

May 2020

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The Commentator

A publication of Atonement Lutheran

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Time to plant ...

WELCA ANNUAL SPRING PLANT SALE

May 15th – 17th 9am – 3pm

Atonement Lutheran Church

HOW you can HELP

- ❖ Billings Food Pantry Needs -
**See list posted in foyer above food bank shelf.
- ❖ Errand Runners
- ❖ VBS 2020 – Volunteers

NEED HELP? Pick up a few Groceries, or Rx delivered, a visit (phone call)?
Call the office 245-7004.

WANT TO HELP? Call the office 245-7004.

Wonderful Wednesday & Marvelous Monday Meals
CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE



We Bring The Hope We Share In Christ To All!



WELCA NEWS

WELCA has a goal of collecting items for 100 Personal Care Kits. We currently need **94 nail clippers** to complete our goal. A collection bin is available in front of the church office. Thanks for all your continued support of LWR!

Atonement WELCA Board

FAMILY PROMISE

Our friends from Family Promise of Yellowstone Valley will not be staying at Atonement at the end of June as scheduled due to the current overall restrictions on gathering. We do have the opportunity to bring food to the families staying at the FP Day Center for both dinner and lunches for that week. Please call Janie at 861-9349 if you are interested in bringing food, for June 28 through July 4.

Janie Fitch-Danielsen

COLUMBARIUM COMMITTEE

The Columbarium Committee has not been meeting due to the shelter in place directives for COVID19. Please contact the church office if you have any questions regarding the purchasing of a niche and you will be directed to a member of the committee for that information.

ATONEMENT FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Friendship group will cancel monthly potlucks until **September! Have a good summer.** Contact Sandi Gonzalez 348-3707.

MEN'S MINISTRIES

Property Committee will continue to meet first Monday of each month at 7PM via Zoom meetings only. Events will be decided at these meetings. Men's Square will not meet in June and will start again Friday, October 2, 2020.

Todd Koepf – Atonement Property Committee

Thank You

Thank you for the sympathy cards. The Lord took him home. He no longer suffers.

Donna Kembel

ATONEMENT VBS 2020



AUGUST 3RD – 7TH



STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

First of all, from the Stewardship Committee and Atonement Leadership there is such gratitude for those who continue to support our ministry! Especially those who are participating in the Simply Giving program. The March giving was solid, thanks to a few above-and-beyond gifts. April giving isn't yet completed, but unfortunately with not being able to be open for worship, we will see a decrease in giving. Lent and Easter usually makes for sizable "loose offering" gifts of \$7,000-\$8,000 which we received only a small portion of this year and we will need to consider this. We understand that the COVID-19 pandemic may have financially impacted people's charitable giving. For those who have abundance, please consider sharing while others cannot. Mostly, please know that your church is there to support you with whatever needs may arise.

Atonement Stewardship Committee

ATONEMENT FINANCE REPORT

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

General Fund		Building Fund		Building Fund Reserve	
	March 2020		March 2020		March 2020
Income:	\$ 39,393.00	Income:	\$ 6,102.00	11/30/19:	\$ 19,017.24
Expense:	\$ 32,050.00	Expense:	\$ 7,925.00	12/31/19:	\$ 16,898.97
Net Income:	\$ 7,343.00	Net Income:	\$ (1,822.00) *	01/31/20:	\$ 15,848.52
Net Income YTD	\$ 6,600.00	Net Income YTD	\$ 6,958.00 *	02/28/20:	\$ 25,680.52
Budget Expense:	\$ 33,280.00	Budget Expense:	\$ 7,925.00	03/31/20:	\$ 23,858.00

HONORING ATONEMENT LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES 2020

AMANDA MARIE KING



SKYVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

After graduation Amanda plans to attend MSUB to study Health and Human Performance as well as continue my golf career as a member of the Yellowjacket Team. Her goal is to continue her education to become a Physical Therapist.

Parents *Lance & Nancy King*

BENJAMIN MATTHEW JOHNSTON



SKYVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

After graduation Ben plans to see where the roads take him. Probably construction, firefighter, or train for EMT.

Parents *Kyle & Tammy Johnston*

CLARICE JEAN HIGHTOWER



SKYVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

After graduation Clarice plans to move to Washington with her best friend, take a year or less to learn the ways of adulthood before going to a community or junior college to get her basics out of the way. Hopefully while in college she'll figure out what she wants to do probably something in Psychology or Sociology or maybe ALS (American Sign Language) Interpreter.

Parents *Tracy & LeAnn Hightower*



"I'm tired of it." I heard someone say recently. You know what "it" is... and this sentiment has been articulated in one way or another by many. Perhaps by you. There has been a yearning to resume life as normal – life before COVID-19, "social distancing," and "shelter in place" became part of our daily vocabulary. It has been a long haul, and we have a long road ahead of us. In these times, it is important for us to tend to our spiritual and emotional needs. We need to give voice to our grief as well as our joy – to discover strength as well as seek support – to remain hopeful as well as admit to our disappointment. It's all part of our God-designed humanity, and scripture bears witness to the fact that even God's faithful people bore these qualities. So if you're ever feeling like overwhelmed Job... or determined Mary... or long-suffering Moses... or incredulous Sarai... or fumbling Peter... or any personality in the Bible, then you are in good company. Because we are in God's company. We are God's people. We'll make it – together – tired of it as we may be.

