



# St. Augustine of Canterbury

Parish Newsletter

*February 2017*

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## Dear Faithful and Friends of St. Augustine's,

As I write this brief "editorial", the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity has just begun. At least once a year, Christians are reminded of Jesus' prayer for his disciples that "they may be one so that the world may believe" (see John 17.21). We come together in ecumenical worship to pray for unity and very often also for the reconciliation that precedes it. On the one hand, I am encouraged by the moves to a closer cooperation between the churches here in Germany. As a member of the board of the German Council of Churches (ACK), I know of (and am involved in) regular applications by churches to join the ACK, because they do not feel whole on their own. On the other hand, I read in a recent report that globally 100s of new churches are being formed every day, and our own denomination, Anglicanism, still experiences disagreement and division that may yet lead to further schism.

This saddens me, not just because it runs against a Gospel imperative, but also because we as Christians are yet again setting a bad example, when we should be setting a good one. Church splits happen when dialogue breaks down, when dogmatism rules, when we no longer want to hear the other and the other's opinion: we disagree, so let's separate. Then we are much safer in our own, new, self-contained bubble. This is of course not just a religious phenomenon. On the contrary, we see it in the political sphere too.

This is why we should be modelling the alternative: good disagreement, unity in difference and diversity. I am glad that so many different churches and nationalities are represented in the congregation of St. Augustine's. I am glad that you hold many different political viewpoints, I am even glad that you do not all agree with me on everything (but don't tell my children. Unity in diversity means finding and celebrating our common ground and goals. It means listening to the other, always willing to learn. It means standing up for our own convictions, but in love. It means acknowledging our differences, while recognising that we are stronger together. It means affirming that "there is one Body and one Spirit; one hope in God's call to us; one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism; one God and Father of all." (1)

Yours in Christ,  
Chris+

(1) BCP, Holy Baptism, p. 299

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## We Need Your Help!

Dear Readers,

The present Newsletter Team has been on the job now for exactly one year. Thank you for your support, your ideas, your input and your feedback during that time. At this time however Audrey will be leaving the team, due to new work commitments, and so, sadly, we need a replacement for her. Her task involved designing the layout, compiling and formatting the newsletter, as well as writing articles.

Is there anyone out there who could take on her job? She would be happy to provide support and advice during the transitional phase, and the parish is happy to help with any special software requirements you might have.

Please contact us at [newsletter@staugustines.de](mailto:newsletter@staugustines.de) or talk to one of us if you're interested in helping.

Thank you for your support!

Chris Easthill+

Audrey Shankles

Madeline Bohr



**The Anglican/Episcopal Church of St.  
Augustine of Canterbury  
SUMMARY DRAFT MINUTES, 15.12.2016,  
Parsonage, Wiesbaden**

## 1. Governance

- Formal meeting items: Quorum established. Agenda: additions to be included. Minutes of the November 2016 meeting:

Motion: to approve the Minutes of the November 12, 2016 meeting proposed by Jim White, 2nd by Karen Onders. 2 abstentions.

- Follow-up on action items:

- Afternoon Tea event: Shirley Blenkinsop and Heidi volunteered to organize event (13.5.2017)

- Safeguarding training: Chris+ has informed the Bishop and responsible officers that St A's has complied with safeguarding requirements.

- Chris+ has passed on the Vestry's suggestion to the ACK that different Christian communities (especially migrant churches) in the Wiesbaden area introduce themselves.

- Small group meetings. Group met to discuss results and further action.

- Vestry dates 2017 and Vestry Retreat: Chris+ sent out dates. Vestry members urged to respond.

- Vestry elections: Greg R. and Jim W. pursuing the task of contacting candidates.

## 2. Community:

- Update on sick and needy parishioners.

- Calendar 2017 and review of recent events: Review of Christmas Bazaar (income €5900), Quiet Day (5 attendees), Messiah event (profit after paying expenses).

- 7.4.2017 One man show (pending)

- 27.8.2017 Parish picnic

- 18.11.2017 Christmas Bazaar

- 2.12.2017 Messiah

## 3. Formation:

- Sunday School: compliance with safeguarding requirements completed.

- Nursery facility: one person interested in taking on the job. Karen and Andrea (with Chris+) to coordinate next steps and to make sure safeguarding requirements are fulfilled.

- Adult Formation: APL 2017. Wendy von der Pforte, Gabi Maharens and Karen Onders will attend this workshop. Susan Pinnells and Madeline Bohr are on the waiting list of attendees.

- Theology Pub Group: there is enough interest to continue meetings. Possible change of weekday and interval needed to boost numbers of those attending.

