

The Commentator

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A publication of Atonement Lutheran Church

"Keeping the Mission in Motion"

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GROWING THE SEEDS OF FAITH

We are celebrating our 55 years in mission with a Capital Campaign with a goal of \$550,000! While we look back on a rich history, we are also looking into the future as we grow this ministry in our community. While the majority of the funds will be designated for principal-only debt reduction, a portion (~13%) of the funds will be dedicated to staffing a part-time Director of Youth Ministries.

October 13 Kick-Off Sunday

8:00am Worship with Pastor Dana Peterson preaching

9:15am Reception and Information Session of Capital

Campaign Goals

10:30am Worship with Pastor Dana Peterson preaching

October 29 Dessert Social and Information

November 17 Commitment Sunday!



HOW you can HELP

- ❖ Billings Food Pantry Needs –**See list posted in foyer above food bank barrel.
- ❖ Funeral Luncheon Help
- ❖ Hospitality Ministry – Ushers
- ❖ Worship – Readers & Assistants
- ❖ Christian Education – Teachers Helpers

We bring the hope we share in Christ to all! It seems like a simple enough mission statement, that is, until you think about it. What does it really mean to be stewards of God's Word? Can you list all of the ministries in our congregation? No matter your passion, we all have opportunities to serve.

This fall, the Stewardship Committee would like to encourage everyone to reflect upon the many ways in which we keep our mission in motion, and what is required of each of us to do so. We ask that you rejoice in the blessings bestowed upon you, and that you demonstrate your love and commitment to Christ by giving generously of your first fruits, of your time, and of your talents.

Go in peace and serve the Lord!

The Stewardship Committee

MENU



Wonderful Wednesday

October 9th

Pizza Ranch

Marvelous Monday

October 28th

Bull Mountain Grill

6PM

J.A.M.

3rd - 6th Grade Youth Group Meets Sundays from 4:00 – 5:00 (with a meal to follow!) J.A.M. is looking for adult volunteers! This role would entail being a support to Karrie as she leads the J.A.M. group in fun games and other activities on Sundays. (It does not include planning, but does include the meal that follows!) If you can help, please text or call Sara Westrope or there is a sign-up sheet with available dates!

WE BRING THE HOPE WE SHARE IN CHRIST TO ALL!



LAY VISITATION

I enjoyed talking with people at the Ministry Fair about lay visitation. I would ask folks to guess what was in the gift box I was carrying. I got some pretty good answers!!! The box contained a note that read: The Gift of Time --Time to Make a Visit-- Time to send a card -- Time to make a phone call. If you are interested in joining the lay visitation team or for more information--Call Julie Amundson.

FESTIVAL OF TREES

34th Festival of Trees! Dec. 5th – Dec. 8th. The WELCA committee is asking for donation of hats, gloves, mittens and scarves for our “Festival of Trees” tree, we are sponsoring this year. There is a gray container located in the church office for your donations. If you have any questions please contact June Canfield.

SCANDINAVIAN BAKERS

Lefse, Lefse, Lefse!!! Once again we will take on 200 pounds of potatoes! (Uff da!). Sunday, October 13th - 1:00pm. Potato peeling, chopping, cooking, and ricing. Monday, October 14th & Tuesday, October 15th @ 5:00pm rolling and baking. Sunday we will need people to peel, chop, cook, rice & mix potatoes. Monday/Tuesday we will need people to roll, fry and clean up. Pans, pins, boards, turners, scrapers, and anything “Lefse” will be needed! We welcome interested 1st timers, as well as the experienced lefse makers! Please call Rane Paulson or Judy Belden.

ATONEMENT LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

This October we will be diving into our regular schedule after a month of the students getting to know us as well as us (the teachers) getting to know them. We will be exploring Fall! Apples, insects, and setting up a pumpkin patch. We ask if anyone would like to donate a pumpkin (by Sunday, October 20th) or decorations (both indoor & outdoor) to contact Sara!

