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HOW you can HELP

- ❖ Billings Food Pantry Needs –
**See list posted in the Commons at the Food Bank shelf.
- ❖ Hospitality Ministry – Ushers
- ❖ Worship – Assistants

STITCHES & SCRIPTURES

Stitches and Scriptures starts again on September 12th at 6:00pm! Come join us for laughter, stitching (any kind) and love! Contact Jane Hansen for details.

HANDYMAN NEWS

The Annual Sprinkler Blowout and Winterization will take place on October 2nd and 3rd this year. This year we will expand the event to 2 days so your friends and neighbors can also take advantage of the service. Forms will be available during September at the church. We would ask that you provide forms to your friends and

HOMEcoming SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 19TH!

Homecoming.

That word conjures up nostalgic memories of games, dances, parades, and reunions of friends old and new. It's a festive time that sets aside the years passed and revels in the present moment of people gathered around the common desire of being together, rooted in the self-defining notion of "home." Not only is this a tradition in our modern culture, but it's a biblical concept. Abraham and Sarah, wandering to the Promised Land. The people of the Exodus, striving to return. Those exiled, longing for a sense of belonging and place. Even the book of Revelation bears the desire for God's joyful homecoming among us (Rev. 21:3).

Homecoming.

As much as it's reminiscent of the past, homecoming also invests deeply into the future. With a common bond and identity, we boldly step forward together into whatever the days and years ahead may bring. We are unified in our sense of "home" and venture with faith and purpose into whatever is "coming."

Homecoming.

Sunday, September 19th is "Homecoming Sunday" for us at Atonement. We will set aside the time passed since we have last gathered and celebrate the present moment, with our eyes fixed to the future. As with other homecomings, we invite you to wear a jersey of your favorite team (national, college, or local teams... or maybe even "team" Atonement shirts!) and bring a friend. Consider reaching out to an Atonement friend you've not seen for a long time and invite them to join you.

We've all had a difficult past year – and the coming days offer no guarantees. But one thing we can be certain of is a faithful God who longs to gather His people into His earthly Church and – eventually – His heavenly home. Our home is in God – and the church is God's family, coming together. Let's celebrate!

✝ Pastor Darren

so, they know the preparation and dates. We need their contact information, including phone number, so we can contact them with an estimated time of our arrival. Please share that all systems are to be back drained before our arrival and that we do not take responsibility for damage that occurs because of failure to drain

by the homeowners. The event is a fund raiser for the Handyman's ministry but is not restricted for inability to donate. Please contact Todd Koepp with any questions. Thank you for supporting this event and our ministry.

Handyman Ministry

ATONEMENT LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

Back to School Greetings from Atonement Lutheran Preschool!

The 2021-2022 school year is here!

Our search for a new preschool teacher is over! We are blessed to welcome Erin Roberts to our preschool staff. Erin has been on our preschool board for the past 3 years and both her sons have attended Atonement Lutheran Preschool.

This year we will explore the Fruits of the Spirit found in Galatians 5: 22-23 along with the Alphabet, Numbers, Colors, Dramatic Play, Storytime, Science, Teacher Directed projects, Recess, and Art, Sensory, Play dough, and fine motor centers! Doesn't preschool sound like fun? If you would like to volunteer some of your time, please let me know!

We have a Wish List for supplies needed for the preschool. If you would like to donate supplies, please look at some of the items on our list.

- ♥ 10 = Crayola 8ct Watercolor Paints with Brush
- ♥ 10 = Crayola 12ct Pre-Sharpended Colored Pencils
- ♥ 10 = Crayola 10ct Washable Broad Line Markers – Classic Colors
- ♥ 10 = Crayola 24ct Crayons
- ♥ 10 = Crayola 5ct Paint Brush Variety Pack
- ♥ 5 = Elmer's 6ct Giant Washable Glue Sticks Disappearing Purple Color
- ♥ 10 = 2ct Kids' Scissors Blunt Tip Pink/Blue - up & up™
- ♥ 10 = 2 Pocket Plastic Folder Red - up & up™
- ♥ 14 = 2 Pocket Plastic Folder Blue - up & up™
- ♥ 1 = Scotch 65ct 9" x 11" Thermal Laminating Pouches
- ♥ 4 = Dial Complete Antibacterial Foaming Hand Wash – Citrus
- ♥ Kleenex Trusted Care Facial Tissues - Target Back-To-School Exclusive - 4pk/144ct
- ♥ Kleenex Trusted Care Facial Tissue - 4pk/70ct
- ♥ Ziploc Storage Gallon Bags with Grip 'n Seal Technology
- ♥ Ziploc Storage Quart Bags with Grip 'n Seal Technology
- ♥ 2 =Scotch-Blue Original Multi-Surface Painter's Tape 1.88"
- ♥ Post-it 5pk 3" x 3" Pop-Up Notes 100 Sheets/Pad
- ♥ Gift cards for Target, Walmart, and Albertsons
- ♥ Monthly, quarterly, or yearly Scholarship funds for students

