von sehr engagierten Gemeindemitgliedern ausgerichtet. Die Gemeinde erhält keine Kirchensteuer, daher werden die bescheidenen Einnahmen für die Gemeindearbeit verwendet.

„Jedes Mitglied einer christlichen Gemeinschaft ist uns herzlich willkommen“, sagt Reverend Chris Easthill, „natürlich auch, wer nur – oder noch – auf der Suche nach einer geistlichen Heimat ist.“

Die Mitglieder der Gemeinde stammen nicht nur aus Wiesbaden, sondern Sie ist Heimat für eine internationale, multikulturelle Gemeinschaft aus Afrika, China und dem Mittelmeer, aber auch für viele

englischsprachige Künstlerinnen und Familien der Kirche. Die Gemeinde ist in Wiesbaden eine regelmäßig erstklassierte Kirche mit international be-



„Die Kirche lebt“

Die anglikanische Gemeinde in Wiesbaden hat das Portal des Gotteshauses saniert. Mit Hilfe von Spenden soll es nun umgebaut werden.

WIESBADEN. „Das Portal ist zugleich Eingang und Ausgang“, hat Christopher Easthill, Pfarrer der anglikanischen Kirche, gesagt. „Einerseits laden wir die Menschen in unser Gotteshaus ein, andererseits gehen wir hinaus, um die Welt zu sein, wo wir gebraucht werden.“

Der 55-jährige Geistliche hat die Gründe genannt, warum die Sanierung der in der Nähe der Wiesbadener Wilhelmstraße gelegenen Kirche St. Augustine of Canterbury vor drei Monaten von der nördlichen Seite begonnen hat. In ihrer Segnung und einem Gebet würdigte Easthill gestern im Kreis von geladenen Gästen den Abschluss des ersten Bauabschnitts.

Die mehr als 150 Jahre alte Sandsteinsäde ist vollständig gereinigt und konserviert worden. Einzelne Teile wie etwa reich verzierte Säulen haben die Fachleute ersetzt. Auch in dem Bereich über dem Portal mussten Schäden beseitigt werden. Wasserabläufe wurden verändert, um Feuchtigkeitsschäden in Zukunft zu vermeiden. Schließlich sind neue stilgerechte Lampen installiert worden. Für deren Finanzierung kommt der Wiesbadener Community Spouses Club (CSW) ins Spiel, ein Verein, zu dem sich die Ehepartner der amerikanischen Soldaten zusammengeschlossen haben.

Für den ersten Bauabschnitt hat die Gemeinde rund 70 000 Euro aufgewandt. Die vollständige Sanierung und der geplante Umbau werden nach Easthills Worten mehrere Jahre in Anspruch nehmen und zusammen etwa eine halbe Million Euro kosten. Die anglikanische Gemeinde bekommt weder Kirchensteuern noch Zuschüsse der Mutterkirche. Die Finanzierung ihres Projekts soll mit einem Eigenbeitrag, Spenden und Mitteln des Denkmalschutzes gelingen.



Anfang: Mit der Sanierung des Portals der Englischen Kirche in Wiesbaden haben die Arbeiten zum Umbau begonnen. Foto: Katholische Kirche Wiesbaden

Strang der Anglikaner. Mit 80 Millionen Angehörigen zählt sie zu den größten Kirchen der Welt.

Für die Errichtung des im neugotischen Stil gehaltenen Wiesbadener Gottes-

hauses hatten sich zur Mitte des 19. Jahrhunderts englische Kurgäste eingesetzt. Aber es waren ausgerechnet britische Bomber, die sie im Februar 1945 zerstörten. Die in Wiesbaden stationierten

Amerikaner bauten das Gotteshaus wieder auf. Zwei Jahrzehnte später brannte es wegen eines defekten Heizungsfilters fast völlig aus. So wurde es ein zweites Mal wieder aufgebaut.

Outreach

Romanian Mission (cont.)

Below: The parents in Buda-Osești on December 26 who were taking the boxes to their children



Little girl with her Christmas present from St. Augustine's.

There is a story I want to share with you though: there was a couple there which got married just after we were finished with the distribution. A gypsy couple, with seven children at home as they had been legally married for some time. That day they also received the blessing of the Church. You can see the small father on the picture, standing in the last row on the left his face mostly in shade. For their children they received three boxes and two food packages. For them that was their wedding present and they were endlessly grateful for that. The wedding was more than simple. In working cloths, dirty shoes, only with the wedding god parents (as the tradition of the Orthodox Church calls the witnesses) there were no guests at the wedding. Only the priest and the cantor who are necessary for the service were there. I stayed as well. It was the most simple wedding I have experienced ever, almost sad as not even the children participated, but the priest explained to me that the older children had to watch the smaller ones while the parents were in church for ceremony. I plan to visit this family one day but for now I am sure from the reaction of their parents, that this second Christmas day became an especially joyous one thanks to the packages you made for them. May God bless you all for the joy your packages brought to the children here and to me who saw the faces of all who received something!

Your sister in Christ,
The Rev. Dorothee Hahn
Episcopal Missionary to Romania