Makin' Waves

Atonement Lutheran Church
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December 2018

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We at Atonement Lutheran Church reach out with the good news of God's love through Jesus Christ.

As Christ's ministry includes everyone, we, too, welcome persons of any ethnicity, gender identity, race, sexual orientation, marital status, age, economic situation, and physical or mental ability.

We celebrate the gifts each one brings to the life and ministry of this community of faith.

Office Hours

10:00am – 3:00pm
Tuesday thru Friday

Advent and Christmas Schedules

- Wednesday Midweek Advent Services with Holden Evening Prayer on December 5th, 12th, and 19th.
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Services with Holy Communion on Monday, December 24th at 7:00p.m. and 11:00p.m.
- A Service of Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 30th at 10:00a.m.(One Service Sunday)

Gather 'Round the Christmas Tree

December 9th

by Jean Amundson & Pastor Ed

Join the tree-trimming/decorating brigade on Sunday, December 9, at 9:15am or so, between the two services! There will be fun tasks, crafts, holiday music, and cookies for all ages (especially if everyone brings one or two dozen cookies to share). Cookies can be dropped off at the church office anytime from December 6th, or on Sunday the 9th.

Shannon White and his stalwart crew will put up the tree on Saturday, December 8th—let Shannon know if you'd like to join the crew. (Calling all stalwarts!)

This year, the tree will stay up until after Epiphany Sunday, January 6th. We'll be able to admire our beautiful tree for a whole month!

Also, donations of poinsettias will be greatly appreciated and will help make the Christmas services even more beautiful. For more information ...see article on page 4.

Thanks to all!

Income/Expense Snapshot...Atonement Lutheran Church ~ October

General Fund

	Current Year Actual	Current Year Budget	Previous Year Actual	Previous Year Budget
INCOME				
Members Offerings	$156,164	$154,556	$158,019	$154,213
Grants	$2,231	$2,442	$2,085	$4,722
Room Rents	$8,409	$6,914	$7,214	$7,635
Transfer from Capital Fund	$4,000	$20,000	$10,022	$20,000
Total Income	$170,804	$183,912	$177,340	$186,570
EXPENSES				
Pastoral Compensation	$63,618	$63,568	$61,765	$61,782
PastoralBenefits	$25,584	$28,105	$25,489	$27,833
Pastoral Expenses	$2,029	$3,036	$2,065	$2,945
Staff Compensation	$20,965	$22,972	$22,821	$25,849
Staff Payroll Cost	$2,826	$5,333	$3,184	$5,734
Worship & Music	$2,945	$3,103	$1,813	$4,486
Education	$248	$578	$376	$950
Youth	$418	$308	-$83	$177
Outreach/Hospitality	$800	$1,290	$924	$1,223
Social Ministry	$1,500	$1,917	$1,500	$1,917
Stewardship	$234	$292	$0	$911
Health Ministry	$0	$500	$0	$500
ELCA Mission Support	$5,500	$5,417	$5,000	$5,000
Parish Life	$879	$1,712	$437	$1,442
General/Administrative	$7,960	$9,636	$8,681	$10,022
Facility Maintenance	$14,564	$19,678	$16,415	$17,223
Utilities	$9,149	$10,829	$9,556	$10,096
Insurance	$8,822	$8,333	$7,508	$8,333
Total Expense	$168,041	$186,607	$167,451	$186,423
INCOME LESS EXPENSE	$2,763	($2,695)	$9,889	$147

Endowment Account

	Monthly Activity	Investment Account	General Endow	Scholarship	Memorial Gardens	Organ Upkeep
Balance @ 1/31/2018		$91,949	$36,184	$28,087	$9,947	$17,731
Oct	($6,329)	($6,329)	($2,490)	($1,934)	($685)	($1,220)
Balance @ 10/30/2018		$85,620	$33,694	$26,153	$9,262	$16,511

Capital Fund

BANK ACCT BALANCE @ 1/1/2018	-	-	$87,145
INCOME	$93,427		
EXPENSES		$78,633	
BALANCE @ 10/30/2018			$101,939

Prayer & Bible Study Please join us on Mondays each week for prayer /meditation and bible study. 5:30-7:00pm in Narthex. You are welcome to join us.