On a personal note, last November, the Council approved a sabbatical leave for me with the dates of May 18-August 10. Little did we know what was to unfold in these recent months. We gave serious reconsideration to the timing of the sabbatical, however decided to proceed as planned. Elements of my sabbatical leave have changed or been canceled, however this time of rest and renewal will still get accomplished. In some ways, this is a good time for such a leave since program ministry is currently on hold, and will continue as such into Phase 2 of the Reopening. And by all indications, even upon my return in August, program ministry will likely not resume "as normal." We've all been told to get ready for a "start and stop" rhythm through the rest of the year. This sabbatical leave will prepare me for the new challenges and demands that will inevitably come when our Fall schedule resumes.

In the immediate future, while we do not know when ministries will resume, we have been proactive in making plans for implementing required procedures for gathering in safety. You have capable and faithful leaders who will continue to shepherd us through these weeks and months ahead. It is important for you to know how ministry will continue:

- Spiritual Care and Support:
 - o Pastor Marty Mock will provide regular office hours and on-call response to pastoral emergencies and spiritual care
 - o Kristin LaVe' and Charles Bott will have availability to respond to additional pastoral and spiritual needs
 - o Julie Amundson will continue communion visitation to the home-bound
 - o Pulpit supply has been scheduled for Sunday worship by the Church Council
- Program Ministry:
 - o Technology Team and Worship Committee will continue our online worship services before and after we resume on site worship
 - o Nikki Groshans has been capably planning and building relationships among our youth and families, getting ready for the summer's events
 - o Care Team and the Handymen have been actively responding to crisis requests and practical needs
- Resuming Worship:
 - o Council has thoughtfully considered the requirements needed to determine the date for resuming on site worship
 - o Worship Space Arrangements Team will prepare for the social distancing requirements for worshippers, creating a safe environment from arrival through departure
 - o Sanitation Team will clean and sanitize the areas used for worship and provide supplies for worshippers
 - o Ushers will receive instruction to guide worshippers so that social distancing may be accomplished

We have been working hard to ensure that leadership is in place to face the challenges ahead of us. For any need that you may have, Nancy Rupe in the front office will be your first point of contact and she will respond to your requests and provide direction. You are in good hands... because you are in God's hands!
God be with you 'til we meet again.

HONORING ATONEMENT LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES 2020

ERIKA ANN SEVERSON



SKYVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

After graduation Erika plans to attend MSU to pursue a degree in nursing and then obtain a Nurse Practitioner degree.

Parents *Daren & Amy Severson*

GABRIEL SETH BENSON



SKYVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

After graduation Gabe plans on attending MSU-Bozeman and Majoring in Film studies.

Parents *Randy & Tia Benson*

LILA ROSE HAGERTY



SKYVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

After graduation Lila plans include taking a semester off to work and then I plan on attending school at the University of Montana Western in Dillon! As of right now, I plan on receiving my degree from the university to become a vet technician!

Parents *Curt Hagerty and Joe & Shyla Best*

NOAH JAMES PAULSON



SKYVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

After graduation Noah plans to attend the University of Montana in Missoula where he will study Pre-Medicine while majoring in Neuroscience. He also received the Dean's Leadership Scholarship and will be in the Davidson Honors College at UM.

Parents *Rev. Darren & Trudi Paulson*

RACE CONNOR NUGENT

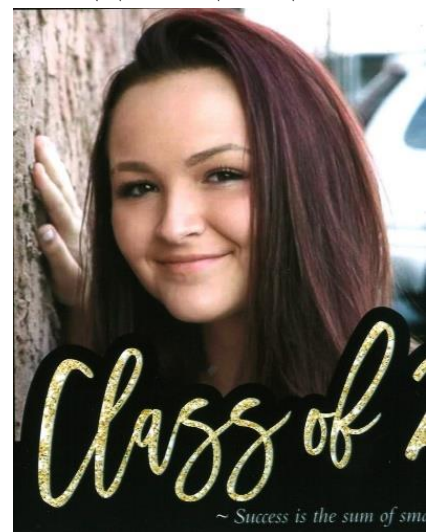


SKYVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

After graduation Race plans to apply for an Electrical Apprentice Program and with the possibility of participating in some college courses.

Parents *Steve & Lynda Nugent*

TAILEY RAE LEATHERBERRY



SKYVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

Tailey is currently working in the HelloFresh local call center as a Training Supervisor.

Grandparent *Vicki Leatherberry*



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

Summer Worship - Sundays 9:15am
May 24th through September 6th

HONORING ATONEMENT LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES 2020

**ZACHARY DAVID
MANGELS**



SKYVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

After graduation Zach plans to attend the University of Montana in Missoula. He intends on majoring in either political science or sociology. He hopes to attend law school after receiving his undergraduate's degree.

Parents *Dave & Kim Mangels*

**JOIN US IN HONORING OUR
GRADUATES SUNDAY, MAY 17TH**



Congratulations!
**Class of
2020**