

MARCH 2019

Volume 63 • Issue 3

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HOW^{you can} HELP

- ❖ Billings Food Pantry Needs -
**See list posted in foyer above food bank barrel.
- ❖ VBS 2019 – Volunteers
- ❖ WyndStone Driver – Sunday Volunteer

ATONEMENT FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Friendship Group will meet March 6th at noon for our monthly Potluck. Our guest speaker will be from Montana Rescue Mission. Questions? Contact Sandi Gonzalez 406-671-7199.

Wonderful Wednesday

Mar 13th – Atonement
Lenten Soup Supper

Marvelous Monday

Mar 25th – Montana Jack's
6PM

The Commentator

A publication of Atonement Lutheran

Atonement Lutheran Preschool

SHROVE TUESDAY - PANCAKE SUPPER

← SHROVE TUESDAY →
**PANCAKE
SUPPER**



Tuesday, March 5th

5:00 – 6:30 PM

Food will be served from 5:00 – 6:15 PM

Games & Activities from 5:30 – 6:30 PM

Proceeds will benefit Atonement Lutheran Preschool & the Scholarship Fund

FIRST COMMUNION 2019

We welcome your Fourth Grader to First Communion instruction! The schedule will be as listed below:

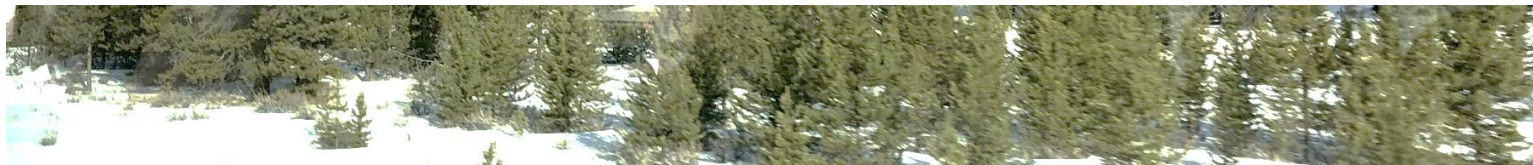
Saturday, March 30th 2:30pm Student will meet and decorates their own personal chalice at **Yellowstone Coffee & Canvas** located at 2860 Old Hardin Rd, Billings, MT. Bring \$20 (checks payable to *Yellowstone Coffee & Canvas*).

Sunday, April 14th 11:45am -1:45pm Instruction with student and parent(s). Pizza luncheon included; baking communion bread. **Thursday, April 18th 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service**, Family and godparents are welcome to attend! Students receive their First Communion.

Nikki Groshans – Sunday School Superintendent

DUNCAN & ARLENE MCLEAN'S 60th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

On March 10th between worship services, the McLean family will be hosting a celebration in honor of Duncan & Arlene McLean's 60th Wedding Anniversary. Please come share some cake and fellowship on this special occasion. Hope to see you there!!



ATONEMENT HOSTS FPYV

Family Promise parents and kids will again be our guests March 24th -31st. Please sign up to help in the many ways we can serve. This is an important Atonement ministry that has several direct impacts on our church. First, we serve those who are hungry, and cold, and hopeless, and second we get to know our fellow members better. Please sign up to help as many hands make the work easier for the commitment we have given to Family Promise over the past 16 years. We will need families and singles to help with the following: setting up the Sunday School rooms into bedrooms for our families; purchasing food; bringing food for meals; serving meals, eating with the families, helping clean up after meals; doing activities/reading with the kids; staying overnight (in the nursery, we sleep too!); tearing down the rooms on the last day and turning them back into Sunday School rooms; and doing laundry. Please sign up to help and call Janie Fitch-Danielsen for further details 861-9349.

ATONEMENT LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

Greetings from your partners in ministry! We are starting this March with the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper with games and activities. We look forward to seeing everyone for a fun evening on March 5th from 5:00 – 6:30pm. The proceeds will be going to the Preschool and scholarship fund.

In March, our preschool will continue its travels to Australia and New Zealand. If you have anything

from your travels abroad, please consider sharing it with our students.