From the Pastor …

Pastor Ed Milliken

Dear Friends in Christ,

The month of December ushers us into the season of Advent and a new year in the church's calendar. Of all the seasons in the church year, Advent is probably the one least acknowledged by the world around us. Indeed, the world around us does not simply ignore Advent, it actively contradicts it. While the church tries to cling to a season of preparation and expectation, the world rushes on – more prematurely every year it seems – to a time of arrival and fulfillment. One of the reasons, I think, that the world seems to avoid Advent is that it is profoundly uncomfortable with waiting.

Waiting is most often seen in our world as a negative act, as something to be avoided. Waiting is idleness, waiting is a waste of time. Time must be used, filled up, made productive. We get frustrated with waiting and we want to hurry on, to get to the point, to get something done, to see something accomplished.

But consider another side to waiting. Waiting speaks of our incompleteness, our need for something or someone outside ourselves. We wait for a plane or a bus or a ride from a friend because we cannot reach our destination alone. We wait for news because others know what we do not know. We need their wisdom, insight, and skill. But more than that, it is trusting that someone will meet our need. Waiting is faith.

We wait for the coming of Christmas this month, of course. Those with even the least faith can understand that aspect of this season. But the Advent readings point out our needs – that to which we have faith, that for which we wait – yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

The season points us back to the time when God broke into human history.

The prophet Jeremiah will declare that *"the days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he will execute justice and righteousness in the land."* We wait for the one who brings these gifts of God to human history.

As usual, John the Baptist will be a companion in our walk through this season, calling us to prepare ourselves for a new beginning. Though his words can sound harsh and even threatening, he has been sent as a messenger from God to prepare the way for the coming of our Lord. The hard sounding words are meant to shake us, to wake us up, to stir us to contemplation and to action.

Finally, on the fourth Sunday of Advent, we come to the threshold of the celebration and our time of watching and waiting are nearly over. The time is right, the characters are moving into place, and the Christmas drama begins to unfold. Mary, who carries within her the Holy One who comes from God, sings a song of God's deliverance. Indeed God is doing great things, and blessed are we who slow down long enough to pay attention to what God is doing in our midst.

May this season, this month, be a blessing in your life and may it lead you into a deeper faith, hope, and love.

We would like to wish all of you a very blessed Christmas filled with love and peace, and a new year filled with God's richest blessings.

Pastor Ed and Lucy

Adult Forum News ... by Pastor Ed

The Gospel of Luke

Beginning on the first Sunday in Advent the church's lectionary leads us into the year of Luke. Join us as we take a closer look at Luke's story of Jesus. *A wonderful thing has happened, something that gives meaning in a complex world, order in the midst of chaos, and light in the midst of darkness. A savior has come, the Son of God, the Messiah. Luke's gospel tells the story of this savior and of the truth he brings. It is a truth that lays deep claims on the lives of those who would accept it, but that also provides salvation and life abundant. While others might tell stories claiming the world is without promise, Luke presents the narrative of Jesus Christ as good news, challenge, and hope. For Luke, this is the only story that makes sense of the past, offers guidance for the present, and secures hope for the future.*

Upcoming sessions:

- December 2 – The Galilean Ministry: Who is Jesus, Part 2
- December 9 – No Adult Forum – Christmas Tree Decorating
- December 16 – The Call to Difficult Discipleship
- December 23 – Good News to the Poor - Bad News to the Rich

Library Committee ... by Nancy Hilton

"Porch Swing Girl" is a young adult book written by Dolores Bennett's teenage granddaughter Taylor Bennett.

The story is about sixteen-year-old Olive Galloway whose mother has just died. Her father leaves her in Hawaii with her grandmother and younger sister as he goes home to the East Coast to settle the estate and sell the house.

