



January 2018

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Parish Newsletter

Dear Faithful and Friends of St. Augustine's,

This is the time of year when we either consider or are confronted with change. With the help of New Year's Resolutions, we hope to change ourselves for the better. When we look back on the old year, we may hope and pray that the new one will be much better, above all more peaceful, and less violent. At a personal level, some people will be hoping for change: in their health, relationships, or work. And sadly, some people who experienced a loss, are confronted with a change they neither expected nor wanted.

We often worry about change, as there is always an element of risk involved. But not changing is not an option. We change as we get older, the world changes around us, and if we don't adapt to cope with change, we will have no chance of being able to influence the outcome.

At St. Augustine's we can expect changes – as we do every year. We have changes (and improvements) planned – to our building as part of our Capital Campaign. Almost half the vestry will change, and so we pray that enough new candidates will step forward to help steer the church. We have new ideas for ministries that we want to implement, including many that are a result of the ministry and mission review we began over a year ago. And within the Convocation (our "Diocese") we will elect a new bishop this year, which will bring a significant change in our lives together as Episcopal Churches in Europe, but is again one we can influence by playing an active role in the process.

For Christians, change is part of our lives. God became a human being, was incarnated as a human child, to change both us as individuals and all of humanity: to make us more like God: "He became what we are that we might become what he is." (Athanasius of Alexandria, c. 296-373) God says, "See, I am making all things new" in the Book of Revelation. (21:5) But he also says, "Write this, for these words are trust-



Table of Contents

Vestry Minutes	2
Parish Life	3-5, 19
Stewardship	6, 7
Reflections	8, 9
Ecumenical	9
Prayer Meeting	10
Transitions	11, 12
Pastor's Picks	13
Fine Arts Events	14
Kaffeeklatsch	15
Outreach	16, 17
St. A.'s in the News	18
Upcoming Events	20

worthy and true.” That is the other reason why we can embrace change, because we have someone we can rely on, someone who is always trustworthy and true. God promises change and renewal for us and the world. At the same time, we can trust that God will not change and that God’s being – love - is eternal.

I wish you all a Happy New Year!
Chris+

Your Vestry



The Anglican/Episcopal Church of St. Augustine of Canterbury SUMMARY - DRAFT MINUTES 12.12.2017

Governance

Formal meeting items: Proposal aired for improved and stricter time management during future vestry meetings. Quorum established. Agenda: no changes. Minutes of the November 16, 2017:

Motion: to approve the Minutes of the November 16, 2017 meeting after the day (Saturday) has been corrected to Thursday: proposed by Karen Onders, 2nd Debbie Cole, 2 abstentions.

Follow-up on action items: Herald Union: advertisement placed. Freifunk (wi-fi): idea abandoned, too costly, impractical. Roll-up: task ongoing. John A. /Madeline to report back at the next meeting. Postcards: Karen to report back at the next meeting. First aid course, new date: Debbie to organize this. Shed repair: Door still needs repairing. Advent opening of the church during the week, report on response and visitors. Discussion of whether to continue this idea. Vestry Elections 2018: Names of various candidates discussed. Vestry retreat follow-up: Item #8 “beacon of hope”. Discussion.

Reports (Information/Discussion/Decisions)

Community

Saric Exhibition: Final cost to the church €323. Convention 2018: Loss of €800, but this sum is covered by the Convocation. Christmas Bazaar: most profitable to date. Messiah: highly successful. Many thanks to Erika and Madeline. Let It Snow: 15.12.2017 – next concert.

Calendar overview 2018 (provisional): Chris+ on holiday in January, cover already arranged. Time & Talent 2018 – date needed. Edwardian Music Box – date needed. Messiah: 1 December 2018 – to be confirmed. Calendar Events 2018: Vestry to study the provisional calendar. Pastoral Care update. Rosemary Unger passed away on 12.12.2017. Service in Georgenborn on 22.12.2017, 2 pm. Chris+ to officiate. Church to send a wreath.

Mission and Outreach

Christmas Boxes: 60 boxes have been sent to Rumania. Teestube Christmas: volunteers needed.

Managing God’s Assets

Treasurer’s report circulated.

Discussion of Balance Sheet as of 30.11.2017. No current financial issues, good overall situation.

Peter S.: has started re-paying the remaining part of his debt. Stewardship campaign: Situation is continually improving, but is slower than last year. Currently we are €5000 below our target of €78.000.

Capital Campaign and Facilities Report: Main points included:

Projects for 2018: Heating (Fernwärme). Offer from ESWE outstanding. Jour fixe scheduled in January 2018 to discuss further progress. East and west facades of the church to be repaired. Toilet repair: completed under guarantee. Glass partition doors: "safety" foil/stickers in place. Emergency signs: installed. New electrical sockets in the kitchen installed. Still to do: outside shed lights. Winterdienst: we now have a new contract with Firma Tress as of 1.12.2017. Vestry thanked Jr. Warden.

Next Meeting: Saturday 3rd February, 2018, 09.30 at the church.

