

MID WEEK ADVENT SERVICES 2017

We will be holding our **Mid-Week Evening Advent Services** at the Little White Church on **Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.**
December 6th, 13th, and 20th.

Our weekly **Mid-Day Advent Services** also at the Little White Church on **Monday afternoons at 3:30 p.m.**
December 4th, 11th, and 18th.

All are welcome to attend as we prepare our hearts for Christmas.



All committees are asked to have their 2017 Ministry Reports submitted to the church office by December 29th to be included in the Annual Report.

PRAYERS FOR MEMBERS OF OUR CONGREGATION

Pray for blessings, health, safety and general wellbeing of these members of Atonement. Give thanks for all who are working with us in the mission we share.

December 3: Randy, Kerri, Tanner and MacKenna Wagner; Robert, Emily, Madison and Nici Wallman; Mike, Pam and Thomas Walz; Rick & Deanna Ward; Dwile Weagel.

December 10: Dottie Weagel; Claire Webber; Tom & Kathy Weichel; Lenora Weist; Teague, Sara, Kiera and Arya Westrope.

December 17: Clint & Jan Westrope; Tyler, Amy, Graham and Owen Westrope; Jack & Anne Westrope; Mark, Shirlee, Derek and Kara White; Doug & Judy Wiberg.

December 24: Leona Wiberg; Corey, Tina, Canon, Mason and Rian Wicks; Britt & Virginia Wicks; Katy, Ava and Grant Williams; Tina Williams.

December 31: Sam, Deanne, Dayton and Samantha Willoughby; Cheryl Wilson; Dennis & Doris Winter; Ken & Nyda Wolery; Ruth Wolff.

Butch Morse,
President 534-4036

Michel Poodry,
Vice President 855-8446

Teague Westrope,
Secretary 860-7864

Marilyn Franklin,
Treasurer 373-2224

Eddy Baker
670-2526

Jason Beckwith
701-595-1932

Jay Berry
839-1632

Shellie Ehrmantraut
606-0463

Kim Mangels
256-2029

Walt Marten
245-6162

Linda Michaelis
259-1836

Colin Rubich
647-4483

Dixie Roseleip
(Alternate) 252-2546

Erika Severson
(Youth Rep) 252-6038

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CONNECT

JOY BIBLE STUDY

Join us every Wednesday 6:30 a.m. at Montana Jacks 520 Hansen Lane for this ladies bible study. For information, contact Tina Williams at 690-1200.

HOPE CIRCLE LADIES BIBLE STUDY

HOPE CIRCLE WILL NOT MEET FOR THEIR DECEMBER STUDY. See you in January 2018!

Contact Bette Wolff at 245-5054 for details.

MEN'S SQUARE FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The 1st Friday of every month at 6:30 a.m. Men of all ages are invited to join us for food, fellowship and a study in scripture. Be there and be squared. Contact Todd Koepf for details 256-1569.

ATONEMENT PRESCHOOL

Enrollment for children ages 3-5 years



Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES:

We will have one combined Morning Worship Service on *Sunday, December 24th* at 9:15 a.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES:

We will hold two Christmas Eve Candlelight Services on *Sunday, December 24th* - 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICES:

We will have one combined Morning Worship Service on *Sunday, December 31st* at 9:15 a.m.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB Friendship Club will meet at Atonement December 13th at noon for our monthly potluck. All are welcome, feel free to bring a guest. Please contact Sandi Gonzalez with any questions, 406-671-7199.

ATONEMENT LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

Happy Advent and Merry Christmas to all of our Atonement Family! Christmas is a day that is long awaited by children and adults alike. Christmas is hoped for, anticipated, waited for and as we wait, we gather for Christmas parties, programs, and celebrations with family and friends. Our preschool is no different!

This past month we really worked with our Fruit of the Spirit Goodness. The students work on the letters F, G, H, I and we had lessons on leaves, hibernations, and Thanksgiving. The students had a fun time in the dramatic play room where we had set up a grocery store to shop for the essentials for the holiday feast... speaking of feasts, we enjoyed a wonderful "Stone Soup" Friendship Feast with the students and their families and friends.