## 4. Mission and Outreach

- Outreach: Minutes of the Outreach Committee circulated.
- Chris+ and John+ Perris are applying for joint membership to the regional level of the ACK in Hessen.
- Presse Club Wiesbaden: Vestry voted to renew Madeline Bohr's membership for another year. Vestry thanked Madeline for her valuable work in PR.
- Pastoral care: procedure currently in place for informing Andrea Noble and Susan Pinnells of sick/needy parishioners needs refining/updating

Bereavement Ministry team: formation of a team to deal with bereavement in our congregation. Training and preparation required. Chris+ to invite those interested in this issue to a meeting next year.

## 1. Managing God's Assets

- Treasurer's report circulated. Good overall situation. Fundraising figures have surpassed our expectations. Repayment of Organ Fund loan proposed:
  - Motion: to repay the € 3996,42 owing to the Organ Fund from the current running account, proposed by John Richards, 2nd John Adam. Unanimous approval.
  - Stewardship: 47 new/renewed pledges received amounting to €50.000 plus 30 ongoing pledges which total €75.000. Stewardship campaign definitely on target.
  - Capital Campaign: €7.000 received in additional pledges. Chris+ has filed a grant application to the United Thank Offering for funds towards lift for disabled.
  - Church security: report compiled and circulated by Jim White. Discussion of recommendations: Nina to ask the architect Frau Rühl to mark exits on the floor plans. Copies to be displayed at the entrance of the church and in relevant places. Ushers to be trained in 1st Aid skills. 2 more 1st aid kits to be purchased and placed in the undercroft and at the entrance. Evacuation procedure to be considered. Jim to liaise with Peter Hellbach. Vestry thanked Jim for compiling this report.
  - Facilities Report (Jr Warden): Report circulated and discussed. Review of ongoing projects, cost and financing plan. Fire-extinguisher for Nearly New has been purchased and installed. Handrail appropriate for small children in the stairwell to the undercroft discussed. Vestry thanked Nina for her valuable work.

## 2. Next Vestry presentation

- Newsletter Vestry Profile: John Adam
- Presentation: not until New Year.

Closing Prayer

Next Meeting: Saturday, 4th February 2017, 09.30 at the church

Notes: Susan Pinnells, Vestry Secretary, 15.11.2016

## WOC Christmas & New Year's Party

*By: Elaine White*

The final celebration of the 2016/2017 holiday season was held in style at the Women of the Church New Years party, at noon on January 7. Graciously hosted by Andrea and Jim Noble (just back from the States, but always game for a party!) it was very well attended and a great success.

The amazing buffet table was anchored by our traditional spiral-cut ham, and Andrea's signature "Funeral Potatoes," surrounded by salads, side dishes, and delicious desserts. Our potlucks are always fantastic, since we have so many wonderful cooks!

Music was provided by Kate Nelson on keyboard, and a cacophony of voices, as we tackled Christmas songs, including We Three Kings, in honor of Epiphany the day before, and our yearly enthusiastic rendition of The Twelve Days of Christmas, complete with illustrated signs held aloft at (approximately) the right time. Christmas crackers and trivia games rounded out a lovely afternoon. We're already looking forward to next year's party.



## Celebration of Re-dedication

On Sunday, 22th January, we commemorated the 50th anniversary of the re-dedication of St. Augustine's after it was rebuilt following the fire of 1966.

## American Christmas Concert with Tami Jantzi and Friends

A special highlight this year in St. Augustine's Christmas musical programme was "Joy to the World, an American Christmas" on Sunday, 18th December, with Tami Jantzi and friends, Rebecca Martin, Andrea Baker, accompanied on the very versatile piano by Hilda Pohl.

The Concert represented an excellent selection of "American" Christmas music. The first half was a collection of "religious" hymns and carols, with a very moving of "O Holy Night" by the magnificent Andrea Baker, while the second half of the programme was just fun.

Tami and Rebecca came bursting out from behind the scenes after the intermission, literally "with bells on".

Funny hats, antlers and flashing things were handed out to members of the audience, and it was party time! Jingle Bells, Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer, and Co. soon had everyone singing along.

Special mention goes to Hilde Pohl, who accompanied the entire evening with wit and charm, and presented wonderful renditions of "O Tannenbaum" – as they would have been played by Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, and.... Mick Jagger!

All in all – it was a fun evening, and we hope Tami and her friends join us next year for another American Christmas.



## Adult Formation on "Miracles" with Greg Rampinelli

*By Lisa Planz*

After an inspirational sermon on Sunday, 15th January, Gregory Rampinelli held a presentation and discussion on miracles, people who added their own experiences touched everyone's hearts with their stories!