Notes: Susan Pinnells, Vestry Secretary, 14.12.2017

A Note from the Vestry

Our Annual General Meeting is on Saturday February 24 at 1 pm (following a pot-luck lunch at 12 noon). At this meeting we will need to elect 6 new Vestry members, as 5 current members will rotate off and cannot stand for re-election. If you are interested in serving on the Vestry, or would like to suggest someone, please contact our nominating committee - Andrea Noble, Karen Onders and John Richards.

Parish Life (1)



As they have done in the past, Rev. Chris Easthill and Heidi Grau-Easthill donated a Christmas tree to the community again at Christmas. Thank you Heidi and Chris!



Before Nine Lessons and Carols on 10 December 2017



New safety strips on the door. Welcoming and safe!



Enjoying a cup of Glühwein at Wiesbaden Christmas Market, Sternschuppenmarkt. Left to right: Heidi Grau-Easthill, Rev. Chris Easthill, Karen Onders, Andy Pickersgill, Heidi Clemons

Impressions of the Paper Bag Pageant on Christmas Eve.



St. Augustine's Nativity Scene with historic figures



Parish Life (2)



Helene-Lange-Schule's Christmas Celebration at St. Augustine's, 21 December 2017



This year's WOC Christmas Party at the Nobles' home.



VISIT TO ELFRIEDE RAEDER

Fleur and Wolf-Dieter Donecker

Shortly after Christmas we visited Elfriede in the other Rüdeshheim, the one on the Mainz side of the Rhine. She looked very well and was cheerful and pleased to hear news of all her friends at St Augustine's. Elfriede remembers many of the congregation very well and asked after various people. We asked her before we left if we could put a few lines about our visit into the next church newsletter and Elfriede agreed and asked us to pass her good wishes on to you all.

Parish Life (3)



"The Biggest Coffee Morning in the World"

October 14th saw the Kaffee Klatsch team supporting "The Biggest Coffee Morning in the World".

This charity was set up in 1990 to hire and train nurses in every stage of cancer care. Now it is worldwide and has raised over 165 million pounds. This was our first time and we made 314 euros towards this most worthy cause.

We would like to thank all the people who came, brought cakes and donated. It was a great success. Hopefully we can continue supporting the Macmillan nurses in the years to come. They definitely deserve it.

Thomas Ramsay (The Star) leads the Wise Men to the Manger on Epiphany Sunday, 7 January 2018

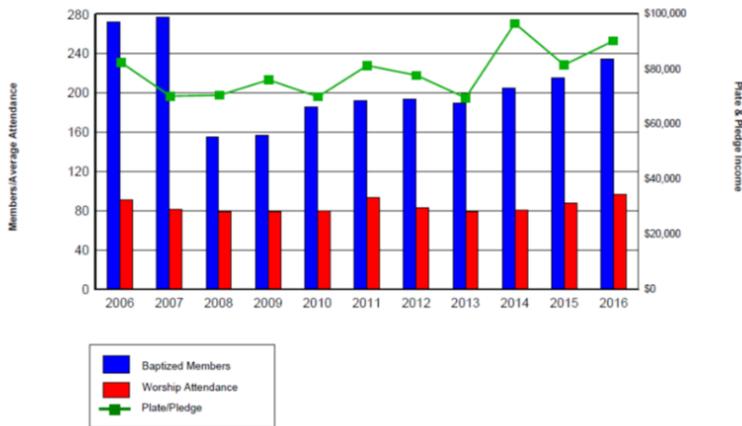


Parish Life—see also page 19.

Stewardship

Thank you to everyone who took part in the **Stewardship Campaign** and returned a pledge form last year. We had 5 new pledgers, and 14 pledgers also increased their pledge. Currently the total amount pledged in weekly/monthly/annual payments to the church amounts to €73.795, which is 95% of our €78.000 target. Usually we still receive new pledges in the course of the year, so we should – just – reach this target.

Our average annual pledge is €946 per year (or €78 per month and €18 per week). Pledges range from €10 to €3.120 per year. Our average is relatively low and has gone down. Our most recent increases in total pledges have come from growth, more members and higher attendance, not from increases in pledges.

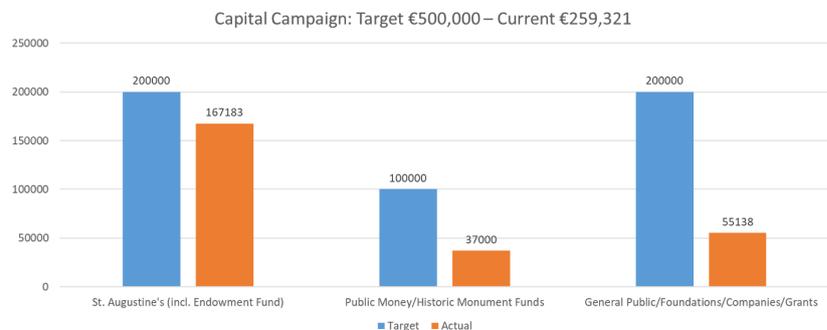


By way of comparison, in 2014 (the last year for which comparisons are available) the Convocation average was €1.681 (ranging from €971 in Rome, €1.281 in Munich, to €2.831 in Clermont-Ferrand).