December brings a month of celebrations! Christmas parties: we will be having a Polar Express Day and a Birthday Party for Jesus! Our Christmas Program will be on Wednesday, December 20th at 11:00 AM, all are invited! Our December will be full with Christmas crafts, learning the program, as well as learning about the letters J and K and our Fruit of the Spirit Peace!

Our Schwan's Cares Fundraiser continues through December 16. Visit Schwan's-Cares.com and enter our campaign ID: 34259 and then order your goodies to be delivered to your home and enjoy. Please take a moment to check this out!

Merry Christmas from your friends at Atonement Lutheran Preschool, we are blessed to be a part of Atonement's ministry!

Blessings from your Director of Atonement Lutheran Preschool,

Sara Westrope - Atonement Lutheran Preschool Director



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Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Non Profit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Billings, MT
Permit # 904



Bring your camera and family to visit with Santa and snap a picture! Santa's making a special stop at the Little White Church, on **Saturday, December 9th!** We'll have hot chocolate & cookies too! Santa's busy schedule allows him time to be there from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. **Free and open to all ages!**

December 2017

December Holiday's & Observances - At A Glance:

First Sunday of Advent, December 3, 2017
 Second Sunday of Advent, December 10, 2017
 Third Sunday of Advent, December 17, 2017
 First day of winter, December 21, 2017
 Fourth Sunday of Advent/Christmas Eve, December 24, 2017
 Christmas Day, December 25, 2017
 New Year's Eve/Watch Night, December 31, 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
November 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
★ Advent 1 3 7:45 a.m. Cantor 8:00 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 6:00 p.m. Stitches & Scriptures	9:00 a.m. Preschool 1:00 p.m. Staff 3:30 p.m. Mid-Day Advent Service LWC 6:30 p.m. WELCA Christmas Dessert 7:00 p.m. Property	1:00 p.m. Quilters 5	6:30 a.m. Joy Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Preschool 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Youth Group 6:30 p.m. Mid-Week Advent Service LWC 7:30 p.m. Chapel Choir 6	7	9:00 a.m. Preschool 8	9
★ Advent 2 10 7:45 a.m. Cantor 8:00 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 p.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 6:00 p.m. Stitches & Scriptures	★Deadline 11 9:00 a.m. Preschool 1:00 p.m. Staff 3:30 p.m. Mid-Day Advent Service LWC 7:00 p.m. Worship Committee	1:00 p.m. Quilters 6:00 p.m. Finance 6:30 p.m. Evangelism 7:00 p.m. Education 12	6:30 a.m. Joy Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Preschool 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 12:00 p.m. Friendship Club 6:00 p.m. Youth Group 6:30 p.m. Mid-Week Advent Service LWC 7:30 p.m. Chapel Choir 13	6:30 p.m. Youth & Family 6:30 p.m. Outdoor Ministry - Archery Shooting @ Superior 14	9:00 a.m. Preschool 15	10:00 a.m. Youth Bake Sale Prep 1:00 p.m. Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal @ WyndStone 16
★ Advent 3 17 7:45 a.m. Cantor 8:00 a.m. Worship Youth Bake Sale 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Christmas Program 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 6:00 p.m. Stitches &	9:00 a.m. Preschool 1:00 p.m. Staff 3:30 p.m. Mid-Day Advent Service LWC 18	1:00 p.m. Quilters 7:00 p.m. Council 19	6:30 a.m. Joy Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Preschool 11:00 a.m. P.S. Program 6:00 p.m. Youth Group 6:30 p.m. Mid-Week Advent Service LWC 7:30 p.m. Chapel Choir 20	21	22	23
★Christmas Eve 24 8:45 a.m. Cantor 9:15 a.m. Worship 4:30 p.m. Candlelight Service 6:30 p.m. Candlelight Service	★Christmas Day 25 Office Closed	26	6:30 a.m. Joy Bible Study 27	28	29	30
★New Year's Eve 31 8:45 a.m. Cantor 9:15 a.m. Worship	January 2018 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31					

WE BRING THE HOPE WE SHARE IN CHRIST TO ALL!