# Looking Back

*WOC Christmas Party, Christmas gifts in Romania, vestry Christmas party*



# Looking Back



*Unity service, making of the Capital Campaign video, An American Christmas, Nativity Scene, Adult formation*

# Nativity Play



## Hildastift - Christmas Singing

As she does every year, Debbie Cole, organised a small group of singers to perform Christmas songs at the Hildastift, a Senior Residents' Home in Wiesbaden, on Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you to the intrepid team for taking time during a very busy season to spread the joy of the season!



## St. Augustine's Traditional Christmas Crib

*By: Rosemary Unger*

The Church of St Augustine possesses a lovely traditional Christmas Crib. It consists of twelve figures including the Angel Gabriel, the Holy Family, the Three Wise Men, three Shepherds – one with a lamb, an Ox, a Donkey and a magnificent Camel. All the figures are about 50cm high and are made of plaster. The figures are very beautifully hand painted and there is the date 1904 on one. There are a few figures from another crib including a shepherd and child, sheep as well as the Christ Child.

We also have a stable in front of which the Holy Family is placed.



It is believed the Crib came to St. Augustine's Church after the horrendous fire in 1966. The Church was burnt out overnight and after the renovations the Heilig Geist Chapel in St. Joseph's Hospital donated some beautiful furnishings that included the lovely old Nativity figures.

## Homegroup News

By: Graham Elliot

I left home early on Friday evening to drive the 30 Kms to Andy & Lisa's home in Wiesbaden. My satnav told me I was going to arrive 20 minutes before the Homegroup started so I drove at a quiet, steady speed of 80 kph along the B42 and Autobahn, 45 kph in the town. When I arrived I noticed I had taken a whole 2 minutes longer than the satnav told me when I first set out.

In a way, that's how it is with the Homegroup. We race through life thinking it's important to arrive (whatever we mean by 'arrive') as soon as possible, when if we take our time we discover that the journey is what it's all about. By racing through life at break-neck speed we miss oh-so much of what life, and the Lord, has to show us.

The Homegroup gives us an opportunity to slow down and take in the scenery. The scenery? Yes! And the scenery is very beautiful - Wolf-Dieter, Fleur, Debbie, Lisa, Andy, Dorothee, Paul, Maja, Nadine, Theo, Brian – yes, we are the scenery! As we sit at the table on a Friday evening nibbling away at our breadsticks and drinking tea, engaging in conversation on our current study book, we are listening and looking, agreeing and disagreeing, or just quietly taking in other people's contributions while reflecting a little and applying the point to ourselves.

At the moment we are reading *Courage to Pray* by Anthony Bloom and Georges LeFebvre, recommended by Maja. Our previous book was *The Good Shepherd* by Kenneth E Bailey, recommended, I think, by Dorothee and, sandwiched between those two, was a single study, suggested by Fleur, on the proclamation, "Vanity, vanity, all is vanity," from the Old Testament book, Ecclesiastes.

We meet about once a fortnight, either on a Friday evening, or a Saturday morning over breakfast. We each commit to buying a copy of the book we agree to study. At the end of the previous meeting we will have decided the next portion of the book to read so, hopefully, we have all come to the meeting with a few thoughts relevant to the subject. *cont on next page*

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We come from vastly different cultural backgrounds, with a variety of personalities, and diverse church backgrounds. So it is inevitable that we may look at the same picture from different viewpoints. In a sense we are teaching each other about ourselves, and respectfully asking each other to step to one side and try to see this as I see it, which is just a little different to how you see it.

In our study last week, we read, “But an encounter does not depend on the truth of only one of the parties to it. The Other (his capital) is equally important. The God we encounter must be as true as we who seek him.” So we are also being gently encouraged to consider how we relate, not just to our neighbour, but also to the Lord.

Thankfully, in the many years the Homegroup has been meeting, there has been no incidents of people throwing breadsticks at each other, except in fun maybe. We’re a friendly bunch, and certainly not a holy huddle of people who want to exclude newcomers. If you think you would like to join us then please do get in contact, either by email or over coffee hour on a Sunday morning.

Enjoy the Journey!



## John Adams, Vestry Member

### **How long have you been coming to St. Augustine's, and how did you find the church?**

I've been coming since 2007, believe. Actually, I was looking for an Anglican church at the time. So I went on the internet and found St. Augustine's. I was taking American and English studies back in those days. Originally a member of the "Evangelische Kirche in Hessen and Nassau" I had become increasingly dissatisfied with the liturgical and sacramental "shortcomings" of that denomination. I was confirmed by Bishop +Pierre in 2008.

