



Makin'

Waves



Worship Services

Sundays @ 10:00am

Pastor John Smithies

pastorjohn@atonementlutheran.com

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Atonement Lutheran Church

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May 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



Pentecost by Pastor John

Every year for 50 days, after Easter the church celebrates Pentecost. Our main symbol on Pentecost is the fire of the Spirit's presence. The symbols are a little different than the symbol of breath or wind that we typically use for the presence of the Spirit. We invite you all to wear red in remembrance that the flame of the Spirit lives in us. In some ways Pentecost is the birth of the Churches ministry, the moment of transition from this Jesus movement that is for us, to the ministry of spreading the good news to all nations. We will remember this in our service we will be doing things a little different to highlight these symbols. And the great mystery is that God uses us to reach out into the world. What a great joy to know that we are given this purpose, to be the hands and feet of God for the world.

That leads me to what I am excited to talk about. After service we will be hosting a ministry fair in the narthex with the chance to see and hear all the different ministry work, we do. And yes, all this ministry takes actual hands and feet to do. I realize we might not do as good a job as we should in letting people know what we do and providing opportunities to help be a part of the ministry. And that is the really exciting part because everyone can play a role here, because if everyone does a little even just now and then, it goes miles accomplishing the work and might enable more dreams and vision. Sometimes we might approach this as an all or nothing thing, like I have to do everything, or I can do nothing. But this is simply not true. Because there are always the little things that can be done and now and then that

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.





Financial Snapshot ... ALC ~ March 2024

Report by Treasurer - Peggy Gilman



General Fund: Revenues during March '24 were \$ 15,963
Expenses during March '24 were \$ 19,864
General Fund balance is \$ 38,347

Capital Fund: Our capital fund revenues from leases are current.
Our mortgage balance is \$ 187,894
Capital Fund balance is \$ 97,829

Dedicated Fund balance is \$ 22,198

Restricted/Endowment balance is \$ 182,951



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.



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Pentecost

make all the difference. I am hoping that we can create a culture here of the "occasional angel," or perhaps the better analogy is help when you can. If you are available to cook a meal for someone in need, let the committee know if you want to swing by the church sometime and help set up tables. You can sign up and volunteer to help wash dishes one time per year for our monthly meals, etc. so many possibilities if we all coordinate and help when we can. There is all kinds of work that can be done and very little of it requires a long-term commitment. And to add to this we already do so much like this already, why not extend this approach?

Please join us as we will gather together on Pentecost, remember the story of the spirit moving as a tongue of fire, dwell in that promise, then go out into the narthex and dream and hope about how we can move as a church together in the love of God poured out in Christ Jesus our Lord.



Pastor John Smithies

Psalm 100:4-5

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him; bless his name.

⁵ For the Lord is good;
his steadfast love endures forever
and his faithfulness to all generations.

I know I have been here longer than 1 year. But, this last Sunday marked a year from the date of my Ordination. What an amazing journey it has been so far. And I wanted to take the moment to express my gratitude and love once again to you all, and to the community. We have been through some tough moments this last year and will go through some tougher moments in the years to come. But whatever comes we will face it as a community held together by the promises of the Gospel. We recently read the *Hidden Message in Water* by Masaru Emoto, in that book regardless of how we view his experiments of water, he made the claim that the two most powerful forces in the world are Gratitude and love. And I think we could all say a lot about gratitude and love. Indeed, our Scriptures say a lot about it. What is thanksgiving but another word for gratitude. Take these two together and you're dealing with almost every single page of the Bible. But these two forces are so interesting because they cannot be compelled. You cannot make someone love; you cannot make someone grateful. You can't guilt someone into these things or brow beat them. You can't even bribe someone into either. You can give someone everything, and yet they can still become ungrateful. We have all certainly known people who seem to have the world, and yet seem so miserable. They don't value what they have. This is why in our tradition these are called fruits of the Spirit because they are cultivated deep within us. We love because God first loved us, we are grateful because of the grace we have been given.

Gratitude is not some naïve worldview that does not see the bleakness of reality or the troubles that are out there. It is not turning a blind eye to reality. It's instead an appreciation for what you have been given. I think gratitude is seeing everything as a gift. And if you couple gratitude with love then you are on fire. Then the question becomes one of sharing. How do I share the grace that I have been given? How might I move in the world so all have the same opportunities, how can I raise up others. How can we live together with my neighbor with mutual love and gratitude. I know that this might sound "pie in the sky," hopelessly optimistic, but the only start I can make is with my own soul, as Jesus says, "look at the plank in your own eye before trying to remove the splinter from your neighbor." Love and Gratitude can change the world.