PASTOR'S PAGE

"And a child will lead them..." Isaiah 11:6

It happened here at Atonement Lutheran – just last night. At confirmation, we were considering the 3rd Commandment – "Remember the Sabbath day and to keep it holy." Seems we can't get away from that one without taking into consideration our church participation.

In the small group, the leader invited the students to dream a bit... "What would your ideal church look like?" You could guess the answers. Contemporary music. Funky, colorful paintings. Pop dispensers rather than coffee pots. Recliner chairs for pews. Hamburgers instead of wafers and wine at communion. Music videos and more entertaining speakers. The list went on in a predictable manner.

But in a moment of silence, one insightful student asked, "But, wouldn't that make it all about us – and not about God?"

As we journey through Advent and prepare for Christmas, this is a good question for us to consider. *Is it about us – or is it about God?* That question might help us as we set our priorities in our daily schedule. It might help us wade through the temptations towards consumerism. It might help us think more clearly about where the divine is revealed in surprising ways.

As we near the celebration of the birth of Christ, we are reminded how the honesty and innocent of a child among us can awaken us to God's presence in our lives. In these coming days of Advent, keep awake, prepare, open yourself to God's love breaking into the predictable moments of your life. "For unto us a child is born..."

Peace in Christ, Pastor Darren



A Child is Born...

WELCA Christmas Dessert

Monday, December 4th, 7:00 P.M. Refreshments! Fellowship! Live Musical entertainment! Guest speaker! Door Prizes! We will also celebrate with the installation of our new WELCA officers. An offering will be taken for Christikon scholarships. This is a wonderful way to start off the Christmas season.

Come, join us...bring a friend!

Gifts! Gifts! Gifts!
 Gifts are on our minds and our lists this time of year.
 How about a gift to give that's free?
 How about giving the gift of time?
 Time is a very precious commodity in our society.
 In this season of giving, maybe we could all be more mindful of those 'nudges' we get to touch base with someone we haven't seen in awhile.
 Give the gift of your time
 with a visit or a phone call to stay in touch.
 God's Blessings to you this Christmas season
 and all year round!
 Julie Amundson - Lay Visitation Minister



The Outdoor Ministries will be shooting Archery on December 14th, 6:30pm at Superior Archery, 1680 Lockwood Road. Contact Gene Arneson for details 406-671-1552.

December

LOVE OFFERING

Montana Rescue
Mission Day Center

HOSPITAL VISITATION

Erin Koepp

BILLINGS FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

One Can Meals,
Pasta, Canned
Cranberries, Stuffing,
Peanut Butter

MARVELOUS MONDAY WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY MEALS

No Meals this month!
We will start up again in
January 2018.

Join us at 6:00 p.m.
For details contact
Julie Amundson

ALTAR GUILD

Sandi Gonzalez
Betty Jo Furstenberg



ACOLYTE	8:00AM	10:30AM
December 3	Ian La Ve`	Lauren Rodacker
December 6	*6:30PM—Easton Boyles	
December 10	Madisen Carter	Jenna Salveson
December 13	*6:30PM—Aubrey Hagerty	
December 17	Paige Mayhall	Isabella Garcia
December 20	*6:30PM—Kaylee Morgan	
December 24	*9:15AM—Trae Rickman	
	4:30PM	6:30PM
	Ava Williams	Kyler Mikkelson
December 31	*9:15AM—Simon Morse	

LECTOR	8:00AM	10:30AM
December 3	Marva Drain	Nancy King
December 6	*6:30PM—Aidan Morgan	
December 10	Mark Halvorson	Todd Koepp
December 13	*6:30PM—Jason Beckwith	
December 17	Judy Lawrence	Kim Mangels
December 20	*6:30PM—Roger Young	
December 24	*9:15AM—Linda Michaelis	
	4:30PM	6:30PM
	Jane Hansen	Kim Mangels
December 31	*9:15AM—John Olsen	