For the full list here is the link to the Target Registry: tgt.gifts/alcpreschool

Thank you for your prayers and support! Blessings,

Sara Westrope - Atonement Lutheran Preschool Director

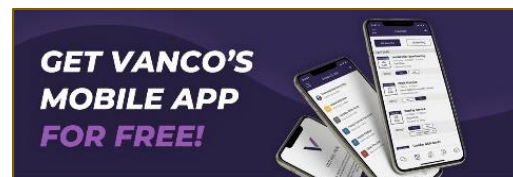
LWR SCHOOL KITS

We have collected enough supplies to complete 112 LWR school kits and some supplies to partially complete 100 more kits. To complete these kits, we need:

- 100 - rulers w/cm**
- 46 -70 ct. notebooks**
- 350 - #2 pencils**
- 6 -2 1/2" erasers**
- 25 - 24 ct. crayons**
- 39 - blunt end scissors**
- 20 - black or blue pens (no gel please)**

Thanks, Atonement, for everything you do!

Julie Leno



Give+ Mobile and Give+ Online will be retired the end of September. We are making the transition to the New Vanco Mobile App and Vanco Online for convenient e-Giving options. If you currently use the Give+ app, you will need to download the new app to make contributions or changes to you account before the end of the month. It will be an easy 3 step process; **1. Download the new *Vanco Mobile app* in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. 2. Search for Atonement Lutheran Church by name. 3. Engage, communicate, and give.** Contact the church office for more details.

CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT JULY 2021

General Fund July 2021		Building Fund July 2021		Building Reserve	
July Expenses:	\$25,734.47	July Monthly Mortgage:	\$7,240.00	7/31/21	\$19,181.05
July Income:	\$25,650.91	July Income:	\$5,374.00	6/30/21	\$21,047.05
July Net Income:	(\$83.56)	July Net Income:	(\$1,866.00)	5/31/21	\$22,794.05
Net Income YTD:	\$12,174.53	Net Income YTD:	(\$7,757.00)		

YOUTH NEWS

Starting Sept. 9th through the 19th, the youth attending the National Youth Gathering will be hosting a “Pie in the Face” fundraiser. During this time there will be jars representing each of the 3 chaperones for the 2022 gathering and by the end of the month whoever’s jar has the most money in it gets a pie in the face after the second service on September 26th. Votes will be between Pastor Darren, Nikki Groshans or Sara Westrope. So, bring in some cash or spare change to help support the youth in their goal of attending the gathering and then pick who you think should “get” the pie!

Confirmation Orientation is September 15th at 7:00 pm. In the past we have chosen to meet on Sunday evenings, however starting this fall we will begin holding confirmation classes on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Our hope with making this decision is that we can give families, staff, and volunteers Sunday evenings to spend with their families.

On Sept. 19th is Homecoming or Rally Sunday and there will be a registration table as well as games and fun planned for our Sunday School students PreK to 6th grade. High School Youth Group will also have its own registration table. Come say hi and register for High School Youth Group. Each high school student registered on Rally Sunday will get a chance to win a Scheels gift card!

On September 19th during the 10:30 am service we will be holding an Induction for all incoming 7th grade Confirmation students as well as incoming 9th and 10th grade High School Youth Group members. These inductions are meant to celebrate our youth’s next step in their faith journey. We annually celebrate the 8th grade class as they become confirmed, but we recognize it is equally important to celebrate those stepping into their first year as a confirmand as well as their first years as high students. So please if you have a 7th grade student participating in Confirmation or a High School student in 9th or 10th grade, join us for the second service on Homecoming Sunday, September 19th so we can recognize them in these milestones.

Instruction for 3rd grade Bibles will be on September 26th at 11:45 in the Jerusalem Room. Families will receive a new Bible for their child as well as some helpful information about using the Bible in daily life. The Bible will first be given to the parents, where they will be invited to personalize the Bible before being presented to their child on Oct. 31st during the 10:30 am service.