If you have not yet returned a pledge form, or if you have and did not increase your pledge, please consider doing so. Our costs are increasing (church cleaning, music programme, outreach, salaries) and it is our dream one day to be able to cover our costs operating costs entirely from pledge/plate/rental income and to be able to use the fundraising income for outreach and special projects ... that would mean increasing the average pledge to around €1.300 per year.

Another aspect of Stewardship is our **Capital Campaign**. Our Campaign funds (pledged or paid) now stand at ~ €260,000, of which ca. €190,000 have already been spent. We have been quite successful recently in acquiring external funds: €25,000 for the heating (Ortsbeirat Wiesbaden Nordost, Südost, and Mitte, the NASPA

Stiftung, a further Convocation grant). But, while about €70,000 is now available for the heating project, this will cost at least €100,000. To finance the new heating and our other final projects, we still need to collect at



Stewardship (cont'd)

least another €80,000. Please consider donating, if you have not yet done so or would like to contribute more, and please keep passing our film on and encouraging friends and acquaintances to support us, or passing on ideas for institutions we could approach.



„Making Wiesbaden a great place to live!“



Naspa Stiftung (Foundation) supports 39 clubs and institutions with a total of E 125,800 on an annual basis, and has made a donation to St. Augustine’s for the installation of a new heating system. Above is a photo of the presentation to Rev. Easthill and Junior Warden, Nina Scheicher. The Mayor of Wiesbaden, Sven Gerich, is on the far right.



Photo of the Month
Mercedes-Désirée Ramsay

Taking Refuge in the Lord

Graham Eliot

Psalm 7 begins, “O Lord my God, in you do I take refuge.” In this article I want to consider what it means to claim God as “my God”, and what it means to “take refuge” in him.



That Psalm of David opens with “O Lord, *my* God.” David could say this because he was uniquely chosen by God, but who am I to make such an audacious claim? David was chosen by God to be the leader and saviour of the people of Israel, so he was clearly able to claim God as his very own God. But can I claim the God described in the Bible as mine?

The Bible tells us that all things are in the reach and power of God. He had the incredible power to create all things that can be seen and all that cannot be seen. He also had the implausible power to come out of heaven and to appear to the world as a very real, tiny, helpless little baby.

This is the God who we proclaim in our church services to be the only God before whom all other gods mean nothing. All the prayers to Allah, all the offerings to the Hindu gods, all the devotion to Buddha, are empty noises offered to figments of the human imagination made manifest in various forms hewn out of rock or made by the hands of skilful artisans, reinforced by various claims and proclamations by religious leaders. The God of the Christian is saying that all these gods are not gods at all. They are inventions of man’s imagination.

So who am I that I might claim this, the only true God to be *my* God? I am not a David. David was a Messianic archetype pointing forward to the Christ who was to come. I’m not a Matthew, Mark, Paul or Peter who will be acclaimed through to the end of time as having been chosen by God to bring the word of God into our minds and hearts. I’m a mere mortal Christian with no particular significance in the world, looking to live my life out as best I can with all my weaknesses and frailties. Surely to claim this God as my own is the height of arrogance.

No! It’s the very opposite. Claiming God to be my God is a proclamation of an overwhelming awareness of my spiritual poverty. As painful as such an awareness is, it is a beneficial thing. As he speaks to us we find refuge in God’s steadfast love. We pray, read our Bible, worship together and have Christian fellowship, all within that safe place of refuge. Not a building, but a relationship with God Almighty. And, as we are doing those things that pleases the Lord, he slowly but surely changes us into the people he desires us to be.

So I really can claim God Almighty as *my* God, even though he has the power of all things within his grasp – even the power to end the world as we know it. And, even though he is *my* God, I don’t stand alone. He is also the God of all who love him and follow his ways. Ours is a powerful faith in the supernatural. The Lord lives in the hearts and minds of all the many millions who call on the name of Jesus as Saviour and Lord. His love is directed intensely and personally to all people everywhere of all colours and creeds, who know him as their personal Saviour.

But it’s not only Christians who have been created in the image of God and have the opportunity to call on Almighty God as their very own God. He loves all people everywhere with an everlasting love. The Lord relates to all with the respect that is owed to the reality of being made in his image. The Lord even respects our decision to walk away from him; to replace him with an empty religious experience that is devoid of the intimacy that the Lord feels toward us. This is a fearful power.

In John 4 we read about the Samaritan woman who met Jesus at a well near the town of Sychar. Before even they met, Jesus knew all the things that had happened to her in her life, especially her pain. In many ways a lady of her time – ignored and abused by men, yet with a deep need for God’s grace. Amazed that Jesus would put his own reputation on the line to speak to her, she rested with Jesus; she entered into the shelter of his love and, while he spoke, she was transfixed by his words. “Could this be the Christ?” she asked.