WORSHIP ASSISTANT	8:00AM	10:30AM
December 3	Pat Zellar	Stacey Arneson
December 10	Cindy Osland	Terri Porisch
December 17	Bill Belden	Jean Richard
December 24	*9:15AM—Dallas Kucera	
	4:30PM	6:30PM
	Tina Williams	Betty Jo Furstenberg
December 31	*9:15AM—Lora Pederson	

CANTOR	8:00AM	
December 3	Terri Porisch	
December 10	Kelly & Linda Michaelis	
December 17	Becky Lujan/Debbie Heyd	
December 24	*9:15am	Gary Dunmeyer/Eddy Baker
December 31	*9:15am	Terri Porisch

ADULT EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Adult Forum – Sunday mornings at
9:15am grab a cup of coffee and join
us in Jerusalem Room.

How Lutheran's Interpret the Bible:

Dec. 3	The Many Meanings of the Bible
Dec. 10	Devotional Bible Reading
Dec. 17	Feeling blue during the holiday season? Facilitated by Trudi Paulson, LCSW.
Dec 24	No Forum
Dec 31	No Forum

Wednesday Adult Bible Study
10:00AM at the Little White Church

Luther and the Psalms – The Psalms were foundational in Martin Luther's theology. All aspects of a scripture-centered Christian life, particularly as expressed in the Psalms, relate to Christ, because all prayers, petitions, and laments found their fulfillment in Christ. We'll explore five categories of the Psalms with reflections from Luther.

Dec. 6	Psalms of Thanksgiving: Psalm 23, 150, 46
Dec. 13	Psalms as Community Worship and Liturgy
Dec. 20	Psalms as Personal Devotion and Prayer
Dec. 27	No Study



The Christmas Pageant

will be December 17th
following the 10:30am service.

Also, there will be a pageant dress rehearsal at
WyndStone on December 16th from 1-3PM.

Contact Nikki Groshans for details.



About two months ago two new large screens appeared in our sanctuary to aid in viewing the projected images and music we see during our worship time. They are a great and wonderful improvement. Did you know that our Pastor Darren made them? Thank you Pastor!

Your Flock

Thank you to all who helped in so many different ways that made Atonement's Fall Bazaar such a wonderful success. From the skillfully crafted items, the yummy pies and baked goods, the canned goods and your special treasures from your attic's, the quilts and each of the donated silent auction items. THANK YOU! While the final tally has yet to be totaled, we believe we have raised approximately \$17,000.00. These monies have been earmarked for upgrading the sanctuary sound system and other sanctuary improvements.

Atonement's WELCA

YOUTH & FAMILY COMMITTEE

During Advent, the schedule for Wednesday night Youth Group changes!
Meet at **6pm** to share a meal; then we will worship together and have a brief check in! **All youth grades 7-12 ----join us!**

Looking ahead to 2018:

January: Come share fun and food at a **bonfire!** Dress warm and get ready to enjoy hot dogs, s'mores & hot cocoa. Fire master Jesse G invites all youth to attend from age 1-101!! **NYG attendees** will begin the Pre- Trip Meetings.

February: **Sausage** making & **Fat Tuesday** pancake feed

Other activities that are in the works: Curling, Bowling, Talent Show, Caroling and more!

The Youth & Family meeting will be held on **Thursday, December 14th** at 6:30pm in the youth room (not December 11). We welcome all who have interest in youth & family activities to attend!

This month, there are some wonderful fundraising events:

Gift Card Wreath: Buy one (or several) raffle tickets for a chance to win an AMAZING gift card wreath-- full of gift cards for local merchants and restaurants! See the details below.

Christmas cookies: The annual Christmas treat sale will be held on Dec 17! There will be a wonderful assortment of holiday treats & goodies beautifully arranged! You will want to pick up one to keep and one to share! More information can be found below.