We are thankful we can count on our Atonement family to help get our school year off with the supplies we need! We have been approached to ask if we are able to offer scholarships for students in need, but our scholarship fund needs

support to replenish it. Prayerfully consider sponsor a student this school year.

We still have openings for students to enroll for the 2019-2020 school year! If you know of any children preschool age, 3-5, word of mouth is the best advertisement. It is not too late to register!

Wilderness Explorers: God is our Guide! “Whether you turn to the right or the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you saying “This is the way Walk in it.” Isaiah 30:21.

Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, and support!

Blessings from your Director of Atonement Lutheran Preschool,
Sara Westrope

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Coming January 2020 Dave Ramsey’s “*Financial Peace University*”. Contact the church office for more information.

WELCA ANNUAL FALL BAZAAR

Fall Bazaar Saturday, November 2, 2019 9:00am-3:00pm! Please help with the Bazaar when you can! Set up will be Thursday, October 31st, starting at 8:30 a.m. and continuing on Friday, November 1st at noon. Take down will be Saturday, November 2nd, at 3pm and Sunday, November 3rd at noon. We will need the following items to sell: Craft

Items, Canned Goods, Garden Produce, Baked Goods (especially pies) Silent Auction Items, Garage Sale Items (**PLEASE NO CLOTHES OR ELECTRONICS**). Garage sale items can be brought to the church starting Monday, October 28th. If you have any questions please contact: Eleanor, Judy or Julie Leno.

FINANCIAL NEWS THIS MONTH

General Fund August 2019		Building Fund August 2019		Building Reserve	
Income:	\$ 25,348.80	Income:	\$ 4,877.00	04/19	\$23,829.72
Expense:	\$ 25,986.70	Expense:	\$ 8,150.00	05/19	\$21,243.11
Net Income:	\$ (637.90)	Net Income:	\$ (3,273.00)*	06/19	\$23,286.46
Net Income YTD:	\$ (15,309.39)	Net Income YTD:	\$ (10,592.36)*	07/19	\$30,192.70
Budget Expense:	\$ 29,560.37	Budget Expense:	\$ 8,150.00	08/19	\$26,930.10

* Reminder: The negative amounts indicate the amount we are drawing down on the surplus in our Building Fund.

FROM THE PASTOR

In the coming month, we are going to be reflecting on Growing the Seeds of Faith – which is the theme of our Capital Campaign. And of course, such things are always about stewardship - and stewardship is always about our walk with Jesus. We will especially consider how our use of the financial resources that God has entrusted to us is an important part of this walk. Through letters, bulletin inserts, temple talks, prayer and sermons, we will strive to grow closer to Jesus as we walk together.

The great poet Robert Frost once wrote, “Two roads diverged in a wood, and I – I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference.” On our walk with Jesus, it is important that we are on the right road.

When it comes to financial stewardship, some people ask the question, “How much of my money does the church need?” This question will send us down the wrong road. It is a question that Jesus never encourages us to ask. It is a question that is based on several wrong assumptions.

If we want to journey down the right road, we might ask, “How generously does God call on me to respond to all the blessings God has showered upon me?” When you think about your use of the financial resources God has entrusted to you, it is important to remember that the resources you have still belong to God and are placed in your care and management. It is also important to remember that when Jesus talks about giving, he never talks about the need of the church to receive, he always talks about the need of the giver to give as an expression of a sincere faith.

As we walk with Jesus in this coming month, be sure to be on the right road. Think about all God has entrusted to you. Think about your need to give as a part of your faith in Jesus. Ask yourself, “How generously does God call on me to respond?” And then... think about all the ministries that could be unleashed with our collective generosity! Amazing!

✝ Pastor Darren

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Sunday evenings from 5:00 – 7:00, starting with a meal, the High School Youth will be gathering to have Fun, Food, & Fellowship. Please join us!

Special off-site Youth Night will be October 6th @ 4:00 PM.

