



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

**Where all are welcome,
and all means all.**

March 2026

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

Christ's ministry includes everyone, we, too, welcome persons of any ethnicity, gender identity, gender expression, race, sexual orientation, marital status, age, economic situation, and physical or mental ability. And we are committed to a vision of racial equity.

All are welcome to join us for any and all activities held at Atonement Lutheran Church



Office Hours - 10:00am ~ 3:00pm

Tuesday thru Friday

Website / Facebook Page

Sunday Worship Service on YouTube

www.atonementlutheran.com

Lent Activities at Atonement:

- **SOUP SUPPERS AND HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER – Wednesdays in Lent**
 - Soup Supper @ 6:00 pm downstairs in the Fellowship Hall
 - Holden Evening Prayer @ 7:00 pm in the church
- **CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER** – Wednesdays at noon in the church
- **CATERPILLARS**
 - As an activity for Lent we invite you to take home a caterpillar, do a "thing" for Lent, and return the caterpillar to the cocoon on the Greeter Table.



Maundy Thursday - April 2nd @ 7 pm Good Friday - April 3rd @ 7 pm

Easter Vigil - April 4th @ 7 pm Easter Sunday - April 5th @ 10 am

Easter Brunch after Service in Fellowship Hall

Financial Snapshot

Report by Treasurer - Peggy Gilman

Updates for January 2026

General Fund:	Revenues	\$ 23,048
	Expenses	\$ 19,882
	General Fund balance	\$ 58,156
Capital Fund:	Our capital fund revenues from leases are current.	
	Our mortgage balance	\$ 65,195
	Capital Fund balance	\$ 155,783
Dedicated Fund balance		\$ 17,688
Undedicated Fund balance		\$ 7,875
Restricted/Endowment balance		\$ 168,861



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 the transaction. There is a *How to Use Vanco Direction Sheet* on the table in the Narthex.



Meyers Community Rewards Program

The Kroger Co. Family of Stores is committed to bringing hope and help to the local neighborhoods we call home. Our stores are on a mission to not just be a part of, but to help create a stronger community. We recognize that every community has unique causes that need support.

If you would like to participate and support our church, please go to the Fred Meyers website: www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards and link your rewards card to **Atonement Lutheran Church (VB494)**.

For the fourth quarter of 2025 (October - December) we received \$45.10!

Adult Forum sundays @ 9:00am

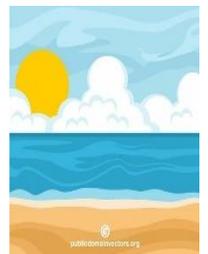
by Pastor John Smithies

We would like to invite everyone to Adult Forum before worship service on Sundays. This is a time to go deeper into the text, ask questions, enjoy fellowship and ponder mysteries. We strive for honest conversation where multiple views are honored and respected. Come with open hearts and minds and join the journey.

Beach Walks / Fellowship Fun

by Pastor John Smithies

If you are looking for a time to informally meet at church - this is it. If it is a clear day and we want to go out for a walk we can, or if we want to sit around the table with coffee and catch up for a bit that is great too. Like the beach walk the discussion will be up to the Spirit. People should feel free to drop in for as long or as little as they would want.





Pastor John Smithies



Lent as Fractal

I talk about fractals a lot. We know fractals as those mathematical gems where the whole is reflected in the part. Zoom in on a fractal and the same pattern appears again and again. The small contains the large. The part carries the whole.

I have often said that symbols work this way. In fact, this may be one of the only ways to truly understand the world. We are all unique. That is true. But we are also reflections of the divine life. The leaf bears the image of the tree. The drop carries the character of the ocean.

This is what I believe the great mystics mean when they speak of unity. It is not simply a feeling of belonging. It is not emotional warmth. It is the recognition that we are part of a pattern that is repeating itself, a single life expressing itself at every level of existence.

This is at the heart of Paul's theology. In Colossians he writes, "For in him all things were created, things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible. All things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together." And then he continues, "Through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross." I take that phrase "all things" very seriously. By now you know that "all" has a very simple definition for me. It means all. And that means all. And that means all.

Paul later says, "Christ is all and in all." If that is true, then Christ is not simply part of the pattern. Christ is the pattern itself. From the first moment of creation to the last, everything that exists bears his shape. And the Church dares to say something even more startling: the cross is the fullest revelation of who Christ is.

That sounds strange at first. Can we really say that all of existence is summed up in the image of Christ on the cross, dying so that we might live? John's Gospel pushes us firmly in that direction. "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up." In John, to be lifted up means to be crucified. It also means to be exalted. Notice that it is both. It is the fullness of the pattern of existence.