Olive is angry and decides that she needs to go to Boston to save her family home. But she needs money for an airplane ticket. How she accomplishes this and what intervening events take place alter Olive's plan and how she comes to grips with her mother's death.

This is Taylor Bennett's first novel and was written when she was seventeen years old. A great gift for any young adult on your Christmas list.

Christmas Poinsettias... by Marian Brown

It's that very special time of year when we celebrate the season of Advent and Christmas. The special banners will be hung, the seasonal music will be sung and you are invited to help decorate the sanctuary and narthex with poinsettias.

Please bring your poinsettias to the church and place them around the base of the Christmas Tree, we will move them to the sanctuary for the Christmas Eve Service. You can take your poinsettias home after the service on December 30th.

Notes from the President... by Linda Kilbride

What Gifts We Share

In your own words, you have revealed a total of 124 different ways you share with your community and the world. From financial support to cooking for the hungry.

Many of you documented up to 8 responses on the little five-fingered paper hands we posted in the Narthex a few weeks ago. Gods Work Our Hands was a huge success and revealed so much about our generous congregation…we are truly committed to serve the Lord and demonstrate His love with others!

Full lists of your responses are available on the round tables in the Narthex. So many ways to give: financially, hours of service, commitment to local and national causes, dedication over the years and demonstrations of our caring and concern for others! Check out those lists!

Our commitments on the Gods Work hands are not signed… Wouldn't it be fun to have an informal scavenger hunt to determine and seek out personal testimony from the individuals who listed an organization or service they pursue? I challenge you to learn more about each other's commitments to serve! Check out the lists, you will be as amazed as I am!

Spiritual Memoir Class

No one else can tell the stories you can tell, but many people would love to read and hear them. Atonement is offering a class to help people share their stories and preserve memories.

This six-week class taught by Larry Lehnerz and is for beginning and experienced writers who desire to learn and practice the art of writing a memoir in an inviting and supportive environment. There will be no critique, no criticism and no judgment. Prompts will be offered to trigger memories along with helpful hints on how to shape them into stories.

Classes will meet from 1:30pm to 3:30pm on Sundays from January 6th through February 10th in the Narthex (upper level at round tables) at Atonement Lutheran Church, 2315 North Coast Highway, Newport. Participants should bring writing materials, and pre-registration is required. For more information, or to sign up for this class... stop by Atonement Lutheran Church, 2315 North Coast Highway Tuesday – Friday 10am to 3pm or call to register, 541-265-2554.

The Ties That Bind ... Mary Lou Mate

Our Quilter group next meeting will be Monday, December 3rd from 9:30am—11:30am. We will continue to meet on the first Monday of each month in the Fellowship Hall.

Samaritan House

Georgie's Beachside Grill will host Dine Out for Samaritan House December 5, 2018. Georgie's will donate 15% of the days proceeds to Samaritan House Homeless Family Shelter.

Thanks for your continued support of our homeless families.

Rose Davies, Volunteer

Property Committee ... by Marian Brown &

Room Rental: Our church facilities/rooms on the lower level are available for rent...short term events (parties, meetings, weddings) or long term (weekly or monthly) if needed. Please, check with our office for available dates and time.

Phone# 541-265-2554 E-mail: office@atonementlutheran.com

WELCA News ... by Jean Amundson

Christmas Luncheon

The Women of the ELCA (WELCA—and if you're a woman who attends Atonement, that means you!) will have a soup and bread luncheon on ***Wednesday, December 19th, at 12:30pm.*** Please come and be prepared to have a wonderful time. All are invited to bring just a few of their favorite Christmas cookies to share.

There will be a short devotion/discussion and some holiday surprises as well.

We hope to see you on December 19th.

Education Committee ... by Tami Johnson

Education Committee is seeking individuals willing to support our youth by teaching during education hour. You may teach once a month, once every other month or whatever works for your schedule.

Education Hour for our elementary students takes place during 2nd service, directly after the Children's sermon. Numbers for the children attending vary but range between one and five students per Sunday. We are blessed to have the nursery attendant join the group most Sunday mornings, which provides an extra adult to support our children.

