



Makin'

Waves



Atonement Lutheran Church

2315 N Coast Hwy—Newport, OR 97365

office@atonementlutheran.com

541-265-2554



Worship Services

Sundays @ 10:00am

Pastor John Smithies

pastorjohn@atonementlutheran.com

425-923-8558

February 2024

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Office Hours

10:00am ~ 3:00pm
Tuesday thru Friday



Website

Facebook Page

Sunday Worship Service on YouTube

www.atonementluthern.com



Ash Wednesday

12:00pm & 7:00pm

Ash Wednesday will be upon us on February 14th. This service starts out our Lenten journey as we remember our fate in this world, that we will all one day return to the ground from which we were created. And yet, our new fate in Christ is to rise again to eternal life.

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.



Lent



Beginning on February 21st, we will enter the discipline of Wednesday night meal and prayer.



Please join us at 6:00pm each Wednesday starting February 21st through March 20th for a simple meal of soup and fellowship, followed by Holden Evening Prayer @ 7:00pm in the Sanctuary. May this time enrich our hearts in the promise of God.

Signup Sheet for Soup & Bread will be on Bulletin board next to Kitchen.



Financial Snapshot ... ALC ~ December 2023

Report by Treasurer - Peggy Gilman



General Fund: *Revenues* during December '23 were \$ 9,497
Expenses during December '23 were \$ 18,593
Our Net cash flow YTD is \$ (1,012)
General Fund balance is \$ 21,691.83

Capital Fund: Our capital fund revenues from leases are current.
Our mortgage balance fell below \$ 341,814.13
Capital Fund balance is \$ 93,410

Dedicated Fund balance is \$ 16,273

Restricted/Endowment balance is \$ 131,059

A \$16,044 increase this year with YTD earnings of 13.40%



Vanco Online Donation/Offering

Our Vanco online Donation option is located on our website home & contact pages at: <https://www.atonementlutheran.com>.

If you are using this for the first time, signup is necessary to have your information on hand. Once you are in the system, it will bring up your information to complete transaction. If you need it, there is a *How to Use Direction Sheet* in the office.



Fred Meyers Community Rewards

Our supporters (21 households) who shopped at Fred Meyers between October 1, 2023 thru December 31, 2023 have contributed to our \$36.26 total donation.

If you would like to participate and support our church, please contact Fred Meyers and link your rewards card to **Atonement Lutheran Church (VB494)**.



Pastor John Smithies

There is a predictable pattern to worship, and it seems like every year we are amazed at how fast the joy of Christmas seems to melt so quickly into the journey of Lent. The brightness of the dawn amidst the longest night of the year gives way to the miracle of spring. The days start getting longer. The whole creation shouts out with symbols of new life, the power of the resurrection is all around us. But, before we get to the miracle and mystery of Easter, we journey in 40 days of Lent. Lent like Advent is a time of preparation, but the tone and mood shift toward self-reflection. For before our minds are not necessarily the warm thoughts of Christmas morning but the knowledge that our story leads up to the unjust execution of our Lord. The world is unjust, death is unjust, fairness is not in the cards, a crooked trial, a brutal murder, and a body laid in a tomb. God does not shy away from the problems in existence, but comes and faces them head on, even to the point of dying in Jesus. To mark this the blue of Advent preparational hope is changed into the royal purple to mark a more solemn occasion.

We also speak of Lenten disciplines, while this has fallen out of favor of late, there remains wisdom in this practice. But beyond giving things up as practice to strengthen our ability to resist temptation, it can also be a time of adding practice. A time when we may sacrifice some time to sit quietly in devotion or silence or possibly both, find an act of outreach. We don't grow by inaction. We do not grow in God, unless we tend the garden that is God's presents in our souls. There are many different spiritual practices available to us, some of which are tried and tested down from our tradition. I always love to hear what practices you might be doing this year and have conversations with anyone wanting to try something new. Just like I have greatly enjoyed the conversations people have had around their star word. Some of us, me included, are struggling with our star words, some have found it immediately meaningful and some of us are in the middle.

I hope people will continue to share how their word has unfolded in the years to come! I pray that as Lent approached, we might find meaning and hope in our practices, our rituals and symbols speak to us in myriad of ways, and may we use this time to grow closer to the God who is forever by our side, forever in us. And whose coming in Christ has defeated sin and death so that we may have unity with God, to be the people who live and know that Heaven and Earth are joined in our hearts through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen

Pastor John Smithies



Adult Forum ... by Pastor John

Sundays @ 9:00am—9:45am

Please join us on Sunday morning at 9am for Adult Forum. We will continue journeying through our weekly lectionary text. Our session is recorded and then sent out to the congregation the following week. I hope that our time is valuable together and we learn and grow deeper in our faith.