### **How long have you been on the Vestry and why did you stand?**

I served under the interim rector Mary Ellen Dolan+ and rector Tony Litwinski+. Now, I cannot remember how it all happened but I think I decided not to stand for re-election under the tenure of the rector Tony Litwinski+. First of all, I served because someone had asked me whether I could imagine standing for vestry. It seemed exciting and an opportunity to serve and to learn more about the inner workings of the Church as an institution. For several reasons I decided to take a break from church life during the troubling times but decided I could not be without my church family who are to me a living example of the communion of saints and the catholic church.

### **What do you think is the vestry's most important function/role?**

I think our most important role is to be servant leaders, working for the increase of God's Kingdom. How do we do that? By reaching out more and more into the community, helping others whenever we can. By working together with the bishop, our sister parishes, the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion at large. And last but not least by managing God's assets in a reliable, trustworthy and transparent way.

### **What's the best thing about being on the Vestry?**

Meeting people, working with them, the Ecumenical relationships... we have so much to learn from each other

### **What's the worst thing about being on the Vestry?**

Having to deal with the not so pleasant things. Like finances. Though the reports from our treasurer are quite uplifting these days. Our treasurer and the FMC are wizards to me :)

### **What do you think the parish needs most from the Vestry this year?**

We have to keep working on making communications even more transparent, although I believe that we have made significant improvements there.

### **What do you think the Vestry needs most from the parish this year?**

More support for our captial campaign AND even more support in our work with our refugees. As for the latter, there might come a time when our support will have to increase and change. Whether I will still be on vestry at the time or not, you will certainly hear from me then.

Thanks for being such a loving and generous congregation.



# Capital Campaign - "A Strong Tower"

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CORNER



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

The year ended very well indeed for the Capital Campaign! We received the building permit to renovate the toilet, which is scheduled for March when the weather is warmer. We have meeting dates with the authorities to finalise plans for the heating (church and separate heating system for the office).

And .... we received an additional grant of €16,000 from the city bringing the total received (promises and payments) to just under €200,000. With an overall target of €500,000 and 2 years into a 5 year program, that is –

mathematically – right where we need to be.



But ..... now we have to start raising the next €100,000. One way we plan on doing so is with the help of the Capital Campaign video that Lawrence Richards very kindly filmed and directed for us. Please share and spread this far and wide.

<https://youtu.be/VEj9JwbeDv4>

The more people see it, the more will hopefully be motivated to help "keep the beacon alight," as the film is titled.



## Message from Rev. Dorothee Hahn Episcopal Missionary in Romania

### Christmas packages to children

Dear members of St. Augustine and Christ the King!

As in the past year it has been a great joy for me to deliver your Christmas packages to children. I have to confess that this year I was surprised and overwhelmed by the number - over 130 packages! This was amazing and marvellous! Thank you so much!

About 50 packages went to the children of the NGO Star of Hope Romania, a Christian organisation which helps the poorest children of the city of Husi in offering after school care with lunch and help with homework. About 45 packages each went to the children selected by Fr. Ionel Stoian in Harsova on December 23 and Fr. Constantin Pantea in Buda-Osesti on the Second Day of Christmas. Pictures I attach will show you the joy I brought through your effort! Please share them as widely as you wish!

May God bless you for all the work you had, special thanks to Rachel Schmitt and all others involved in the Christmas box packing! It was a great success! And if you don't believe me, look at the happy faces!

The children in Buda-Osesti sang a song, La multi ani, which is traditionally sung for birthdays and as good wish for the New Year - it was sung for all of you, wishing you health and happiness and God's blessing. With them I too wish you a blessed New Year and am looking forward to our continuing work together.

God bless you all!

In Christ,

Dorothee+

The Rev. Dorothee Hahn

Episcopal Missionary in Romania



## Our support for MALAWI

*By Wolf-Dieter Donecker*

Some ten years ago Dr Harald Braun knocked at the office door of St Augustine's. He was in luck as our then rector Mother Martha was there. Dr Braun had come to ask whether St Augustine's would be interested in supporting "Hilfe für Malawi", a charitable organisation, based in Riedstadt, Germany, that he had founded to provide help for a hospital in one of the poorest countries in the world. At that time "Hilfe für Malawi" was looking after St Anne's Anglican hospital in Malawi, hence the link to St Augustine's.

Mother Martha was delighted to say yes and since then we as a church have tried to support "Hilfe für Malawi" as part of our outreach programme.

In the past two years the economy in Malawi, in particular its dominant agricultural sector that feeds most Malawian families, has suffered severely from extreme weather conditions: first from abundant rainfalls that put many areas in southern Malawi under water in 2015 ruining much of the local infrastructure and many of the planted crops such as maize, the staple food for most Malawians.