This is fractal language. On the cross, Christ holds all things together. He is proclaimed King and executed as a criminal. He reigns from an instrument of death, which gives life. He is at once victory and apparent defeat, divine majesty and human humiliation, judgment and mercy, justice and forgiveness, power and vulnerability. Not one after the other. All at once, Christ is holding all things in himself.

This is not irony. It is revelation. If Christ is all and in all, then the cross does not merely tell us about Jesus. It reveals the pattern of reality itself. Life comes through surrender. Glory comes through humility. Resurrection comes through death.

(continued on next page)

If the cross contains the whole pattern, then Lent is a smaller reflection of it. In these forty days we practice the shape of Christ's life. We surrender so that something truer may rise. We confess so that reconciliation may take root. We loosen our grip so that we may learn to receive.

And in doing so, we discover that the pattern of the cross is not foreign to us. It is already written into us. We are dust and breath. We are broken and beloved. We are, as Luther would say, saint and sinner at the same time, both held together in Christ. Lent is not about becoming something we are not. It is about awakening to the pattern we already bear.

Christ is all. Christ is in all. And when he is lifted up, we finally see the pattern clearly. The King reigns as a criminal. Love conquers by surrender. And in that strange and beautiful unity, all things are being reconciled.

Amen, *Pastor John*

Room Rental

Our church facilities/rooms are available for rent. We offer space for one-time events such as parties, meetings or weddings; or long-term rentals for weekly or monthly events.

Contact the office for available dates and times.



Email And Text Caution

Scammers target churches because we are compassionate people. They may send emails or text messages that appear to come from Pastor John or the office, asking for assistance. Don't be fooled! Please call the office if you are unsure about a message.

Come Join our Service Programs!

Are you interested in Social Ministry? Or Parish Life, Outreach, Library, Property, Altar Guild or more? Please pick up a copy of committee program information on the Take-It-Home table by the office. We would love to have your help!

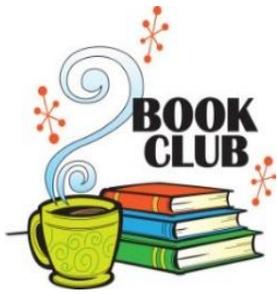


Coffee Hour by Sandy Cramer

We could sure use some help with set up before Worship! Talk to Sandy about ways to help!

The sign up sheet for bringing goodies has been moved to a clip board on the snack table. Snacks and goodies are always appreciated, either for the current week or to store in the pantry for later!





ALC Book Club by Pastor John Smithies

Miracles and Wonder: The Historical Mystery of Jesus
(Part 1) by Elaine Pagels

Join us March 24th at 11:00 am and/or March 26th at 5:00 pm
in person in the Narthex, or on Zoom.

We are diving into a different sort of work this month with Elaine Pagels' *Miracles and Wonders*. Pagels belongs to a group of scholars known for studying the "Historic" Jesus. In its most honest form that simply means what can the historian say from the "scientific" method of scholarship. We will find as we work through this work that the scholar always has much more to say than this, and I will have much more to say about this in our discussion. The great part of this work though is her insistence that we ask the question what does this mean? I think that through this work we can find new layers of meaning in the story of Christ. We will also be coming near the end of Lent and will celebrating the Resurrection before you know it, so it seemed right to have a work that will deal with the death and resurrection. Because this work is so deep, we are going to read it both this month and for next. So come strap in for the ride with its miracles and wonders and come join the discussion on the fourth Tuesday or Thursday! We will read up to chapter three for this first month.

Our Book Club schedule for the next 6 months:

March: *Miracles and Wonder: The Historical Mystery of Jesus* (Part 1) by Elaine Pagels

April: *Miracles and Wonder: The Historical Mystery of Jesus* (Part 2) by Elaine Pagels

May : *Heirs to Forgotten Kingdoms* by Gerard Russell

June: *Braiding Sweet Grass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer

July *Proof of Heaven: A Neurosurgeons Journey into the Afterlife* by Eben Alexander, M.D.

August: *Soul Surfer* by Bethany Hamilton



WELCA will meet on March 11 for the monthly scripture study from Gather Magazine. We will be looking at Session One – "God's name, God's promise" by the Rev. Hannah Hawkinson



Men's Breakfast Group by Pastor John Smithies

We meet weekly on Thursday morning for breakfast at Pig 'N Pancake at 8 am. If you are looking for an invitation to join deeper into our community, there is no better way than to break bread together. The invitation is always open to grab some food, enjoy the friendly banter and participate in the community.