The lessons are prepared in advance for you, and directions for what needs to take place are available to you. This is a special time to spend with our youth and supports the education committee in terms of providing extra supports, due to the fact that musicians on the committee are only available on specific Sundays, and others may wish to attend the earlier service at times.

First Friday Lunch Bunch ... December 7th Deep End Café

@ **12:00am.** Please, call or email office if you are able to attend.

Ponderings at Page Seven … by Susan Painter

Making A Difference

The November just past has been a difficult one. Anger and hate filled the national political campaigns. Greed and "black Friday bargains" seemed to shout more loudly than love and compassion during our Thanksgiving holiday.

Yet, as we turn toward the manger and God's promises of Advent, we can find stories of hope, examples of God's love at work in our world.

In Melrose, Massachusetts, Scott Macaulay hosted a free Thanksgiving dinner for nearly 100 people, a tradition he began 33 years ago when he chose not to have Thanksgiving alone.

When Kolbie Sanders called off her wedding in Texas, she donated her prepaid wedding site [worth $3,500] to another couple. A florist and photographer, hearing the story, also donated their services. The bride's grandfather, suffering from terminal cancer, was able to attend a ceremony he thought he could never see.

In Pittsburgh, after a gunman killed 11 innocent Jewish worshipers in a synagogue, a Jewish nurse cared for the man in the emergency room at Allegheny General Hospital. "Love. That's why I did it," said Ari Mahler. "Love as an action is more powerful than words, and love in the face of evil gives others hope [and] reaffirms why we're all here…"

In our own community, Atonement members hosted a Thanksgiving dinner for more than 30 families, many who participate in the Randy's Feed and Read program. The next Monday, volunteers worked with others at St Stephens to provide dinner for homeless folks attending Stone Soup.

Each of us has the gift of love. Each of us can make a difference in the lives of others. Actress Marlo Thomas tells the story of Ira Jackson, a retiree whose only income was Social Security. Nevertheless, he donated a small amount to St Jude hospital every month. When he was diagnosed with a terminal illness, he wrote to the hospital that he was concerned for the children after he died. He said he did not fear death, but his last wish was for someone to take his place. When the hospital shared his letter, 900 new donors came forward with hundreds of thousands of dollars. Mr. Jackson's own financial contribution was less than $100, but those who came after him, following his example, gave much more for the needy youngsters Mr. Jackson was determined to help.

In the Advent of December, let us turn away from gifts and glitter. Let us turn first to the manger and then to the cross. Let us remember their meaning. Let us recognize that each of us can make a difference. Let this be the season.

Dignity Drive during December and January … by Sally Jennings

Project Homeless Connect is an annual event connecting some of our poorest local people with a variety of services. This year, the one day event will be held at the Church of the Nazarene on January 25th. Our church has once again been asked to host a Dignity Drive. We will be collecting **new** underwear and socks during December and January, thus providing people with the dignity of having these basic needs met. Undergarments and socks for men, women, teens and children are needed. Dark colors are suggested. Warm socks are especially welcome during these cold, wet months. Please place your donations in the tub in the Narthex by January 20th.

Peace Village … by Rhonda Harman

Peace Village Newport had its re-start in 2011. Peace Village was created originally in Lincoln City over 20 years ago. Today there are about 1000 camps across the country and starting this year in Kenya!

Peace Village is a week long day camp, Monday through Friday, 9-3pm each summer for elementary age children. Specifically those who will be enrolling in 1st through 6th grade in the fall of that year. 45 children, called campers, a dozen teenage aides and about 40 adults learn about all things "peace".

Each morning 1st-2nd and 3rd-4th and 5th-6th meet in 3 classrooms to learn and respond in four main areas. The curriculum includes: using media responsibility, taking care of our environment, learning to resolve conflict in a positive way, about peace heroes of our world and mindful movement to calm ones' mind.

Each afternoon, campers choose one to three activities relating back to what they learned in the morning through crafts and fun activities. They could choose music, art, a hike in the woods nearby, yoga or whatever we offer. One of the favorites last year was making their own piñata and another was creating a Statute of Liberty.