Then in 2016 the country experienced very strong and lasting droughts that once again severely reduced the harvest and have led to widespread shortages of essential food items such as maize. As a result retail prices for food items have risen sharply and many (2.8 million) of the country's poor are starving, since they are unable to obtain sufficient

risen to 20% p.a. – and this in one of the poorest countries in the world.

In view of this our partner organisation "Hilfe für Malawi" has decided to join forces with a second help for Malawi organisation "Malawihilfe" in Gelnhausen, Germany, in providing food assistance to 200 children in two orphanages as well as to the poor and needy in two rural villages, so that everyone receives one meal each day. The money for the purchase of maize is collected here in Germany and then sent to a local representative in Malawi, Mrs Omega Kaunda, who is a Malawian native and who in turn uses this money to buy and distribute food locally.

When the first €2.000.- donated for this project had been used in October last year, our partner "Hilfe für Malawi" provided a further €2.000.- for the continuation of this programme and will continue to support it. The donation of €400.- from St Augustine's for this project in December 2016 was warmly welcomed by Rainer Weiss, chairman of "Hilfe für Malawi". An additional €1.670.- raised from various private donors in June 2016 was used by Mrs. Kaunda to buy and distribute vegetable seeds and seed potatoes. About 250 people will profit from the respective harvests. Now we all hope that favourable weather conditions will lead to a good harvest of maize in March/April 2017 so that the majority of the poor in Malawi will have access to affordable food.

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Our own (St. Augustine's) efforts continue to be mainly concentrated on providing financial assistance through "Hilfe für Malawi" to the important Ndi Moyo palliative care programme, run on a financial shoestring by Lucy and Tony Finch in Selima/ Malawi. Ndi Moyo provides palliative and other care to about 400 patients and their families. Moreover it offers palliative care training courses. The palliative care nursing staff at St Anne's hospital also benefits from this special training.

In September 2016 our Outreach Committee decided to send €300.- from our outreach budget for the purchase of palliative drugs such as liquid morphine to Ndi Moyo. A further €1.000.- was privately donated for the same purpose by a family of our parish. Imagine what this means for the recipients of those pain killing drugs, many of whom are suffering from great pain caused by cancer or HIV. And for the nursing staff, who no longer have to turn away severely ill patients that come to Ndi Moyo for help because of the lack of funds for the purchase of morphine and other pain killers. Let us aim to increase our support for this worthy project in 2017.



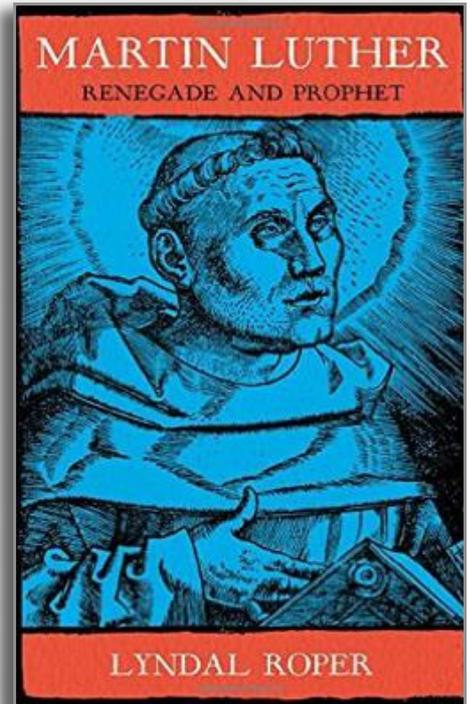
## Martin Luther:

Renegade and Prophet, by Lyndal Roper

*By: Fr. Chris*

This month's book recommendation is Martin Luther: Renegade and Prophet by Lyndal Roper, Regius Professor of History at Oxford. (The Bodley Head, 2016). This is of course just the right book for the Reformation Anniversary Year. At 420 pages it is not a short book, but still a good read. Its focus is on the man Martin Luther, it is not a history of the Reformation or a detailed description of his theology, though both are also covered. I learned a lot about his life and times, and his motivation. As Roper writes, "Luther's honest willingness to put everything on the line, and his capacity to accept God's grace as a gift he did not merit, are his most attractive characteristics."

She goes on to say, "Luther is a difficult hero, nonetheless. His writing can be full of hatred ... he could be authoritarian, bullying, overconfident." I would have hated to be on his bad side. He makes some of our tweeting politicians seem kind and friendly in comparison, and he made very good use of the new technologies of the day, printing, in making his case and attacking his opponents. The book conveys well the excitement of the times and I now understand much better how and why the Reformation happened.