Some time later, when Christ died and was raised again from the dead, this Samaritan woman had her question answered fully and completely, and, I am sure, from that time on she continued to say, "O Lord my God, in you do I take my refuge."

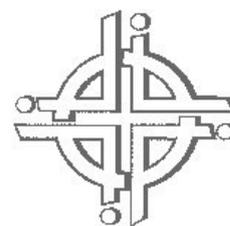
We too need to be amazed that the Lord will speak to us through our prayers. We need that personal, intimate confidence that the Lord is my refuge and will be my deliverer from all that the world might throw at me. It means that I can rest in the Lord because his steadfast love holds on to me regardless. The Lord enjoys my heart having the desire to worship him, to talk with him, to ask of him the impossible. I can be secure in this powerful yet gentle, protective attitude that God has toward me.



"The mountains may depart, and the hills be removed,
but my steadfast love shall not depart from you,
and my covenant of peace shall not be removed," says the Lord,
who has compassion on you.



Weltgebetstag 2018



Gottes Schöpfung ist sehr gut!

This year's World Day of Prayer has been prepared by women from Surinam, South America's smallest country and a former Dutch colony. Half of the population are Christian, and the World Day of Prayer liturgy was written by representatives from five churches. Here are the dates of the main events in Wiesbaden, organised by Christine Rudershausen (Projektleitung Weltgebetstag in Wiesbaden, Mitglied des Deutschen Weltgebetstagskomitees e.V.) and team:

Friday, 2nd March 2018

16.00 Info-Café SURINAM "Encounters – Pictures – Country Information"

18.00 Ecumenical World Day of Prayer Service from Surinam (in German)

St. Michael's Church, Burgunderstraße 11, 65189 Wiesbaden

Sunday, 4th March 2018

11.00 Ecumenical World Day of Prayer Family Service (in German),

designed by the ev. Bergkirchengemeinden and the roman-catholic Maria Hilf and St. Elisabeth churches

In the Old Catholic Friedenskirche, Schwalbacher/Ecke Platter Straße

Prayer Meeting

Prayer Opportunities in St. Augustine's

Graham Elliot

Prayer is the most intimate activity between one person and the Lord. Whether a community activity as we pray together in a church service, or a private activity as I bring my prayers to the Lord on my own as I am walking, sitting or lying. There is an intimacy in prayer between the pray-er and God. We might not always feel the closeness of God but, nonetheless, God is with us in our hearts and minds when we pray.



A church is, primarily, a place where people come to meet with the Lord, and to meet with others who have met with the Lord. To pray collectively is a beautiful thing. The Bible assumes that all who know and love the Lord will gather together to worship him, to sing to him, and to pray to him.

St Augustine's gives us the opportunity to meet for prayer, and only prayer, outside the regular church services. We have . . .

- . . . a **monthly prayer meeting** in the church on the last Monday of the month.
- . . . a short, informal **prayer meeting each Sunday** before the morning service, starting about 09:30. And . . .
- . . . friends, maybe two or three people, **meeting together for prayer** at a time, on a day, that is convenient for them.

Prayer of course is happening in the lives of many of us in St Augustine's – much prayer that only the Lord knows about. But the Lord responds to a church that is seeking him through prayer by whatever means possible, collectively, individually and with the conviction that God hears our prayers and acts upon them.

Come and join us as we seek the Lord in prayer together, and as we ask him to bless all that we seek to do in his name.

Editor's note: Please contact Graham Elliot if you are interested in joining St. Augustine's Monthly Prayer Meeting at email: manxman.abroad@gmail.com



Transitions



Baptism of Ernestina Oghenenarodovweme



In December we also lost another long-time member of the congregation, Danish-born Lillian Berger.

Obituaries

Rev. Walter Edwin Phelps Hilary Norman

Walter Edwin Phelps passed away on December 20, 2017 in Vacaville, California at the age of 95.

Walter was born in Brooklyn, New York on 17 March 1922. On returning from service in World War II in the China-Burma-India theatre, he entered Brooklyn College under the G.I. Bill, majoring in music and philosophy. In 1949 he entered the University of California at Berkeley, eventually completing an M.A. in music history and literature.

In 1956 he entered the Church Divinity School of the Pacific, in Berkeley, California. He was ordained priest in 1960 and spent ten years in parochial work and college ministry in California before returning to U.C. Berkeley to complete a Masters in social work. For the next eleven years he earned a living as a psychiatric social worker, while functioning as a supply priest and interim. Following his retirement in 1989, he visited Europe several times - his daughter Jocelyn lives in Paris - and for two years he was an interim rector, first at St. Augustine's from November 1991 to August 1992 and then at the Church of the Ascension in Munich from December 1992 to December 1993.

In November 1996 he married my friend Lucretia Jevne, a former member of St. Augustine's, who was ordained deacon at the church in August 1996 and was later priest at various parishes in California and Oregon.