We recruit volunteers of many skills and gifts and that is where you come in. Visit: www. facebook.com/PeaceVillageNewport or PeaceVillageGlobal.org for more information. You can contact me anytime. More specific information will be available in the spring. We will be doing talk shows on the radio and social media and newspapers.

The fee is very reasonable and scholarships are available. If you would like to make a donation, please do so and help us maintain this wonderful program. Send to Peace Village Newport to PO Box 1562 and include your contact info and email. Your donations to PEACE VILLAGE NEWPORT are tax deductible.

It takes a community and together we build our Peace Village. Campers and volunteers offer ways to confront bullying, making wise choices with social media and connecting with the natural world.

Peace Village strives to build a community with diverse ethnic, faith and cultural traditions living together in peace.

Help Wanted! … by Jean Amundson

Would you like to become a trained professional? No, really! We could definitely use a few more people to help clean up the coffee kitchen on Sunday mornings after second service. You won't have to work alone; there will always be two people doing the tasks.

The timeframe would be once every month or six weeks—or longer, if more people commit to helping. The tasks are to collect and prepare the cups (and occasionally, plates and silverware) for the sterilizing dishwasher, take out the trash, turn out the lights, check the door locks, and generally tidy up. Vacuuming is rarely required—just if there are lots of crumbs that might get embedded in the carpet. The job starts about 12:15 and takes about 30-40 minutes.

If you're willing to help with this task, tell Marian Brown, Mary Lou Mate, or Jean Amundson, and we'll put you on the list. We're thinking of a quarterly schedule, similar to that used by the offertory counters. Thanks in advance!

December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Nat'l Drunk & Drugged Driving Prevention Month		**Safe Toys and Gifts Month**			1 8:00-11:30am Weight Watchers Mtg (Ed Rm)
2 8:00am Worship 9:30am Adult Forum 11:00am Worship / Sunday School 12:15pm Ed Mtg	3 Office Closed 9:30am Quilters 5:30pm Prayer/ Bible Study 6:30pm Parish Life	4 **Santa's List Day** 6:30pm Early Risers 7:30pm Chancel Choir	5 **St Nicholas Day** 7:00pm Advent Service	6 8:00am Men's Bible Study Breakfast at Shilo Cafe	7 12:00pm First Friday Brunch @ Deep End	8 8:00-11:30am Weight Watchers Mtg (Ed Rm) Xmas Tree setup
9 8:00am Worship 9:15am Christmas Tree Decorating 11:00am Worship 12:15pm Worship/ Music Mtg	10 Office Closed 9:30am Property **Human Rights Day** 5:30pm Prayer/ Bible Study	11 5:30pm Social Ministry Mtg 6:30pm Early Risers 7:30pm Chancel Choir	12 4:00pm Finance 5:30pm HMT 7:00pm Advent Service	13 8:00am Men's Bible Study Breakfast at Pig N Pancake 11-5pm OCQG Mtg (FH)	14	15 8:00-11:30am Weight Watchers Mtg (Ed Rm)
16 8:00am Worship 9:30am Adult Forum 11:00am Worship / Sunday School **National Chocolate Covered anything day**	17 Office Closed 5:30pm Prayer/ Bible Study	18 *WAVES* **Deadline** 6:30pm Early Risers 7:30pm Chancel Choir	19 12:30pm WELCA 7:00pm Advent Service 7:30pm Council	20 8:00am Men's Bible Study Breakfast at Pig N Pancake	21 **Humbug Day**	22 8:00-11:30am Weight Watchers Mtg ((Ed Rm)
23 8:00am Worship 9:30am Adult Forum 11:00am Worship/ Sunday School	24 Office Closed 7:00pm Christmas Service 11:00pm Christmas Service	25	26	27 8:00am Men's Bible Study Breakfast at Pig N Pancake	28	29 8:00-11:30am Weight Watchers Mtg ((Ed Rm)
30 10:00am Worship	31			**Hi Neighbor Month**		**Make it in America Month**