## Journey to the Heart

Christian Contemplation through the Centuries

*By: Graham Elliot*

Have you ever felt the call into the wilderness? Yes? For me it was while I was in the desert of the Horn of Africa; then again while in the south of England standing in total darkness gazing up into the clear night sky, and again sitting in the tropical heat on the sea wall on the southern tip of Sri Lanka, with nothing but sea in the 8,300 Kms between me and the frozen continent of Antarctica.

I know that having this feeling, this longing, does not make me unique. This call into the wilderness is at the centre of the image of God within every one of us – you and me. So when I was recently loaned Journey to the Heart by a dear friend in Northern Ireland, I knew I had found a treasure chest with the lid wide open, just ready for me to enter in and see how others have responded to this call through the centuries. Once I started to read I realised I needed my own copy; that this would be a book I would be referring back to time and again during my own journey toward the heart of God.

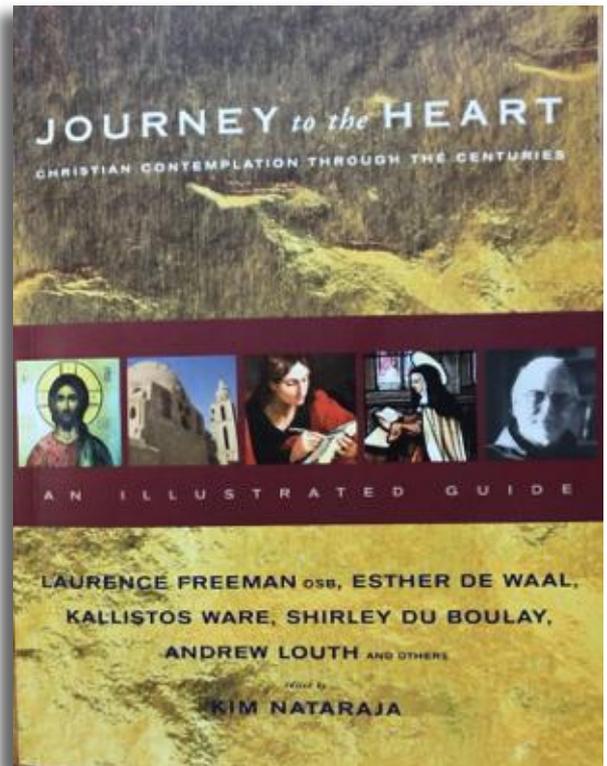
I hear someone object to my phrase of journeying toward the heart of God. Surely the Bible makes it clear that all who call on the name of Jesus has already been drawn into the heart of God. Without that certainty how can we come to the Lord's table with confidence; how can I call myself a Christian?

# Book Reviews

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The Bible certainly makes it clear that all who belong to Christ are safe and secure for all eternity, but the Bible also makes it clear that we shouldn't live our lives as though we have already arrived. The attitude that is necessary for us to ". . . love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." and to ". . . love your neighbour as yourself," (Mark 12:30,31) isn't an attitude of passivity. We have to be busy doing both, but we must follow the example of Jesus and draw aside, spend time with God and increasingly live our lives in His ways, rather than in the ways we think best or that society dictates.

For the past 2,000 years Christians have been drawing aside on their own personal journey to the heart of God, and this book gives us a comprehensive insight into the lives and personalities of some of the more famous, especially those who left a record of their journey.



The book begins with the life of Jesus who asks the question "Who do you say I am." Lawrence Freeman reminds us, "It is so easy to cling to a formula and close down the mind once you think you have the right answer." But Jesus wasn't into formulas, trite answers or titles. Jesus was a divine story teller and the themes of His stories has us searching for truths contained within, yet once found there always appear to be more to the story than we first thought. Jesus' parables, His life and His death are open doors encouraging us to enter in so that we may increasingly know and experience the mystery of who God is.

From Jesus, Kim Nataraja invites various contributors to tell us of the lives of St John and St Paul, Clement of Alexandria, Origen and on up through the many Christian mystics, finally concluding with John Main, an Englishman of Irish ancestry.

Personally, I have been challenged by learning that few of these men and women cut themselves off from the world. Most were very active in showing God's love to their neighbours. Many engaged with serious, urgent social issues of their time. Contemplation did not result in voluntary social isolation.

There are many gold nuggets of wisdom in this book, but I will quote just one which is from Thomas Merton on Contemplative Prayer:

We should not look for a 'method' or a 'system', but cultivate an 'attitude', an 'outlook': faith, openness, attention, reverence, expectation, supplication, trust, joy. All these finally permeate our being with love in so far as our living faith tells us that we are in the presence of God, that we live in Christ, that in the Spirit of God we 'see' God our Father without 'seeing'. We know him in 'unknowing'.