We have opened enrollment for the 2019-2020 school year! Please encourage people to register early! Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, and support!

Blessings from your Director of Atonement Lutheran Preschool,
Sara Westrope

LENT 2019 MID-WEEK SERVICES & SUPPER

March 6th we will offer our 2019 Ash Wednesday Worship Service starting at 6:45pm in the Atonement Lutheran Sanctuary. The following Wednesday, March 13th we begin our 2019 Lenten Mid-week services and Soup Suppers. Supper will be served at 6pm in the Commons and our weekly service will start at 6:45pm. Each week we will offer a soup provided by the church and augmented with bread and dessert provided by volunteers. We are in

search of a Kitchen Coordinator to oversee the weekly teams of kitchen volunteers who will prep, serve and clean up after each meal. Please contact the church office if you are interested in serving as Kitchen Coordinator for our 2019 Lenten Soup Suppers. Signup sheets are in the Commons for weekly kitchen team's volunteers and volunteers who are willing to provide the bread and desserts. Please contact the church office for details.



René Clausen and
The Concordia Choir
2019 Northwest Tour
Friday, March 15 - 7pm
 St. Patrick Co-Cathedral - 215 N 31st St
 \$20 Adults/\$5 Students

LWR – BATH BAR SOAP COLLECTION

WELCA is collecting new wrapped bars of soap for Lutheran World Relief! Any size will be accepted, but bath size is preferred. This collection will take place throughout the Lenten season and will be shipped with the Lutheran World Relief School Kits and quilts. A collection bin will be available in the commons area. Thanks for all your continued support of LWR!

Julie Leno – Atonement WELCA

ATONEMENT FINANCE REPORT

General Fund		Building Fund		Building Fund	
	January 2019		January 2019		January 2019
Income:	\$ 35,299.01	Income:	\$ 4,614.00	09/30/18:	\$ 39,340.47
Expense:	\$ 35,808.81	Expense:	\$ 8,150.00	10/31/18:	\$ 36,894.45
Net Income:	\$ (509.80)	Net Income:	\$ (3,536.00)	11/30/18:	\$ 33,817.46
Net Income YTD	\$ (509.80)	Net Income YTD	\$ (3,536.00)	12/31/18:	\$ 35,280.73
Budget Expense:	\$ 38,609.64	Budget Expense:	\$ 8,150.00	01/31/19:	\$ 38,831.06

FROM THE PASTOR

Far too often, I hear from good people just like you “I know I’m a person of faith... but it just feels like something is missing.” If you’ve ever said – or thought – this, then you’re not alone. Generations of Christians – going all the way back to the first disciples and multitudes who gathered at Jesus’ feet – have confessed likewise. And in response to all of them, Jesus has extended the beautiful invitation to a faith journey with the simple words, “Follow me.”

The invitation to Lent is an invitation to journey with Christ to the cross, to remember our dependence on God, and to gaze with faith toward the resurrection to come. For many Christians, the season is marked by four spiritual practices found in the invitation to Lent on Ash Wednesday:

“I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent – self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving, and works of love – strengthened by the gifts of Word and Sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus’ death and resurrection!” (ELW – Ash Wednesday invitation)

During Lent, you are invited to enter more deeply into your faith journey by reflecting on what the four Lenten practices of 1.) **repentance**, 2.) **prayer and fasting**, 3.) **sacrificial giving** and 4.) **works of love** mean for you today. We will have the following materials available for you:

- 40 Days of Giving Calendar
- Weekly “Story Telling” bulletin inserts
- Giving Jar Label
- Sunday morning Adult Forum sessions (more information in this newsletter)

May these in-home resources, study opportunities, stories from others, and giving challenges aid you in your life of faith.

But more importantly, may God bless your Lenten Journey. And may your practices of the discipline of Lent enrich your faith and your commitment to sharing the work that God is doing in this world!

✝ Pastor Darren

Wednesday Lenten Series

Places Along the Way

The life of Jesus unfolded in what we call the “Holy Land” – however spilled across borders and continents to make the places where we live today holy as well. You will hear from the travelers to the Holy Land this past year share their experiences – and how that journey renewed their faith, challenged their assumptions, renewed their understanding of the Bible or deepened their understanding of God at work in this world.