Adult Forum Brewmasters needed!

If you are willing to come in at 8:30am to set up and brew the coffee please sign up on the board upstairs across from the coffee station. **Thank you!**



Earth Summit

The earth Summit put on by our partners and friends the Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon will be upon us next week February 4th. Registration links for this summit have been sent out and people who have not registered beforehand, will be able to register at the door.

Ecumenical work is something I very much wish to be a part of and I am quite excited to start what I hope will be a yearly tradition at Atonement in hosting this event. The first portion will be an online zoom session with speakers from all sorts of walks of life who will talk about statewide issues, and then a local in person portion where we have community partners who will be present to talk about tangible ways to be involved.

In our Liturgy, as we prepare for the Great Feast, which is Christ body and blood, we sing in the words of Isaiah, "Heaven and Earth are full of your glory." The heaven part is easier for us to understand as being full of the glory of God. But, for me, Isaiah challenges us. Earth is also full of God's glory and presence. Every rock, every tree, every wave of the ocean, filled with the glory of God. To interact and care for creation is to interact and care for the presence of God. I hope that the earth summit is a way for us to deepen our faith and experience of the God who is ever before our eyes and who's coming in Christ Jesus causes the rocks to cry out in praise to God. I hope that we can host this summit and help our community partners feel welcomed and appreciated, and may the humble beginnings of this our first hosting of the event plant seeds that will grow. Please feel invited to this event and come to help make it a success!



Room Rental



Our church facilities/rooms on the lower level are open for rent...short term events (parties, meetings, weddings) or long term (weekly/monthly) if needed.

contact our office for available dates and time.

Phone# 541 265-2554 email address: office@atonementlutheran.com



Men's Breakfast Group

The Men's Breakfast Group meets at 8:00am on Thursdays at Pig N Pancake. If you would like to join us, just stop by. If you have any questions, please contact, the office.



WELCA will meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. This month is February 21st at 12:30pm. The meetings can be attended by zoom. All are welcome to participate.



ALC Book Club by Pastor John Smithies

To help us prepare our hearts and minds for the Lenten journey we will be reading "Take this Bread" by Sara Miles. This book is about an atheist journey of stumbling into a church and being transformed by the encounter of our sacred meal. This is a wonderful exploration of faith through the Lense of a culinary chef, justice, and food. May it be a good way for us to deepen what this sacred meal that we have every Sunday means, and may it grow our faith as we journey through Lent.



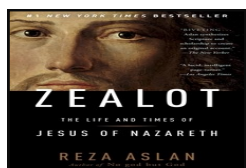
Hello from the Library Committee

by Bonnie Powell

*H*ello from the Library!

Please join us after the service on February 11th, Library Sunday for some fellowship and refreshments. We look forward to playing a couple of games—one is probably a favorite. BINGO! There will be prizes as well. You're welcome to take your refreshments to the table while playing if you like.

Thanks from your Library Committee!



Book Review ... by Dan Moore

Title: "The Zealot" by Reta Aslan

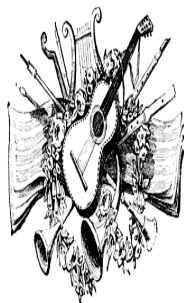
*T*he "Jealot" written by Reta Aslan, of Iranian heritage, is a well written book about the social and political perceived realities of the centuries leading up to Jesus' ministry and for the two centuries following Jesus' death. He discusses how the Jewish community was always in a state of revolt against whoever ruled them, only to tolerate them because of their knowledge, wealth, and how that has continued through the present time.

He discussed how the gospels were probably written by many people who wrote down the traditional oral stories they heard and, that until the Apostle Paul, most Christians were Jewish, versus Gentiles. He discusses the rift between Paul, Peter and James who headed the church in Rome. They insisted that Paul should be following and teaching Jewish laws to the Gentiles. A difficult book to read in several settings as there is a lot of liturgical terms and discussions about Jesus, who little, has been documented about. A lot of expert guess work went into this book with lots of quotes and annotations from many historians. Not an easy read!



Chamber Music Concert

Sunday, February 11, 2024 @ 2:00pm
Atonement Lutheran Church Sanctuary.



*O*regon State University's Castor String Quartet and Alliance Charter School Symphony. This Chamber Music Concert is a presentation of the Oregon Coast Youth Symphony Festival and is free with donations accepted at the door.