Again, I just want to say how thankful and grateful I am that I am your pastor. It is a true gift to be here with you. May we cultivate our hearts to be thankful for the gifts



Adult Forum ... by Pastor John

Sundays @ 9:00am—9:45am

We are continuing to spend time in Adult Forum at 9am looking at the lectionary readings for that Sunday and engaging in some wonderful conversations. All are welcome to come in person or on zoom or watch the recording the following week. We also have a special Adult Forum on May 19th. Jeff Fleming of Second Home Oregon, a ministry of our partner organization Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon will lead our decision on May 19th to discuss teen homelessness in Lincoln County and their particular ministry trying to address it. We will be sending out information shortly for everyone to review so we can all come to be educated and ask questions. Of course, the goal of all this is increased awareness and to show support for our siblings in the faith who are working to address these issues.

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!**



Flower Chart...

signup for Sunday Altar Flowers—Birthdays, anniversaries, in remembrance or just because you want to. Located on the Bulletin Board next to the upper meeting room. Thank You!



From the Pastor

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around us, the sun and sea, clouds and rain. May we be grateful to be gathered as a community of believers around a story of the Love of God who sacrifices it all for us. Be amazed at that story and this crazy mystery that we as the church are part of this story now, how God uses the church as the means of grace for the world. What a privilege and honor to be a part of that story! May we hold these two powerful forces together, cultivate gratitude and love in our hearts, continue to support each other, and yes face whatever challenges are ahead. Above all remember that we are not alone. We have each other, our communities, and friends. But above all God is with us. God moving in Christ Jesus towards the fullness of time when redemption will draw near. Thank you again for trusting me to be your pastor, for your love and support, and let us look forward to the many years to come as we serve and grow together.

Amen *Pastor John Smithies*



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.

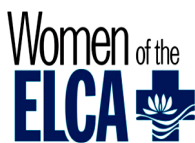
contact our office for available dates and time.

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 Pastor John at the office.



WELCA will meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. This month is May 15th at 12:30pm. Join us in person or Zoom in the Church Narthex in community for a time of fellowship and discussion.

All are welcome to participate.



Fred Meyers Community Program

Our supporters (20 households) who shopped at Fred Meyers between January 1, 2024 thru March 31, 2024 have contributed to our \$34.48 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)**.



Hello from the Library Committee

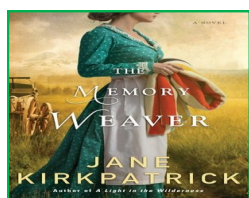
by Bonnie Powell

Hello from the Library * A new display of children’s books is on shelves by the windows. There are selections for different age groups.

* Please check out the Book Reviews on the Library Bulletin Board.

*There are some really great Book Markers for use by the checkout area.

Until next month, Happy Reading!



Book Review ... by Bonnie Powell

Title: The Memory Weaver

Author: Jane Kirkpatrick

The fascinating part of reading this book is that the setting is the Willamette Valley and the Walla Walla area of Washington. Towns of Brownsville, The Dallas, Ft. Vancouver are all woven into the novel.

This is the story of Eliza Spaulding and is based on the extensive research of the author from the memoir of the real pioneer woman, Eliza Spaulding who lived during the 1840’s-1850’s. Her life was influenced from a family life of missionaries.

Eliza carries a tremendous emotional burden as she and two other children were held hostages during the Whitman Massacre until rescued by the army.

I found this book to be really interesting as the author has told a compelling and believable story which was very well written.



Communal Meal & Holden

Evening Prayer ... by Pastor John

Second community meal and prayer May 15th.



On May 15th at 6:00pm we will have our second community meal and Holden evening service. Also, this will be our last service like this until September. We are trying to cultivate a deeper authentic community through sharing a meal together and to journey together through the mystery of prayer. And this is a community effort. I think we are still looking for a few soups to be brought. It is my prayer that we can sustain this program, and may it deepen us in faith and practice as we journey together.



ALC Book Club ... by Pastor John Smithies

Book Club, this month for book club we are reading *Accidental saints* by Nadia Bolz-Weber an ELCA pastor and author of some best-selling books. I often say she is the closest thing in our denomination to a celebrity theologian. It is going to be a fun and different sort of book than we have read so far about how God shows up in the lives of people we do not expect.

Please join the discussion on May 28th at 11am and on the 30th at 5pm.



Some Good Humor



Circus Comes to Church

When my son, William, was young, we belonged to a small country church. On Communion day, deacons would pass around the "bread and juice." One Sunday, we attended a church out of town that was more formal. What our church called bread and juice, this one referred to as elements, a word William didn't understand. As Communion began, the pastor said, "If the deacons will come forward, the elements will pass among us." William was suddenly excited and I didn't know why. Then he leaned toward me, whispering something that caused me to burst out laughing. With all eyes on us, I took him by the hand and we made a hasty exit. All the way to the car, he protested. "Mom, we're going to miss the circus. The pastor said the elephants were going to pass among us!"