We may not all be able to withdraw from life for long periods to become a Christian mystic, in fact some would say that this is a specific calling from God. But we are all 'called' to spend time with the Lord each day and, reading about the lives of these men and women, inspires us to emulate them in our own way, and to live our lives out with a peaceful, contemplative demeanour that says to others, in some elusive, mysterious way, that the Lord is with us.

Our refugee ministry was featured in the January Newsletter of Province II of the Episcopal Church (to which the Convocation belongs):



love with us in the recent Christmas season. [Read more >](#)

## The Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe

**Refugees in Wiesbaden:** Many know the former American Arms Hotel. Just up the road from St. Augustine's, it used to be a place where military new to Wiesbaden spent the first few weeks with their families while waiting for more permanent housing. [Read more>](#)



The Dinner of Unity

[https://merkurist.de/wiesbaden/gesellschaft/die-englische-kirche-im-portraet\\_KJ7](https://merkurist.de/wiesbaden/gesellschaft/die-englische-kirche-im-portraet_KJ7)



Gesellschaft | Nordost

ST. AUGUSTINE'S OF CANTERBURY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## Die „Englische Kirche“ im Porträt

Die St. Augustine's Kirche in Wiesbaden hat Gemeindemitglieder aus der ganzen Welt. Weil das Gebäude ein neues Dach braucht, stellt ein Filmemacher das Leben in der internationalen Gemeinde vor.

„Als ich 10 Jahre alt war, kam ich von Schottland nach Deutschland mit meiner Familie“, erzählt Lawrence Richards. Das war 1991.

„Mein Vater hatte einen Festvertrag als Opernsänger am Mainzer Staatstheater und meine Eltern wollten die Familie nicht splitten. Der Anfang war ziemlich schwer, wir kannten niemanden und



von  
Janina Schlicht  
Autor von Merkurist.de

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MATERIAL ZUM ARTIKEL

# Special Event: Burns' Night

## Burns' Night

January 27th, 2017

By Susan Pinnells

This is becoming quite a tradition at St Augustine's! John and Roxane Richards organised another amazing evening of food, songs, poems and dancing to celebrate the Baird of Ayrshire's birthday (25 Jan 1759) for 60 guests. Unfortunately, John was taken ill at the last minute, but Roxane and helpers, including Chris Squires from Hamburg, put on a marvellous show. The guests came wearing an imaginative range of tartan, plaid and chequered attire: kilts, scarves, wraps and bow ties. The church had been tastefully decorated by Jeanne Nelson including a Burns' shrine, and the tables were laid with tartan runners and napkins.

The evening got going with the Selkirk Grace, given by Fr. Douglas read in his best Scottish accent:

*Some hae meat and canna eat,  
And some wad eat that want it,  
But we hae meat and we can eat,  
And sae the Lord be thankit.*

The bill o' fare included Cock-a-Leekie Soup, Haggis with Neeps and Tatties and a wee dram, raspberry trifle, Scottish cheese and biscuits. The bagpiper unfortunately was also taken ill last minute, so the haggis was ceremonially paraded through the church, led by Alan Young holding his impressive sword ahigh.

After the meal the Chairman proposed the „Loyal Toast“ and read Burns' „The Immortal Memory“. This was followed by Jim White's „Toast to the Lassies“, countered by Madeline Bohr's „Reply from the Lassies“, both delivered in fine style and well-received by the audience, with lots of laughs and applause. Then followed various songs and recitations of Burns' work. Gillian Süßner read „To A Mouse“, Ivan Williams and Debbie Cole sang typical songs including „Loch Lomond“, both accompanied on the piano by Chris Squires, who doubled as our master cook and pianist.

The evening finished with some Scottish country dancing (*Gay Gordons*, *Dashing White Sargeant*, *St. Bernard's Waltz* and the all-time favourite *Strip the Willow*.) There had been a practice session the weekend before, so the dancers did a fine job, give or take the odd wrong step and occasional collision.

The evening ended just before midnight – and the cleaning up began.

Fr. Chris had already thanked the team for making the evening so special: the organisers John and Roxane, the „setters-up and takers downs“, Chris Squires, the singers Ivan and Debbie, the top table: Fr. Douglas, Alan Young, Madeline, Gillian and Jim and Elaine White. And last, but not least our amazing Youth Group who helped serve the meal and do a thousand other little things behind the scenes.

If you couldn't join us this time, see you there next year!