News to Share

Ghana Trip ... by Lori Painter

Greetings and Blessings from Phoenix, Arizona

Airline tickets have been purchased, visa applications applied for, vaccines completed, Airbnb confirmed today. My trip to Ghana to see Eva is going to happen!!

A little background first. I started sponsoring Eva through Compassion International, a Christian organization that teaches children about Jesus, pays for vaccines, school books, uniforms and many other needs. She was 10 years old at the time; this past May, Eva turned 23! Since Ghana is an English speaking country, we have corresponded since she was ten. We now text almost daily and video chat at least once a week. Once she finished her formal schooling, we enrolled her in a technical school to become a lab tech. Following her graduation, the Government hired her to work as a lab tech in a hospital for one year. This past November she started work full time in a private lab. I am so proud of her that my buttons could pop!! She has overcome so many hardships, but persevered. She is a Sunday School teacher (with 35 children!) and sings in the choir in her Lutheran Church. I simply cannot wait to wrap my arms around this beautiful, determined, talented, Jesus loving girl of mine!!

On February 2nd, I will join two former Ghana missionaries (and a husband) in Chicago where we will fly together to Accra, Ghana. When Marian found out about my trip, she told Pastor John and they instantly suggested I take some of the beautiful quilts the Atonement ladies and men have made. I have been blessed with ten beautiful, colorful, gorgeous quilts! The Bishop's wife asked Eva if I could bring some new altar coverings for the Church. I have finished sewing a set of white coverings and will soon start on new blue ones. I am taking chocolate for the Sunday School children, framed pictures of our family for Eva and gifts for her sisters. I will return to Phoenix on February 16th. I would appreciate prayers for safe travel and good health for the four of us. I would love for Eva to be included in your prayers. The most difficult part of my journey will be when I have to unwrap my arms from around Eva and board that plane.

Many thanks for the quilts and the prayers!

