



St. Augustine of Canterbury

Parish Newsletter

February 2016

Frankfurter Str. 3

65189 Wiesbaden

parish@staugustines.de

newsletter@staugustines.de

DE48 5107 0024 0033 8020 00

Father Chris' Corner

Dear Faithful and Friends of St. Augustine's,

Happy New Year – late I know, but this is the first edition of 2016. Soon the season of Epiphany will be behind us, with most of February part of Lent. But before we go into the penitential season, there will be a chance for merriment with our traditional Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday, 9th February. But actually I don't see Lent as a "sad" season. It's a time of personal preparation, in the words of the prayer book for "self-examination and repentance; prayer, fasting, and self-denial; by reading and meditating on God's holy Word." (Ash Wednesday service, BCP 265). I admit that fasting and self-denial do not sound too cheerful, however their purpose is not penitence or punishment, but heightening awareness and focus. And you can also just "give up" some of your free time by taking on one of our Lenten offerings:

The Parish Lenten Retreat "FOUR SEASONS IN ONE LIFE": March 11 to 13

Our Lenten weekly Bible Study "JOURNEYING WITH LUKE": Fridays at 7.30 pm (after Stations of the Cross) from Feb. 19 – March 18.

A six-part online course with Rev. Clair Ullmann (from Ascension, Munich) and the Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation from February 21 to March 27. Email Clair at revclair@gmail.com by Feb. 12, 2016.

This year's Lenten offering from the Society of St. John the Evangelist (in cooperation with my Seminary, VTS) "Growing a rule of

life." See www.ssje.org/ssje/growrule/.

One final word about this newsletter. As you know, Jeanne Nelson, our editor for the last two years, produced her last edition in December of 2015. THANK YOU Jeanne for stepping up (not for the first time either) to keep the parish informed especially, as she put it, "when there was a dark period of NO Communication in church." I know how much people look forward to reading all about the events, particularly the ones they could not join. And now we have two new editors, Madeline Bohr and Audrey Shankles, who I also want to thank for stepping up. This newsletter will look different, I'm sure. For one thing, we now have many more information channels about upcoming events (Facebook, weekly email newsletter, website, service sheet), and for another, we have two new people with their own new and good ideas. The newsletter will of course also look forward to the major events of the next month – just as I have done above, but the best source for events will be the church calendar on the website, which is constantly updated, and the weekly announcements. We will continue many of the regular features and pages, including those for the Sunday School, Vestry, Capital Campaign, and add new ones. Most important of all is its function in keeping us all informed about what has happened, letting us "take part" in all the celebrations and events, even when we could not there in person, and thereby helping us all be part of one community, united in purpose and mission.

Yours in Christ,
Chris+

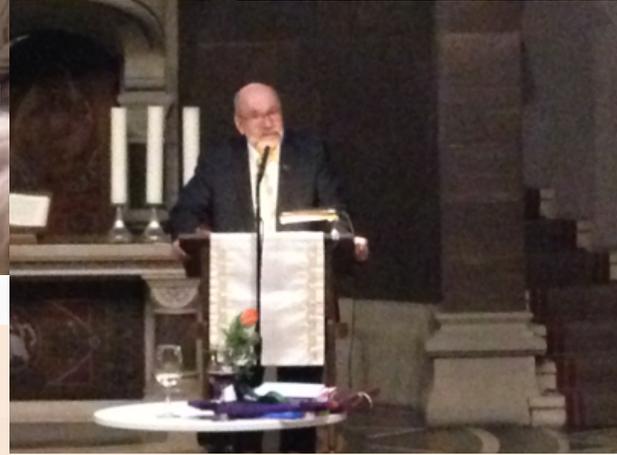
Looking Back

Farewell Service for Pfarrer Klaus Endter on January 17

Pfarrer Endter was the ecumenical officer of the local Protestant Church and chair of the Council of Churches (ACK) for many years, as well as a great friend of St. Augustine's. As a member of the ACK board, Dorothee Dziewas gave one of the farewell speeches.



Left: Dorothee Dziewas; below: Pfarrer Klaus Endter



Christmas Pageant on December 20



Youth and Sunday School



Invited to join the morning procession by one of our teachers, Sunday care of our youngest members is provided downstairs in the undercroft during the first half of service. During the Peace, they will rejoin their families. Our new curriculum, *Living the Good News* is wonderfully organized and follows the Gospel reading. There are many choices of songs and activities alongside the lesson sheets.