Laughing in Heaven

Q. How can you make God laugh?

A. Tell him your plans.





Kid's Page



Color me



May 5th and May 19th



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!



May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Nat'l Physical Fitness and Sports Month</p>	<p>We Support Mental Health Awareness</p>		<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:00am Men's Brft @ Pig N Pancake</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p>9:00am Adult Forum 10:00am Worship In-Person & Zoom Sunday School 11:45am Choir</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Office closed 9:00am Quilters 1:00pm Quilters</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>4:00pm Finance Mtg</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:00am Men's Brft @ Pig N Pancake 3:30pm S/M Mtg 5 pm OCQG F/H</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>9:00am Adult Forum 10:00am Worship In-person & Zoom 11:15 Outreach Mtg 11:45am Choir</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Office closed 9:30am Library Mtg</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:00am Property Mtg 11:00am Parish Life Mtg</p>	<p>15</p> <p>12:30pm WELCA Mtg</p> <p>6 pm Soup & Bread 7 pm Holden Prayer</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:00am Men's Brft @ Pig N Pancake</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9:00am Adult Forum 10:00am Worship In-person & Zoom Sunday School 11:45am Choir 12:30pm Council</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Office closed 9:00am Quilters 1:00pm Quilters</p> <p>SAVE A LIFE!</p> <p>ADOPT A PET!</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:00am Men's Brft @ Pig N Pancake</p>	<p>24</p> <p>WAVES Deadline</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9:00am Adult Forum 9:00 am Choir 10:00am Worship In-person & Zoom 11:45am Worship & Music Mtg</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Office closed</p> <p>5:00pm Stone Soup @ St Stephen</p>	<p>28</p> <p>11:00am ALC Book Club Mtg</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:00am Men's Brft @ Pig N Pancake</p> <p>5:00am ALC Book Club Mtg</p>	<p>31</p>	



Worship Page

Worship

Readers

Altar Guild

Musicians

Recorder

5 10:00 am	Darcy dela Rosa	Marian Brown	Tami Johnson/ Marian Brown	Arnie Anderson
12 10:00 am	Rhonda Harman	Marian Brown	Melodie McKenzie	Arnie Anderson
19 10:00 am	Sandy Cramer	Marian Brown	Tami Johnson	Arnie Anderson
26 10:00 am	Brenda Grall	Marian Brown	Marian Brown	Arnie Anderson

Ushers

Greeters

Counters

Zoom Host

5 10:00 am	_____	Dan Moore/ Maryellen Murphy	Bob Olson / Peggy Gilman	Susan Painter
12 10:00 am	_____	Dan Moore/ Rhonda Harman	Peggy Gilman / Cathy Devereaux	Travis Fox
19 10:00 am	_____	Patty Fox/ Jerryann Olson	Cathy Devereaux / Pete Kraack	Travis Fox
26 10:00 am	_____	Maryellen Murphy/ Bonnie Powell	Pete Kraack / Dan Moore	Barb Ward



Bob Olson	5/4	Karen Grams	5/23
Jim Ezzell	5/5	Deborah Adamson	5/24
Laura Swanson	5/9	Tami Johnson	5/25
Helen Ezzell	5/11		
Penelope McCue	5/11		
Lily Phelps	5/20		
Tim Miller-Morgan	5/20		
Jan Day	5/21		
Kay Ames	5/21		



Kevin & Cindy Ward 5/3



5	_____
12	_____
19	_____
26	_____



Social Ministry ...

Food Pantry Program



Here 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).



Stone Soup

Team Atonement will be serving Stone Soup at St. Stephens Episcopal church on Monday, May 27th at 5:00pm. We are asking for *Pet Dog Food donations* to give out. Please leave next to wall across from upstairs kitchen.

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

It is much easier to plan how everyone can help.



Sponsor Flowers for Foster Families

May is Foster Family Appreciation Month. DHS and Every Child have teamed up to provide a hanging flower basket to every foster family in Lincoln County. Baskets are \$20 each. Our church has pledged to sponsor 15 baskets. If you would like to help fund our pledge, and say thank you to foster families, please make your check out to Atonement Lutheran Church and write Flower Baskets on the memo line.

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. Raynette will be purchasing \$10 food cards from Food vendors as funds are available.



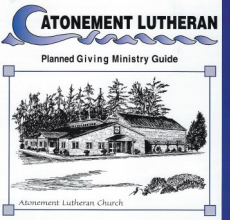
Support for Ukraine's Refugees ... funds collected will be sent to our sister churches in Poland for Ukraine refugee relief every six months.



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

Have 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 .



Did 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.