Although I never knew Walter when he was interim rector here, I got to know him very well during my many visits to California and Oregon to stay with him and Lucretia. Following his marriage and right up to the end of his life he continued to work as an interim and supply priest. He was an engaging speaker and was known for producing excellent thought-provoking sermons, some of which I was lucky to hear during my visits. He loved amateur dramatics and would often be found treading the boards in some of the local theatrical productions.



Addressing a clergy conference in 2016

Obituaries (cont'd)

He had a wonderful speaking voice and would often spend at least one day a week in Sacramento recording books for the blind and visually impaired. He was also a great favourite with the children at the local library where he would read to them.

He had a lovely sense of humour and had a great stock of wonderful stories and jokes with which he would regale family and friends. He was also a great cook, host and a good friend. I will miss him.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Lucretia and to Jocelyn and Geoffrey, his children from his first marriage, and his two grandchildren.

Rosemary Unger

Hilary Norman



I first met Rosemary 32 years ago at St. Augustine's. She was head of the flower guild, and, being an amateur flower arranger myself, I volunteered to help with the flower arranging schedule at church. In this capacity we would work closely together over many years. She had an extensive knowledge of flowers and shrubs and created a wonderful garden at her home in Georgenborn. About 30 years ago she and her husband, Manfred, kindly agreed to replant and continually care for the garden beds at St. Augustine's, which had become somewhat neglected, and many of the flowers and shrubs you see today are the result of their work.

She was a wonderful artist. I remember visiting her beautiful light-filled studio at her home and attending some of her vernissages. To most of us she is known for her drawings and paintings of our church. In my study I have one of her black and white prints which she did in the 1980s. In 2000 she did a colour painting of the church which she not only let me put on the cover of my history book of the church but which also graces many of the cards, postcards and posters which she donated to the church and which go on sale at every available opportunity, with all proceeds going to church funds.

A native Cornishwoman, she was an active member of the British Women's Club and also of the German American International Women's Club. She would give painting lessons to members at her home and also organise tours of art exhibitions both locally and further afield.

Rosemary's artistic side extended also to calligraphy. For many years she wrote, decorated and framed the list of flower donors which would hang above the coffee table. Following the 150th anniversary celebrations in 2015 she also designed and donated the poster showing all the chaplains and rectors we have had which hangs at the back of the church.

Rosemary gave graciously of her time and talents to the church. She would provide many baked goodies for the Christmas bazaar, including her delicious mince pies, and when following the disastrous fire at St. Augustine's in 1966, we were given a complete set of Christmas crèche figures by one of the Roman Catholic churches in Wiesbaden, Rosemary took it upon herself to take care of them and ensure that any damage done to them was restored.

Rosemary died on 12 December 2017 aged 78. She was a valued and devoted member of the church and she will be sorely missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her husband Manfred, daughter Sylvia and son Alexander and grandchildren.



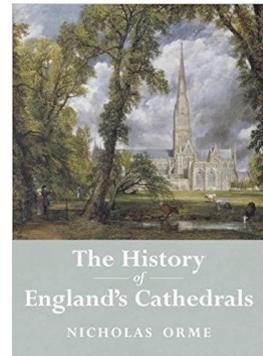
Pastor's Picks

This month's selection was one of my Christmas presents, Nicholas Orme's "The History of England's Cathedrals." Unlike many other books about cathedrals, its focus is not on the buildings, but on their life and activities in the context of English and Church history.

Anglicanism would not have gained its own special identity without both bishops and cathedrals – which is why the Puritans were so determined to abolish both! Cathedrals stand for continuity, or at least for change that was not divorced from English Christianity's long past and traditions.

Orme's delightful book covers the history of all English cathedrals from Roman times until the present. He identifies five great crises and threats (the end of Roman rule, the Viking invasions, the Reformation, the Civil War and Commonwealth, 19th century cathedral reform) that they managed to survive, by adapting and evolving to become some of England's oldest institutions. As Orme writes: "To visit a cathedral is to become aware of something that transfigures human life and take, from the past, a hope and a spur for the future." After reading his book, I am more determined than ever to visit all of England's cathedrals. By the way, you are welcome to borrow this or any other of my "picks."

Father Chris



This is a quirky German New Year's tradition. „Dinner for One“ is virtually unknown outside of Germany, but every German child can repeat the phrase „Same procedure as every year“!

Fine Arts Events



Let It Snow!

Elaine White

St. Augustine's was delighted to launch the Christmas season on December 15 with a concert by our own Deborah Lynn Cole. Deborah was joined by Duo Ross, Olga Reiser on flute and Yulia Lonskaya on classical guitar, playing popular as well as sacred and classical songs. Familiar Christmas carols such as "What Child is This?" and "God Rest



Ye Merry, Gentlemen" took on a new richness with the mellow and haunting music from flute and guitar accompanying Deborah's lovely soprano voice. Popular Christmas classics such as "White Christmas" and of course, "Let it Snow" were interwoven with German songs, and evoked warm Christmas memories.