On September 26th at 9:15 am we will kick off our “Candy” Sunday School series. Kids will learn about how God’s love is even sweeter than candy and how God wants us to share that love with others. We are excited for this new curriculum and can’t wait to have some fun with it! On October 3rd from 2:00 to 3:00 pm our Jesus And Me (JAM) youth group for grades 3rd to 6th will meet. This hour will include games, fun and devotion. It will be held twice a month when possible and those dates are included on the Sunday School Schedule which can be found online or at the church office.

September 26th High School Youth Group will begin and will be held from 3:00 to 4:00 pm. This fall we will begin to follow the Rooted Youth series which aims to transform youth ministry and give everyone the opportunity for a grace filled discipleship both in the church and at home. The hour will start with a fun activity and then move into our lesson which will be followed by snacks and discussion. One Sunday a month our youth group will meet at City Brew in the heights instead of the church. Youth are welcome and encouraged to bring friends at any time! The schedule for High School Youth Group can be found online or on our Youth News bulletin in the commons area.

Nikki Groshans - Director of Youth and Family

doxfam@atonementbillings.org

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the Volunteers and Pr. Darren who helped make the first ever in Billings, MT, **National Night Out** a great success. It was wonderful to see so many young families and kids enjoying the evening. Atonement wants to continue to be a support to the neighborhood. Thanks again!

Atonement Evangelism Committee

Lorraine and Ladies of the church. Thank you so much for hosting the luncheon for the memorial service for our loved one Duncan McLean.

The McLean Family

Pastor Darren and Atonement Church Council, thank you for your generous hospitality to our youth traveling to Christikon in July. You have a beautiful facility, and we appreciated the quiet and comfortable rooms for our overnight.

Pastor Jay Rudi - Oak Knoll Lutheran Church, Minnetonka, MN

A special thanks to Lorraine Theurer who did a great job arranging for seven families to serve suppers to the family in Family Promise at the Day Center the first week of August. They were truly appreciative of the good meals and support that Atonement gives this important mission. Our next week of hosting Family Promise will be November 4th-14th when we will again do God's Work with Our Hands. Please prayerfully consider how you can be a part of this service to a few of the homeless families in our community as they work for independence and a life filled with things, we take for granted every day.



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SEPTEMBER 2021 AT A GLANCE

SEPTEMBER 2021

- ☞ Sept 1 Preschool Open House
- ☞ Sept 6 **Labor Day-Office Closed**
- ☞ Sept 8 1st Day of Preschool
- ☞ Sept 12 **God's Work, Our Hands Day of Service**
Stitches & Scriptures
- ☞ Sept 15 **Confirmation Orientation**
- ☞ Sept 19 **Homecoming Sunday**
Two Services 8am and 10:30am
- ☞ Sept 20 Newsletter Deadline
- ☞ Sept 21 Church Council Meeting
- ☞ Sept 22 Confirmation Classes
- ☞ Sept 26 **NYG22 Pie-in-the-Face FUNdraiser**
3rd Grade Bible Distribution
Lutheran Youth Collective Event "Luther's Olympics"

HOPE CIRCLE

Starting up on September 16th! Hope Circle Women's Bible Study. This group uses the "Lutheran Women Today" Bible study format. Meeting at 9:30am on the third Thursday of each month at Atonement. Contact Bette Wolff for more information.

J.O.Y BIBLE STUDY

Coffee, tea, laughter, and scripture with fun thoughtful life discussions. Meeting at 6:30am every Wednesday morning in the Jerusalem room at Atonement Lutheran Church. Contact Michel Poodry for more information

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Join us for our weekly Wednesday study of the Revised Common Lectionary Meeting In-Person at 10:00am. Led by Pastor Darren Paulson

Sept. 1st –
15th Sunday after Pentecost
 Isaiah 35:4-7a
 Psalm 146
 James 2:1-10 [10-13] 14-17
 Mark 7:24-37

Sept. 8th –
16th Sunday after Pentecost
 Isaiah 50:4-9a
 Psalm 116:1-9
 James 3:1-12
 Mark 8:27-38

Sept. 15th –
17th Sunday after Pentecost
 Jeremiah 11:18-20
 Psalm 54
 James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
 Mark 9:30-37

Sept. 22nd –
18th Sunday after Pentecost
 Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29
 Psalm 19:7-14
 James 5:13-20
 Mark 9:38-50

Sept. 29th –
19th Sunday after Pentecost
 Genesis 2:18-24
 Psalm 8
 Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12
 Mark 10:2-16