We will be meeting at Geyser Park for a round of miniature golf & games! If you need transportation to and from (I-90 Exit 443, 7250 Entryway Drive) please contact the church

THANK YOU FROM THE HEART...

We want to extend our deepest gratitude to the two anonymous donors that gifted \$10,000 and \$20,000 to our church. These are such wonderful gifts and from all of us we say THANK YOU!!

The Church Council

We would like to sincerely thank Randy Henning for putting up the shades for all the rest of the windows at Atonement. They look great. You are a blessing!

Atonement WELCA Board

ADULT STUDIES

ADULT FORUM SUNDAYS

9:15AM JERUSALEM RM.

Oct. 6 – TBA

Oct. 13 – **Capital Campaign Reception and Information Session**

Oct. 20 – Capital Campaign

Oct. 27 – Capital Campaign

ADULT BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAYS 10:00AM WYNDSTONE PRIVATE DINING RM

A Study on the Book of Acts: How the Early Church Continues to Inform Our Current Mission

Oct. 2	Acts 9:1-19
Oct. 9	Acts 10:1-23
Oct. 16	Acts 11:19-30
Oct 23	Acts 12:1-17
Oct. 30	Acts 14:8-20

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

(Recycled Teenagers ages 50+)

Friendship group will meet October 2nd at noon with a pot luck. Our guest speaker will be from Church council with brief rundown of what's going on at Atonement. Have any questions, bring them with you. Questions? Call Sandi Gonzalez.

TRUNK OR TREAT

October 31st 6-7:30pm

Bring your vehicle and decorate your trunk for the youth of Atonement and our community to gather to Trunk n Treat from! We will be having a prize for the most festive trunk display! A fun time is had by all!





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 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.

**Next Outdoor Ministry Meeting will be
 Sunday, November 3 at 6 p.m. following the evening pot luck.**



OCTOBER 2019

- ☞ Oct 2 Friendship Club 12pm
- ☞ Oct 4 Men's Square Breakfast
- ☞ Oct 4-6 **Confirmation Retreat**
- ☞ Oct 6-12 Atonement Hosts FPYV
- ☞ Oct 9 WW Meal-Pizza Ranch
- ☞ Oct 12 **Sprinkler Winterization**
- ☞ Oct 13 **Capital Campaign Kickoff**
- ☞ Oct 13-15 **Lefse Making**
- ☞ Oct 15 Church Council Meeting
- ☞ Oct 17 Hope Circle Ladies Bible Study
- ☞ Oct 19 **SJLM Delegate Day**
- ☞ Oct 20 **New Members Reception**
- ☞ Oct 27 **3rd Grade Bible Presentation**
- ☞ Oct 27 Reformation Sunday
- ☞ Oct 28 MM Meal-Bull Mountain Grill
- ☞ Oct 28 Garage Sale Items Received
- ☞ Oct 29 **Dessert Social & Information**
- ☞ Oct 31 Trunk or Treat 6:00-7:30PM

Coffee Servers for October 2019
Kristin La Ve` – Choir

YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

It's time to start thinking about the **2021 ELCA Youth Gathering!**

The 2021 ELCA Youth Gathering will be held in Minneapolis, Tuesday, June 29 through Saturday, July 3. Youth currently in 7th – 11th grade are eligible to attend!

MYLE and the **tAble** will be held Saturday, June 26-Tuesday, June 29. Minneapolis, the "City by Nature", will be a wonderful and unique host for the Gathering. It is a growing, diverse and Lutheran-dense city nestled on the banks of the Mississippi river in the heart of the Midwest. While in the city, Gathering participants will spend time at the Minneapolis Convention Center, US Bank Stadium, area hotels and local congregations in addition to the many restaurants, parks and cultural centers the city has to offer.

Come & be part of the excitement of ALC Youth Ministry!



SPRINKLER WINTERIZATION

Scheduled for **Saturday, October 12 2019**. Forms for sign up are available in the Commons area. Please contact the church or Todd Koepf with any questions. Thank you for your support of Handyman's Ministries.