The concert was well-attended and very well-received. I'm sure everyone in the audience left with a feeling of Christmas in their hearts. Our thanks go to these talented performers for sharing their music with us.

Hallelujah!

Madeline Bohr



On Saturday, 2 December, St. Augustine's presented Handel's "Messiah" once again, for the fourth year in a row. Erika LeRoux directed a choir of amateur singers from Wiesbaden, which was accompanied by the St. Augustine's Chamber Orchestra, and well-known soloists, many of whom are members of our own congregation. The audience was treated to a veritable fireworks of musical excellence and applause was long and enthusiastic. Thank you to all who were part of this special project, and especially to Erika, with her wonderful talent and seemingly endless energy.

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



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

Sun. 29th April	5.00 pm.	Evensong
Sun. 1st July	5.00 pm.	Evensong
Fri. 7th September	6.00 pm. (Night of the Churches)	Evensong
Sun. 28th October	5.00 pm.	Evensong
Sun. 16th December	5.00 pm.	Nine Lessons and Carols

www.staugustines.de E-Mail: parish@staugustines.de
Tel. 0611 30 66 74



Once again, St. Augustine's is hosting a Burns Supper (Fri., 26th January) with all the trimmings—haggis, neeps and tatties, whiskey, toasts to lads and lassies and country dances. Tickets for this year's supper are sold out.

Save the dates in your new 2018 calendars for the upcoming Evensong Services at St. Augustine's— an ancient and lovely Anglican tradition



Elaine White

For about 3 years now, St. Augustine's has invited the public to join us for coffee / tea and cake in front of our church on Saturday in the summer months. This is a wonderful opportunity for members of our congregation to meet and greet strangers and anyone interested in our Church and talk about what we do.

The Kaffeeklatsch team often get requests for our recipes, so we are beginning a regular column for the St. Augustine's newsletter. We will include KK recipes as well as others, so if you have a recipe you would like to have, or one you would like to share, please let us know!

I'll begin with the recipe for quiche, which makes an appearance at almost every Kaffeeklatsch.

Elaine's Quiche

Pastry for a one-crust pie (homemade or bought)

1 ¼ cup grated sharp cheddar cheese

Quiche base:

4 large eggs

1 cup whole milk (250ml)

1 tsp. salt

1 tsp. onion powder

1/2 tsp. dry mustard

1/4 tsp. pepper

Parsley flakes

Pre-heat oven to 375 F (190 C). Brush inside of uncooked pie shell with egg white and bake for 10 minutes.

Remove from oven and cool slightly while you mix the quiche base (beat the mixture well).

Sprinkle 1 cup of cheese over the bottom of the crust. Layer the fillings on top of the cheese. Pour the egg mixture over the fillings, top with the remaining cheese, and sprinkle with parsley. Bake for 25 minutes, or until golden brown and set in the center. Cool at least 5 minutes before cutting.

Fillings of your choice:

1 cup chopped fresh spinach

6 or 8 fresh mushrooms, sliced

1/2 cup cooked bacon

or chopped sandwich ham

or whatever you like

Our next Kaffeeklatsch will be on **17th March 2018**.

So ... now that you know how to make our famous cakes and quiches, how about joining the KK-team? In order to do that, please contact John Richards (trelev@aol.com) or Elaine White (jaw9553@yahoo.com).



Outreach

The following is a thank you email from Dorothee Hahn:

Dear Chris and John,

I delivered the first 28 (gift-)boxes on Friday. The children sang Christmas Carols and were delighted over the contents of the shoe boxes they received. Also the two ladies, who lead the group, said that those gifts were the most special every year regarding their content.

Besides some families, the next big delivery will probably be on the second day of Christmas in Harsova - 50 children will receive them there! The day needs to be confirmed with the priest, but that was the initial thought.

Have a blessed Christmas, you with your families and your congregations who made this wonderful gift possible again this year! I also wish you all a blessed New Year 2018 in which I hope to visit all of you again.

In Christ,

Dorothee+



St. Augustine's was able to collect 60 boxes for the Episcopal Mission from Dorothee Hahn in Romania again this Christmas. Thank you to all of those who donated to this special cause.



A few of our donors had a special surprise when they saw the children opening „their“ gift-boxes.

CHRISTMAS EVE AT THE TEESTUBE 2017

Fleur Donecker

There were plenty of helpers from St Augustine's and plenty of food so Christmas Eve at the Teestube was enjoyed by all the 60 visitors there. Of course when you don't speak the language it is sometimes difficult to know how the other person feels but the traditional food, Fleischkäse and potato salad, ice cream, apple and/or orange juice accompanied by plenty of bread, as well as apples and oranges, the last three items and the potato salad all very kind donations, all that food was enjoyed. We all did our best to keep the Teestube visitors company.

Thank you to everyone who came to the Teestube and helped, and thank you also to those of you who provided large amounts of homemade potato salad or who offered help but could not come as there were already so many helpers. This is not discrimination! In view of the many regular clients at the Teestube, there just isn't enough room there for too many helpers.