Blessings and love,

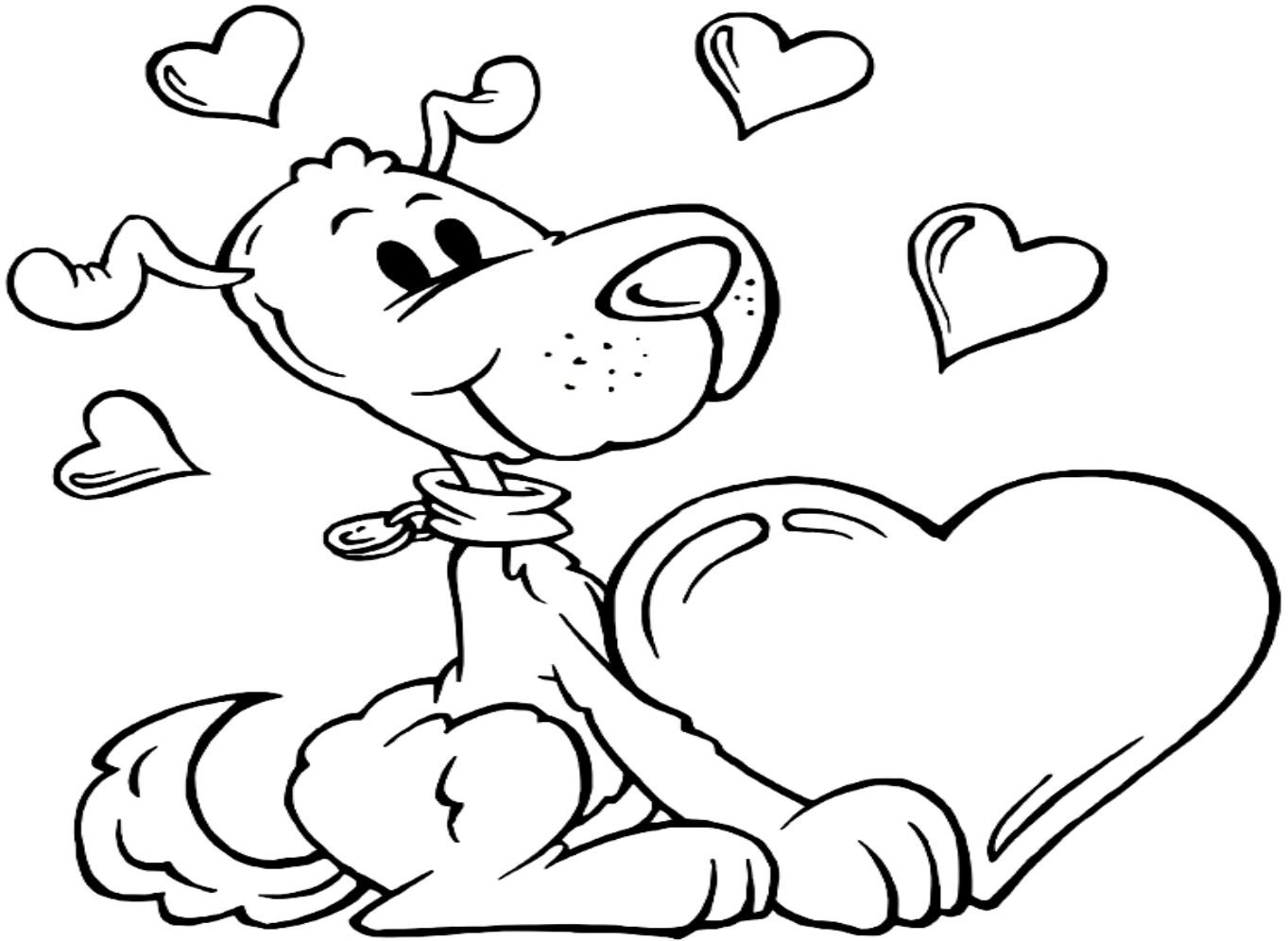




Kid's Page



Color me



February 4th and February 18th

The *first* Sunday will be a teaching Sunday and the *third* will be a project Sunday for the youth led by our committees. If you would like to participate in this program, please talk to us.

Youth in Worship

by Pastor John

We are encouraging our youth to assist in various ways on Sunday morning! We invite parents and youth to sign up on our sign up board and or show up early and let us know that you would like to assist. Our ushers are more than happy to assist you in everything! Our youth are a part of our service!

February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					2 12:00pm Blood Drive F/H 	3
4 9:00am Adult Forum 10:00am Worship In-Person & Zoom Sunday School 11:45am Choir 1:00pm Earth Summit Mtg (F/H)	5 Office closed 9:00am Quilters 1:00pm Quilters 	6 	7	8 8:00am Men's Brft @ Pig N Pancake 11am OCQG F/H 3:30pm S/M Mtg	9 8-4pm OCQG Workshop F/H Nat'l Pizza Day 	10
 11 9:00am Adult Forum 10:00am Worship In-person & Zoom Library Sunday 11:45am Choir 2:00pm Youth Symphony	12 Office closed 9:30am Library Mtg 11:00am Outreach Mtg County Emergency Management Mtg	13 9:00am Property Mtg 11:00am Parish Life Mtg	 14 12:00pm Ash Wednesday 4:00pm Finance Mtg 7:00pm Ash Wednesday	15 8:00am Men's Brft @ Pig N Pancake	16 	17
18 9:00am Adult Forum 10:00am Worship In-person & Zoom Sunday School 11:45am Choir 12:30pm Council	19 Office closed 9:00am Quilters 1:00pm Quilters 	20 	21 12:30pm WELCA Mtg 6:00pm Soup & Bread 7:00pm Holden Evening Prayer	22 8:00am Men's Brft @ Pig N Pancake	23 WAVES Deadline	24
25 9:00am Choir Warmup 9:00am Adult Forum 10:00am Worship In-person & Zoom 11:45am worship & Music Mtg	26 Office closed 5:30pm Stone Soup@ St Stephen	27 11:00am ALC Book Club Mtg	28 6:00pm Soup & Bread 7:00pm Holden Evening Prayer	29 8:00am Men's Brft @ Pig N Pancake 5:00pm ALC Book Club Mtg		



Worship Page

<u>Worship</u>	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Altar Guild</u>	<u>Musicians</u>	<u>Recorder</u>
4 10:00 am	Karen Grams	Marian Brown	Marian Brown	Arnie Anderson
11 10:00 am	Mike Rawles	Marian Brown	Melodie McKenzie	Arnie Anderson
18 10:00 am	Rhonda Harman	Marian Brown	Tami Johnson	Arnie Anderson
25 10:00 am	Dawn Donato	Marian Brown	Marian Brown	Arnie Anderson

	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Zoom Host</u>
4 10:00 am	_____	Dan Moore/ Maryellen Murphy	Cathy Devereaux/ Dan Moore	Travis Fox
11 10:00 am	_____	Patty Fox/ Rhonda Harman	Pete Kraack/ Cathy Devereaux	Barb Ward
18 10:00 am	_____	Jerryann Olson/ Bonnie Powell	Pete Kraack/ Dan Moore	Travis Fox
25 10:00 am	_____	Barb Ward/	Peggy Gilman/ Bob Olson	Susan Painter