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP We want to also restart our Junior Youth Group (ages 10-13), most of whom are our acolytes, so if you would like to support this important ministry as a Jr. Youth Group leader or in some other capacity, please speak to Fr. Chris.

Shrove Tuesday PANCAKE SUPPER 6pm—8pm

Don't forget St. Augustine's special family night is coming up on **9 February!** Pancakes, waffles & sausages! Yippee! Come and enjoy the food and fun. Dress up in a Fasching costume and play *Pass the Pancake* before the Bingo Game!



Thanks to all the children who participated in this year's Christmas Pageant. You did a great job telling the story of Jesus' birth. Everyone was so proud of you!

(Author: Jeanne Nelson)



Preparing for the Family Service when the Sunday School children will be singing the offertory. The song will be a favorite one, "This Little Light of Mine" chosen especially for the celebration of Candlemas.



Next Youth Group

Come join us for our next meeting at:

February 13th, 5:30pm
at the Parsonage (Schützenstr. 2,
"Kreuzkirche" stop)

Vestry Minutes

Formal meeting items:

Quorum declared. Two additions to the agenda. Minutes of the last meeting:

Motion to approve the minutes of the 10.12.2015 vestry meeting proposed by John Adam, 2nd Lisa. 2 abstentions.

Follow-up on action items:

- D&O Insurance offers still pending.
- Inventory pending.
- Ashley changed lock on downstairs back door, one key for tower and back door.
- Additional fundraiser still pending.
- Money in US \$ account transferred to CCC account.
- Chris+ purchased new PC with Robert Ramsay's help.
- Projector on loan from Jim White.

Update bishops' meeting Dec. 2015:

- Bishop Pierre met with CofE Bishops Robert and David on question of jurisdiction. Inconclusive outcome.

Primates' Meeting:

- Outcome: suspension of the Episcopal Church from certain official functions for the next 3 years, but not a break. **Local impact: none according to Chris+.**
- Chris+ : clarify his position on being elected to the National Council of Churches.
- Bishop Michael Curry admired for his clear statement.

AGM 2016 :

- Nominating Committee – no new candidates to date. Total of 6 candidates standing for re-election plus any further nominations. Updated biographies needed.
- Draft agenda circulated.
- Jim W. to approach potential auditors.
- Need short statement on audit during the AGM.
- Potluck lunch to be organized.
- Chris+ to finalize invitation letter, agenda and by-law changes.
- Entrance during the AGM to be staffed to register voting members.

Reports (Information/Discussion/Decisions)

Community

Calendar overview:

- Newsletter: Chris+ met with new editors Audrey and Madeline. Next issue: February.
- Press-Club Wiesbaden: Madeline Bohr was invited to a meeting in the Villa Clementine. Group comprises journalists/press, business people.

Motion by Jim W. for church to pay 100 € membership fee for Madeline Bohr (plus possibly one guest) to become church's representative at the Presse-Club Wiesbaden, Nina 2nd. Unanimous approval.

- Calendar: Vestry retreat March 19, 2016
- Time & Talent: 16 April 2016.
- Picnic: Discussion of date, alternative venue, possibly combination with a Newcomers' Event.
- 3rd June 2016: Christian bookshop Alpha to hold public reading.

Managing God's Assets (1)

Treasurer's Report

- No statement for today's meeting. Approx. overview of accounts as of 31.12.2015:
- Current/ general account: € 14.000
- General account Endowment Fund: € 1000
- Organ Fund account: € 5000
- Capital Campaign account: €18.000 (after a number of large bills have been paid)
- US \$: \$ 3000 (after the transfer, see above).
- Members who have not yet pledged to Capital Campaign will be targeted. Denkmalschutzbehörde due to grant us financial support in April.
- UTO grant application has been submitted for renewal of the WC

Budget 2016:

- Additional item – to cover increase in street cleaning charges by City of Wiesbaden. Vestry agreed to additional 500 € to be inserted in the Budget 2016 to cover any additional costs.

Capital Campaign - "A Strong Tower"

If the scaffolding is not down by the time you read this, it soon will be! It stayed up a lot longer than expected as – not unusual in renovation projects – some necessary repairs were only discovered once work had started including the replacement of the base of the gabel cross at the very top of the building! As soon as the scaffolding is down, the new carriage lamps paid for by a donation from the Wiesbaden Community Spouses Club will be installed and we plan a grand “re-opening” to which the donors, the Denkmalschutz, and the local press will be invited.