# Special Event: Burns' Night



## Carnival in Wiesbaden

*By Madeline Bohr*

**In 2017 the so-called fifth (carnival) season will be celebrated again in the Hessian state capital from February 23rd to March 1st. On Sunday February 26th the famous carnival parade will begin.**

In 2017 the so-called fifth season – "fünfte Jahreszeit" – will be celebrated again in the Hessian state capital from 23 February to 1 March, like it has been officially celebrated since 1859. The party starts on Thursday, 23 February 2017, with the traditional "Altweiberfastnacht" in the old quarter of Wiesbaden. A large number of merrymakers then throng to the centre of the city to wildly celebrate the beginning of the Wiesbaden Carnival.

The festivities in the Hessian capital continue on until Saturday, 25 February 2017, with the grand children's festival which has been ringing in Carnival Saturday for a few years. The popular children's parade starts at 15:11 p.m., letting junior carnival fans test what it's like being a big merrymaker. After the children's parade, the merrymakers storm the Wiesbaden town hall and rule until Ash Wednesday.

## Carnival Sunday Parade

On Carnival Sunday, 26 February 2018, the Wiesbaden Carnival Parade, famous far beyond the city limits, awaits. As a grand old tradition, it starts at 13:11 p.m. on the Elsässer Platz. From there, the parade makes its way through the centre of the city past the town hall and thousands of merrymakers lining the streets. The partying goes on in Wiesbaden long after the parade is over. The high-spirited carnival atmosphere in the bars and pubs lasts until the early hours of the morning.

It will all be over on 1 March and the merrymakers return the keys of the town hall to the Lord Mayor, Sven Gerich.

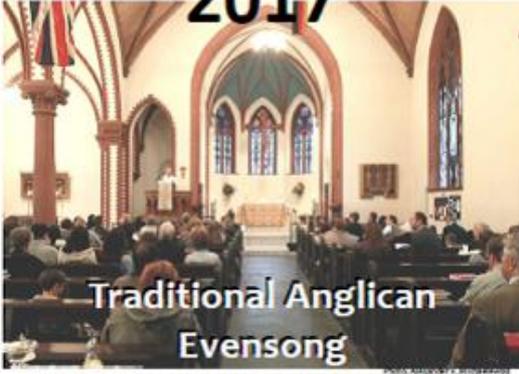
Source: <https://www.wiesbaden.de/en/living-in-wiesbaden/festivities-markets/>

# Upcoming Events

- February 1: Holy Eucharist (10.00 am) and Bible Study (11.00 am)
- February 4: Vestry Meeting 9:30 am
- February 5: Holy Eucharist (Candlemas) 10 am
- February 5: Outreach Committee 12 noon
- February 8: Holy Eucharist (10.00 am) and Bible Study (11.00 am)
- February 10: Music Night 8.00 pm
- February 12: Holy Eucharist 10.00 am
- February 14: Music Section (Worship Committee) 10 am
- February 15: Holy Eucharist (10.00 am) and Bible Study (11.00 am)
- February 17 – 18 Convocation Council of Advice meets in Wiesbaden
- February 19: Holy Eucharist 10.00 am (Bishop Pierre presiding and preaching)
- February 22: Holy Eucharist (10.00 am) and Bible Study (11.00 am)
- February 26: Holy Eucharist 10.00 am
- February 28: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 6 – 8.00 pm

The Church of St. Augustine of Canterbury  
Frankfurter Straße 3, 65189 Wiesbaden

**2017**

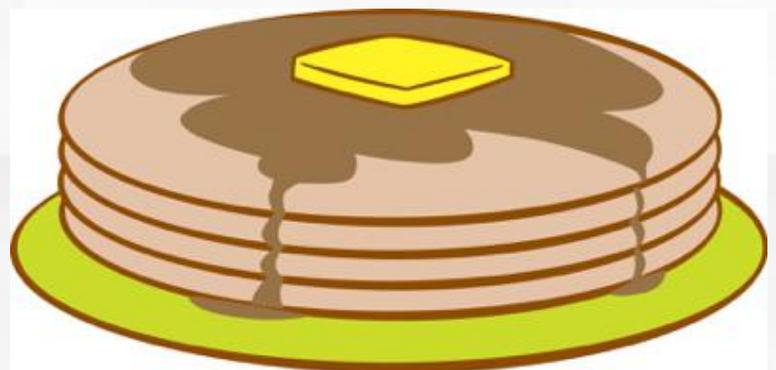


**Traditional Anglican Evensong**

with the Choir of the Church of St. Augustine  
under the direction of Ivan Williams, Choirmaster.  
At the Organ: Erika le Roux

Sunday, 29th January, 5.00 pm.  
Sunday, 30th April, 5.00 pm.  
Friday, 1st September, 6.00 pm. (Night of the Churches)  
Sunday, 29th October, 5.00 pm.

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# SHROVE TUESDAY