The whole Mainz Homegroup



Thank you to all those who helped at the Teestube on Christmas Eve



„Gott kommt aus unerwarteter Richtung“

KIRCHEN Gottesdienste mit Propst und Dekan – und ein Krippenspiel in Scheerstaaner Mundart

WIESBADEN (red). Am Samstag, 23. Dezember, 16.30 Uhr, wird im Rahmen eines ökumenischen Gottesdienstes zum vierten Advent das Friedenslicht aus Bethlehem in der Wiesbadener Bonifatiuskirche ankommen. Es soll eine Möglichkeit bieten, sich auf den Weihnachtsfrieden zu besinnen. An dem Gottesdienst sind unter anderem der evangelische Pfarrer Andreas Günther, der anglikanische Pfarrer Chris Easthill und der katholische Pfarrer Stephan Gras beteiligt.

Am 24. Dezember findet um 13 Uhr das „ökumenische Weihnachtsportal“ im Wiesbadener Hauptbahnhof statt. In der Bahnhofshalle werden Weihnachtslieder gesungen und die Zellen der Weihnachtsgeschichte vorgelesen. Das Weihnachtsportal gestalten die evan-

gelische, katholische und anglikanische Kirche in Wiesbaden. In den Kirchen aller christlichen Konfessionen werden oft gleich mehrere Gottesdienste angeboten. Vom Kindergottesdienst am frühen Nachmittag bis zu den Mitternachtsmessen. Und natürlich gibt es am ersten Feiertag Festgottesdienste.

In der Alt-Katholischen Friedenskirche, Schwalbacher Straße 60, findet am Heiligabend, um 17 Uhr ein Familiengottesdienst mit Krippenspiel und Hirtenmusik statt.

Propst und Dekan der evangelischen Kirche in Wiesbaden werden jeweils in den 23-Uhr-Gottesdiensten predigen. In der Christmette der Marktkirche spricht Oliver Albrecht zum Thema „Gott kommt aus unerwarteter Richtung“. Martin Mencke predigt in der Luther-

kirche, wo die Heilige Nacht traditionell mit einer Gospelmette gefeiert wird – diesmal mit dem New-Spirit-Gospel-Choir unter Leitung von Andreas Peters.

Der „gruube Schtern“ wird zum „mords Trumm“

Zu ihren Gottesdiensten an Heiligabend lädt auch die Johanneskirche in die Hauberrisserstraße 17 ein. Um 15 Uhr wird ein Familiengottesdienst mit Krippenspiel geleitet. Die Christvesper, in der neben traditionellen Weihnachtsliedern auch Harfenmusik erklingt, beginnt um 17 Uhr. Der Gottesdienst beleuchtet die Rolle der Hirten, die als erste von der Geburt Jesu erfahren und davon erzählen.

Die Möglichkeit, den Heiligabend auf ganz besondere Wei-

se zu begehen, bietet seit Jahren die Schiersteiner Christophoruskirche. Um 15 und um 17 Uhr findet ein Krippenspiel in Mundart statt. Maria, Josef, das Christkind, vier Hirten, die drei Weisen, vier ziemlich grobe Gastwirte, der Lektor, der in Personalunion auch der stimmungsgewaltige Verkündigungengel ist, der Kantor und eine große Zahl von Englein sind zu bewundern. Der von Pfarrer Mohr geleitete Familiengottesdienst ist mit viel Musik und Gesang gestaltet, es gibt einen kurzen Denkanstoß zur Weihnacht und manchmal auch etwas zum Lachen. Ewa wenn ein Engel seine Flügel verliert, das erschreckte Christkind laut los plärrt, weil der Verkündigungengel zu gewaltig von der Kanzel tost, wenn einer seinen Einsatz verschläft und die Hir-

ten ihm ins W es kann passieren stimmen aus plötzlich „mit deswegen ist ü rappelvoll. Die Bezeichnung Krippenspiel“ gene Bearbeitung ten Weihnachtsponisten Carl O war und den Text juwarischer Mu hat. Der Scheerster war der Heinz Otto, der Hirten in den he lert übertrag, wa

Friedenslicht Bonifatius-Kirche

WIESBADEN (red). Bei einem ökumenischen Gottesdienst zum vierten Advent wird am Samstag, 23. Dezember, 16.30 Uhr, das Friedenslicht aus Bethlehem in der Bonifatiuskirche, Luisenstraße 33, ankommen. An dem Gottesdienst sind Vertreter der evangelischen, der anglikanischen und der katholischen Kirche beteiligt.