Phase 1: Internal Campaign Target € 150,000



The new carriage lamps paid for by a donation from the Wiesbaden Community Spouses Club will be installed and we plan a grand “re-opening” to which the donors, the Denkmalschutz, and the local press will be invited.

Our campaign can only be a success if everyone contributes and everyone helps. So far 36 parishioners (individuals/families) have contributed, as well as 13 friends (former members). Our target is still 100%, i.e. a contribution from every single member. And don't forget please that we need your help for the external campaign too, we need you to contact individuals, companies, or organisations who you think might consider giving a donation to our capital campaign. We have templates for letters, pre-printed bank transfer forms, and a new German language flyer for you to use.

**Capital Campaign Bank Account:
St. Augustine's Capital Campaign
IBAN: DE64 5107 0024 0033 8020 03**

Since the end of last year there has only been small increase in our income, which currently stands at about € 138,000 (paid or promised) from all sources. Unfortunately as we have had a significant increase in expenditure – for all the work on the façade and roof – our campaign account is somewhat depleted. We will not get any money back from the Denkmalschutz until April. So, of all the projects planned for 2016/17 - the new glass partition, renovating the upstairs toilet (and making it as handicapped-accessible as possible), replacing the current heating and remodelling the undercroft (additional toilet, bigger kitchen), and some renovation/repair work to the outside West wall - only the first two are financed.



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

Special Events

Burns' Night, January 29

St. Augustine's celebrated the birthday of the Scottish poet, Robert Burns, with traditional flare and food.

The menu:
Cock-a-leekie soup
Haggis with Neeps and Tatties
Raspberry Trifle
Selction of Scottish Cheddars



The organizing committee:
John Richards
Roxanne Richards
Elaine White
Jeanne Nelson



Speakers included: Harry Boyd, Fr. Chris, Andy Pickersgill, Audrey Shankles and Sharon Boyd. Deborah Cole and guest Elaine Woods sang traditional songs.

Upcoming Events

Lenten Offerings

Parish Lenten Retreat "Four Seasons in One Life" Friday, March 11 at 5:00pm through Sunday March 13 (after breakfast at 9:00am). Location: Franciscan Exerzitienhaus in Hofheim am Taunus. Cost is € 125 per person (includes all meals and accomodation). Space is limited.

Convocation Spirituality Retreat
March 11-13 in Tutzing

Lenten Weekly Bible Study Every Friday at 7:30pm (after Stations of the Cross) from February 19 - March 18 (at the church)

The **Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation** will offer a 6-session course with online components. Course begins February 21 and runs through March 27. Cost is €50 and the deadline for registration is February 12th. For more information please see [this link](#) or email Rev. Clair Ullmann at revclair@gmail.com.

9 February 2016 Pancake Supper at 6 pm

10 February 2016 Ash Wednesday service 7 pm

13 February 2016 Conversation series II: Caring for one another: *"Accompanying the dying and mourning"* 3 pm

14 February Great Litany in procession and Rite I

19 February 2016 Stations of the Cross (every Friday during Lent)

20 February 2016 AGM at 1 pm (after pot-luck at 12)

21 February 2016 Joint Service at Altkatholische Friedenskirche 10 am

21 February 2016 Conversation series III: *Death, where is thy sting? How we experience death* 3 pm

27 February 2016 Prayer and Praise 5.30 pm

Girls' Night Out - our next meeting is at Restaurant Thai Banyan on February 16th at 6:30pm. Please let Heidi (easthill-grau@t-online.de) know if you're coming!

Do You Know the Answer?

In Luke, chapter 12, which five birds are sold for two copper coins?

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

Outreach and Parish Life

February Birthdays

- 3 – The Rev. Karl Bell
- 4 – Victoria Scheicher
- 7 – Kimberley Walkowiak
- 9 – Matthias Limmeroth
- 10 – Rita Hadboun
Steven Le Roux
- 11 – Maren Ehrich
- 17 – June Dewell
- 25 – Raymond Hodgkinson
Robery Ramsay
- 26 – Wendy Rathgeber
- 27 – Maria Geilen
- 29 – Philip Hodgkinson

Joint ecumenical service on Jan. 24 to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity



We celebrated with the local Protestant (EKHN) Church's English Community Outreach Project at the Bergkirche.

Christmas at the Teestube

For some of the seasoned helpers in the kitchen it is a familiar job, professionally coordinated by Herr Enders, but there are some new parishioners as well.