Worship Page

Worship	Readers	Altar Guild	Musicians	Recorders
2 8:00 p.m.	Rhonda Harman	Marian Brown	Jerryann Olson	
11:00 a.m.	Deb Adamson	Bette Harmon	Jerryann Olson	Arnie Anderson
9 8:00 a.m.	Mike Rawles	Marian Brown	Marian Brown	
11:00 a.m.	Jean Amundson	Lois Greenwood	Marian Brown	_____
16 8:00 a.m.	Jane Heida	Marian Brown	Tami Johnson	
11:00 a.m.	Dean Hill	Marian Brown	Tami Johnson	_____
23 8:00 p.m.	Sabine Moresco	Mary Lou Mate	Melodie Mckenzie	
11:00 p.m.	Lily Phelps	Marian Brown	Melodie McKenzie	_____
30 10:00 a.m.	Jean Amundson	Bette Harmon	Tami Johnson	_____

Marilyn Day	12/2
Taylor Johnson	12/4
Shannon White	12/9
Susan Painter	12/11
Michael Banks	12/12
Tracy Goudy	12/12
Meredith Mann	12/25

26 Tom & Jean Hamilton

2 Bonnie Powell
9 Terri McCully
16 Jane Heida
23 Pete & Bev Kraack (Nicole's Birthday)
30 Dan Moore & Melodie McKenzie

2 Paul Stangeland & Walt Duvall
9 Walt Duvall & Bette Harmon
16 Bette Harmon & Paul Amundson
23 Paul Amundson & Bob Olson
30 Bob Olson & Peggy Gilman

Social Ministry… continues

Food for Food Share Program … by Terri McCulley

for all the support we have received for this program. Anything is welcome and helpful, but this month we will focus on: **Stews and Soups**

Randy's Reed & Feed … by Sally Jennings

There will be no Randy's Feed & Read Family Night Out events in December, due to the holidays. Our next Feed & Read will be on Thursday, January 24th.

Stone Soup … by Sally Jennings

Team Atonement *will not be serving Stone Soup on Monday December 24th*. The next Stone Soup will be on January 28th, at St. Stephens Episcopal Church.

Donate Your Jewelry To Be Jeweled … by Sally Jennings

Be Jeweled is an annual major fundraiser for Lincoln County Food Share. Here's a great opportunity to turn jewelry that is broken or you no longer wear into food for the hungry. Jewelry donations can be dropped off in the box in Raynette's office. You can also donate beads, buttons, watches, jewelry making supplies and jewelry boxes. We will be collecting jewelry donations all year long. If you would like a tax receipt for your jewelry donation or have any questions, please call the Food Share office at 541-265-8578.

Mark your calendars for the 2019 Be Jeweled Sale, April 6th, from 9am to 3pm. They close for lunch from noon to 1pm, and then everything is half price until 3pm. This sale event will be at Samaritan Center for Health Education, 740 SW 9th Street.

Thanksgiving Food Baskets … by Sally Jennings

All Time Record Number of Thanksgiving Food Baskets Delivered

Our Randy's Feed & Read events have been so successful this Fall that we had 22 hungry families sign up at our October event for Thanksgiving Food Baskets.

Samaritan House had 11 additional families requesting Food Baskets this year, which brought our total to 33, an all time record! Thanks to the generosity of the people of Atonement Lutheran Church, we were able to provide each of these local families with an abundance of food. We received all of the turkeys from two generous donors. We used your monetary donations to add dinner rolls, butter, a salad box, mini carrots, a salad cuke, grape tomatoes, pumpkin pie, spray whipped cream and clementine oranges to your food donations.

Our Thanksgiving Food Baskets helped families have enough to eat through the weekend. Special thanks to the great crew who once again made shopping for, assembling and delivering the boxes of food an enjoyable experience.

God's work, our hands.

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Return Services Requested

Reaching Out with God's

Reminder...

Audio Worship Services & Calendar on website

Fill our Food Barrel This Month: Stews and Soups