KURZ NOTIERT

Weihnachtsportal im Hauptbahnhof

WIESBADEN (red). Zum siebten Mal findet an Heiligabend, Sonntag, 24. Dezember, um 13 Uhr das ökumenische Weihnachtsportal im Hauptbahnhof statt. In der Bahnhofshalle werden Weihnachtslieder gesungen, und es wird die Weihnachtsgeschichte vorgelesen. Ankommende und Abfahrende, Heime und Wohlsituerte, Christen, slime und religiös nicht Gedene sind eingeladen, teilzunehmen, stehen zu bleiben und ezuhalten. Das Weihnachtsportal gestalten die evangelische, katholische und anglikanische Kirche in Wiesbaden.

„God comes from unexpected directions“. These articles and notices appeared in the local newspapers and announce upcoming eucemenical Christmas services in Wiesbaden in which our very own Rev. Easthill is / was actively involved. One was a Christmas service at the main Roman Catholic Church in Wiesbaden, the second a service for travelers at the Hauptbahnhof (Main Railway Station) on Christmas Eve.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH
ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION 2018
 (JAN. – JUNE)

COFFEE AND SCRIPTURE
 A weekly exploration of the Scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday
 - Wednesdays @ 11:00 am (Feinkost Felckert)

MEETING JESUS IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN
 A five-week Lenten journey and reflection – Fridays @ 7:30 pm (after Stations of the Cross) from February 23 – March 23 (Church)

FRIDAY FORMATION: THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER
 Friday April 13 (Spirituality of the BCP), May 18 (Praying the Collects),
 June 15 (Creeds and Commitments) @ 7:30 pm (Parsonage)

FEELING THE SPIRIT - EXAMINING OUR OWN LIVES:
PARISH LENTEN RETREAT
 March 2 – 4 (Franciscan "Exerzitienhaus" in Hofheim)
HOME GROUP
 Meets twice a month – contact homegroups@staugustines.de
ADULT FORUMS
 As announced on various theological/historical/spiritual themes

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION WWW.STAUGUSTINES.DE OR REVCHRIS@STAUGUSTINES.DE

Parish Life— Happy Birthday!



A new feature in our Newsletter is our Birthday List. To all those who have celebrated, or will be celebrating their birthday in January or February—Happy Birthday!

51. For a Birthday

Watch over thy child, O Lord, as *his* days increase; bless and guide *him* wherever *he* may be. Strengthen *him* when *he* stands; comfort *him* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *him* up if *he* fall; and in *his* heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

From *The Book of Common Prayer*

January	1	Fleur Donecker
	4	Kay Hollis
	4	Monika Ehrentraut
	10	Graham Elliot
	11	Monika Merkel
	12	Julie Parker
	13	Queenet Onwubuariri
	14	William Tatum
	15	Jillian Süssner
	15	Damaris Wesa
	16	Deborha Rampinelli
	18	Paul Platt
	24	Dottie Ehrich
	25	Peter Hellbach
	25	Günter Haas
	26	Cameron Nelson

February	4	Victoria Scheicher
	7	Kimberley Walkowiak
	7	Waseem Zahoor
	9	Matthias Limmeroth,
	10	Rita Hadboun
	10	Steven Le Roux
	11	Maren Ehrich
	17	June Dewell
	18	Nils Martens
	25	Raymond Hodgkinson
	25	Robert Ramsay
	26	Wendy Rathgeber
	27	Maria Geilen
	28	Jasmin Martens
	29	Philip Hodgkinson



Upcoming Events

Jan. 11 – 22: Fr. Chris away (church business, vacation)

January 17: Holy Eucharist (10.00 am) and Bible Study (11.00 am)

January 21: Holy Eucharist with Sunday School 10.00 am (Rev. John Newsome)

January 23: Music Section (Worship Committee) 10.00 am

Jan. 25 – 27 and Jan 29—Feb. 1: Fr. Chris away (Council of Advice, family visit)

January 26: Burns Night 7.00 pm

January 28: Family Eucharist (no Sunday School) 10.00 am.

January 29: Prayer Group Meeting 6.00 pm

January 31: Morning Prayer (10.00 am) and Bible Study (11.00 am)

February 3: Vestry Meeting 9.30 am

February 4: Candlemas Holy Eucharist with Sunday School 10.00 am

February 5 – 7: Fr. Chris away (clergy retreat)

February 11: Holy Eucharist with Sunday School 10.00 am

February 13: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 7.00 pm

February 14: Ash Wednesday Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes 7.00 pm

February 18: Holy Eucharist (Rite I) with Sunday School 10.00 am

February 20: ACK Wiesbaden Meeting 6 pm

February 21: Holy Eucharist (10.00 am) and Bible Study (11.00 am)

February 22: ACK Hessen/Rheinhessen Meeting (Oberursel) 9.00 am – 3.00 pm

February 23: Stations of the Cross 7.00 pm

February 23: Lenten Course 7.30 pm

February 24: Annual General Meeting 1.00 pm (12 noon pot luck lunch)

February 25: Family Eucharist (no Sunday School) 10.00 am.

February 26: Prayer Group Meeting 6.00 pm

February 28: Holy Eucharist (10.00 am) and Bible Study (11.00 am)

March 2: Stations of the Cross 7.00 pm

March 2: Lenten Course 7.30 pm