WE BRING THE HOPE WE SHARE IN CHRIST TO ALL!

Wednesday’s Adult Bible Study

Rethinking Everything – Paul’s Message of the Epistles

During the season of Lent, we’ll be focusing on the prescribed lectionary readings from the Epistles where the Apostle Paul invites us to “rethink” some concepts held by his ancestors in the faith. Christ has changed everything and brought a new order and a life-giving Word to God’s people... and that includes us!

Mar. 6 *Rethinking the Wrath of God in Romans*

Mar. 13 *TBA*

Mar. 20 *Rethinking Our Righteousness in Philipians*

Mar. 27 *Rethinking Idolatry in 1 Corinthians*

*Meet at the Little White Church, begins at 10:00am.
Led by Pastor Darren.*

Sunday’s Adult Forum 9:15am

Stewards of God’s Love -

This past year, we have been accumulating LOVE Offering donations until they reach the \$1,000 mark and then determining what to do with it. We have attained that goal – and now... it gets interesting! Join us for the Lenten Adult Forum series on stewardship as we discuss the gift and calling of us as Stewards (of our time, talent and treasure) – and then have a practical exercise in determining the distribution of our LOVE Offering!

- | | |
|----------|---|
| March 3 | Getting Started |
| March 10 | DOWN: Relationship with God |
| March 17 | IN: What God has entrusted to our care |
| March 24 | OUT: Relationship with our neighbor |
| March 31 | RESPOND: Where does our LOVE Offering go? |

Grab a quick cup of coffee and join us every Sunday morning during the Sunday School hour for our Adult Forum.



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WYNDSTONE LUNCH & LEARN 2019

KICKOFF March 15 – Wellness Fair 9:00 AM – Noon (wonderful wellness booths as well as medication disposal)

Speaker Theme: The Talk Around Town

Soup/Salad buffet, Noon - 12:30 PM in the WyndStone Dining Room

Speaker in the Little White Church 12:30 PM:

March 22 *Big Sky Economic Development*

March 29 *Bill Cole, Billings Mayor*

April 5 *Chief Rich St. John*

April 12 *Billings Downtown Association*

Reserve your spot for the lunch and speaker by calling Vivian at 655-7700.

March 2019

- ☞ Mar 02 - Men's Square 6:30am
- ☞ Mar 6 - Friendship Club 12pm
- ☞ Mar 6 - **Ash Wednesday Service**
6:45pm
- ☞ Mar 6 - Archery @ Superior 6:30pm
- ☞ Mar 10 - McLean's 60th Celebration
- ☞ Mar 13 - **Soup Supper 6:00pm**
- ☞ Mar 13 - **Lenten Mid-Week 6:45pm**
- ☞ Mar 15 - April Newsletter Deadline
- ☞ Mar 19 - Church Council Meeting 7pm
- ☞ Mar 20 - **Soup Supper 6:00pm**
- ☞ Mar 20 - **Lenten Mid-Week 6:45pm**
- ☞ Mar 21 - HOPE Circle 9:30am
- ☞ Mar 24 - Host FPYV (24th – 30th)
- ☞ Mar 27 - **Soup Supper 6:00pm**
- ☞ Mar 27 - **Lenten Mid-Week 6:45pm**
- ☞ Mar 30 - SJLM Delegates Day 9:15am

Coffee Servers for March 2019
Outdoor Ministry - Gene Arneson

THANK YOU!

... Atonement ladies who provided the lovely meal for Don's Memorial service.

Jean Richard and Family

...WELCA, for donating money to Christikon Camp Scholarships. I really appreciate it!

Sincerely, Zander Cope

...All who were involved with the wild game dinner and all of those who support the Atonement Lutheran Outdoor Ministry. It was a great success. We will be sharing the proceeds with the Atonement Youth and with the Sojourners Camp of Christikon. Thank you to all of those who donated items for door prizes and silent auction items!! What a blessing this congregation is!!

Gene Arneson- Atonement Outdoor Ministry Chairperson