Celebrating Christmas Eve at the Teestube is a fixture in St. Augustine's Christmas schedule, and 2015 is no exception. The Teestube staff – today with our help – cater for homeless and other citizens of Wiesbaden who can do with a warm meal, a rest or just somebody to talk to.

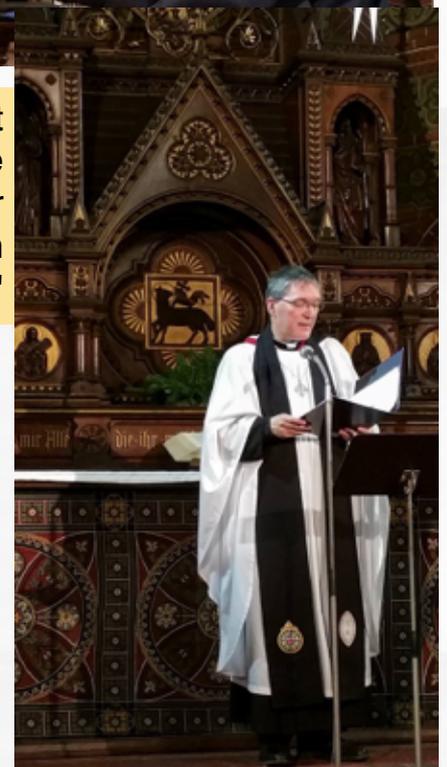


many join in the Lord's Prayer in their own languages.



Rev. Rosalind Gnat and Father Chris were the officiates; Father Chris' sermon was on salt and light"

We start with a little service – prayers, readings, singing and, of course, the Christmas Story. „In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus ...“ we read in German. When John Treleven begins to sing „Amazing Grace“ we are all listening, and



Outreach and Parish Life

Later people eat and talk, some sit quietly, a card game is on the way, someone laughs. New guests come in and get served, Roberto and Alessandro are doing a great job as waiters. They have done this for years, old hands at serving meals. As it is warm outside, people leave after a while to have a smoke or drink, and slowly the event winds down. Some

guests take their choc-ice with them, as they go.

It has become a normal thing to do, and really isn't

anything special in a way. We sit with those who do not have a nice cosy Christmas at home, we talk and listen and eat together, and later we go to our families and friends. No major sacrifice for us, but it changes the perspective, just a little, just for a moment. For a few hours we are where Christ is: with the sick and the lonely, the poor and the marginalized. And whatever it does for the guests at the Teestube – it can change us, humble us, and remind us that God came into this world for everybody in this room. *(Author: Dorothee Dziewas)*



Christmas Boxes in Romania



Around Wiesbaden

“Well-rounded Wiesbaden Walking Tours”

From June through September Wiesbaden Marketing offers the regular city walk "Well-rounded Wiesbaden". The city walk for English speaking guests takes place every Saturday at 2 p.m. from the Tourist Information. First tour 2015 was on June 6th, last tour will be on September 26th.

During your walking tour you will learn about surprising and impressive facts about Wiesbaden's history and life in the state capital of Hessen. Whether Kurhaus, Hessian state theatre or impressive mansions – presentable buildings are forming the face of the city. Here in the "City of hot springs" there is plenty to tell about the thermal water, the fountains and Wiesbaden as world spa city of the 19th century. The walking tour leads – among other sites – to the Schlossplatz with old and new city hall, to the market church as highest building of the city and to the former castle of the dukes of Nassau, nowadays the seat of the Hessian parliament.

Wiesbaden Marketing offers an only English speaking walking tour which takes place every Saturday from June until September. However, the same tour takes place from February through November every Saturday in German. English speaking guest can join the German tour as our tour guides are happy to translate.

Public walking tour in the city centre (for German and English speaking guests)

- German tour (with English translation)
- February through April,

every Saturday at 10.30 a.m.

- English speaking tour: Every Saturday from June through September "Well-rounded Wiesbaden" at 2.00 p.m.
- First tour in 2015 was on June 6th, last tour will be on September 26th.
- New in 2016: English tour includes a visit to the Church of St Augustine of Canterbury

- Time: 10.30 a.m. and 2 p.m. 2.00 p.m. (English speaking tour)
- Duration: approximately 1.5 hours
- Meeting Point: Tourist-Information, Marktplatz 1, Wiesbaden
- Prices: 9 Euros Adults
6.50 Euros Spa guests
4.80 Euros Children to the age of 12



Editor's note: Madeline Bohr will be offering notes on activities around Wiesbaden for our English-speaking members.