Countdown to a New Year: Your contribution via the white envelope from the board in the fellowship area support youth to attend Christikon & the National Youth Gathering in the summer of 2018.

As always, thank you for your support and prayers for the youth & families of Atonement Lutheran Church. Any questions? Contact Trudi Paulson, chair of the Y&F committee (690-4351).



GIFT CARD WREATH RAFFLE The youth who will be attending the National Youth Gathering in Houston are putting together a gift card wreath which will be raffled off in December. Tickets will be sold between services on December 3 and December 10 and will cost \$5 each or three for \$10. The drawing for the winner will be held on December 17. Be sure to enter to win a variety of gift cards to lots of different businesses worth at least \$250!



CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE

The youth attending the 2018 National Youth Gathering in Houston, TX will be holding a Christmas Bake Sale on Sunday morning, December 17th. Enjoy a delicious holiday treat and support our Atonement youth as they prepare for a faith filled trip!

The Bake Sale Prep will be on Saturday, December 16th at 10:00 AM. We will be putting together plates of goodies. NYG2018 participants (and their parents) must attend the work session. Youth are asked signup and work a time slot on Sunday morning. We would love donations of plates, goodies, and cellophane (please no paper plates or tins.) For more information please contact Nancy King or Sara Westrope.



Open to youth
grades 7-12
Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m.
Trudi Paulson
690-4351
trkpaolson@gmail.com



Youth Group Schedule for Advent!

Youth Meal—6:00PM

Advent Service @
LWC—6:30PM

No Youth Group
December 27th

EDUCATION MINISTRIES

**Second Sunday
Sandwich's**
Sunday, December 10th

**Sunday School Christmas
Program after the 10:30
Worship Service**
Sunday, December 17th

No Sunday School
December 24th & 31st

CONFIRMATION NEWS

No Classes
December 24th & 31st



USHER/GREETERS December 3	8:00 AM Mike & Janet Rubich; Debbie Goodheart, Vicki Leatherberry
December 10	Mike & Janet Rubich; Linda Kern, Jo Bott
December 17	Mike & Janet Rubich; Colin & Kelsie Rubich
USHER/GREETERS December 3	10:30 AM Jack & Vivian Beals; Eddy Baker, Betty Jo Furstenberg
December 10	Russ & Suzanne Bender; Jason Beckwith, Kay Bollinger
December 17	Craig & June Canfield; Cindy Dunmeyer, Betty Jo Furstenberg
December 24	*9:15AM TBA 4:30PM TBA 6:30PM TBA
December 31	*9:15AM Mike & Janet Rubich; John Olsen, Bob Holloway

Bold Names indicate Head Usher(s)

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

December 3	Open
December 10	Open
December 17	Open
December 24	Open
December 31	Open



MONTHLY MEETINGS

December 1	Men's Square Fellowship Breakfast.
December 4	WELCA Board Meeting 11:45 a.m. Property Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.
December 11	Worship Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.
December 12	Finance Committee Meeting 6:00 p.m. Evangelism Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m. Education Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.
December 13	Friendship Club 12:00 p.m.
December 14	Youth & Family Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m.
December 19	Outdoor Ministries-Archery Shooting 6:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.

TRANSPORTATION

December 3	Leno
December 10	Kyle Johnston
December 17	Todd Koepp
December 24 *9:15AM	Craig Canfield
December 31 *9:15AM	Paul Mueller

Drivers
Leno's 248-5359
Kyle Johnston 325-1235
Todd Koepp 256-1569
Craig Canfield 245-6557
Paul Mueller 259-3565

COMMUNION PREPARERS

December 3	Trudi Paulson
December 10	Kathy Cypher
December 17	Bill & Judy Belden
December 24	Jay & Janelle Berry
December 31 *9:15AM	Tammy Johnston

COMMUNION BREAD

Tammy Johnston

COFFEE HOUR

Property/Handyman