Lucy Milliken	2/1
Jeanne Innis	2/6
Fantasia McCue	2/12
Lorinda White	2/12
Peggy Gilman	2/16
Timothy Merrill	2/17
Jeanie Merrill	2/20
Paul Amundson	2/21
Brian Johnson	2/22



4	Karen Grams
11	_____
18	Cathy Devereaux & Rhonda Harman
25	_____



Social Ministry ...

Food Pantry Program



Below is a list of the typical items that the Pantry would really appreciate receiving as food items:

Canned Tuna, Chicken, Vegetables, Fruit. Ready to eat items: Spaghetti o's/Ravioli, Chili, Baked Beans, Soups (Vegetable, Tomato, Mushroom, Chicken Noodle). Almond Milk, Individual Juices, Peanut Butter, Jam in plastic containers, Crackers, Cereals, Fruit Bars, Dry Pasta (Spaghetti, Egg Noodle, Macaroni), Top Ramens, Mac & Cheese, Rice, Dried Beans (Pinto) & Tortillas (Corn & Flour).



Red Cross Blood Drive ... February 2nd from 12pm-5pm

Please help by donating treats. We are known for our homemade treats. Please help in the "canteen" making sure people after their donation get something to drink and a snack. Contact Terri McCulley (541) 270-3424. Thank you.

Stone Soup ...

Team Atonement will be serving Stone Soup at St. Stephens Episcopal church on Monday, February 26th at 5:30pm.

We are asking for Pet Food donations to give out at Stone Soup.

Please leave next to wall across from upstairs kitchen.

If you would like to help: please Sally Jennings @541 444-2687

It is much easier to plan how everyone can help.

Donating to Dedicated funds

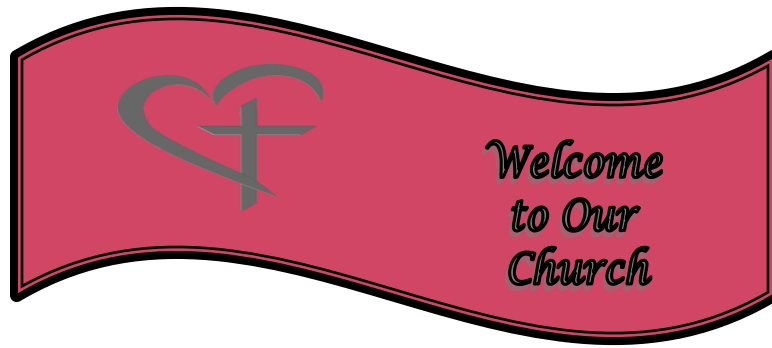
If you would like to contribute to the following programs and be part of Atonement's efforts and receive a tax deduction for your money – please make a donation to Atonement Lutheran Church. You can do this simply by indicating it on the "memo" portion of your check what fund you would like to support.



Gift Cards This program provides an emergency meal card for people who stop by the church and need help. We have been having a great number of people requesting food cards in the last two months. We are setting up food card limit per month because of restraint of funds. Raynette will be purchasing \$10 food cards from Food vendors as funds are available.



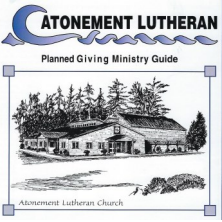
Support for Ukraine's Refugees ... funds collected and sent to our sister churches in Poland for Ukraine refugee relief every six months... June and December.



Reaching Out with God's Love

Website ... www.atonementlutheran.com

Check out our website. It includes newsletter, service information, events, activities on a daily, weekly and monthly basis. It is updated to include all changes & new events.



Estate Planning

*H*ave you remembered Atonement Lutheran Church in your Will or Estate Plan?

For your convenience and interest, we have pamphlets available on table near mailbox area .



*D*id you know ... **Altar Guild** is looking for some additional members. What is Altar Guild? Altar Guild is a sub-committee of Worship and Music and meets quarterly.

The following is a list of the committee responsibilities: Communion preparation for services as well as all special church services, flowers, care of candles, communion bread, baptismal napkins and candles, changing of banners and paraments, Advent wreath, Christmas poinsettias, Easter lilies, linen care and special needs for funerals and weddings.

I would be happy to answer any questions you might have and look forward to working with you.