Lights of Christmas

Stay tuned for an update after the planning meeting on March 1 at noon!

Request to limit fragrances

All are joyfully welcome in our church! To help everyone worship and fellowship in comfort, we invite attendees to abstain from strong perfumes and colognes, in order to care for those with allergies and sensitivities. Thank you for sharing this spirit of care.

A Corner Of Hope by Susan Painter, Council Vice President

"When things look hopeless, you are the hope."

-Congressman Jamie Raskin, sharing advice from his Dad

Masked troops in our streets, fellow citizens snatched from cars because they look different, wars and threats of war: the universe seems gloomy, grotesque, Godless. And now the season of Lent urges us into "giving up."

But what about those small green caterpillars who suddenly appeared in our bulletins and in the Narthex? They brought a smile, their brown cocoon cozy and inviting. As they encouraged us to "do a thing for Lent," I decided my first "thing" would be to start each day with gratitude. So as I wake, I give thanks for at least three things each morning.

There are simple things: my furry companion, reasonably good health, clean air.

There are more complicated things: a roof over my head, a profession I love, a chance to write.

With gratitude comes hope. And so, instead of turning to a television, reaching for a "device" or opening the occasional newspaper, I start my day with prayer, thanks and a search for hope.

I found it recently in a story about a few hundred musicians and singers standing on a frozen lake in Minneapolis singing, "Hold On."

I found it in the two fragile daffodils my neighbor brought me on a morning walk – bright blooms poking up in surprise from a centuries-old frosty field near his mother's house.

And I found it, wandering through the Newport library, when I opened a book called *The Water Remembers*, by Amy Bowers Cordalis. It's a tale of the Yurok Nation in northern California. Beginning when we invaders tried to "colonize" them, they fought to keep their songs, their dances and their way of life, tethered to a balance with Creation. Most important was preserving the salmon – their Nation's lifeblood. Through generations, the author, a Yurok attorney, traces her family's strength, resistance and resilience. Forming an unlikely alliance with a power company, they convinced the government to demolish the four dams on the Klamath. They finally restored the river up which the salmon now swim free.

In the process, Ms. Cordalis observed thoughtfully, "In Yurok, there are no swear words because it's unhealthy to have such bad will in your head." Let us put aside labels and differences. Let us look for unlikely partnerships to make our world better.

This season of Lent, as we wait for the caterpillars to emerge transformed from their cocoon, let us be grateful and become the hope our world needs.

Gardening Club Grafting Demonstration by Emily Johnston March 26th at 1 pm!!!

Grafting is the art of plant propagation in which a branch (scion) from a fruit tree with the fruit qualities you want is joined to the stem (rootstock) of a fruit tree with the root qualities you want. I've been learning grafting with the Home Orchard Education Center and one thing that I've learned is the cuts made on the plants are difficult and dangerous. Therefore, for safety reasons, instead of a *workshop* we will be having a grafting *demonstration*, open to everyone, no sign up necessary. For those who want some hands-on participation, there will be opportunities to join and wax the plants together at the demonstration. Once the trees are grafted, they will sit and heal for one year. In the spring of 2027, we will have another grafting demonstration and will be ready to plant the trees from this year's demonstration. We will try to have a tree available for everyone who wants one, but if demand is high (or overwinter survival low), trees will be made available on a first come, first serve basis. Please join us for the grafting demonstration on Thursday, March 26th, 2026, at 1 pm in the Fellowship Hall!



HOPE Team by Brenda Grall

First contact has been made with our family for the Hope Team, yay! The mom was very appreciative, though reiterated that it's a little hard to be on the receiving end of help. I assured her that we think they are doing a wonderful thing and want to come alongside them to support their good work.

Thank you: Sally for the pans of homemade mac and cheese for their freezer. Dan for the agates and box of gifts. They also received a hot meal of tacos and clean laundry, 6 loads worth!

Current ways you can help:

1. Meals for their family of 11 (frozen, hot, delivery or gift card).
2. Laundry (We met here in Newport, then I returned laundry at end of day.)
3. Monetary donations for meals, etc (to church with designation Hope Team).
4. If you have a hitch, take their trailer of trash to the dump.
5. Leads on fuel efficient, used cars for sale for their many young drivers needing to get to work.
6. Notes of encouragement.

Please reach out and let me know if you'd like to be involved and please continue to pray for their family and this ministry. Thanks!

Women's Weekend at Camp Lutherwood

Join other women of the church for a special weekend July 31st -August 2nd. Reflect, rest and renew! Daily study and worship! Cost of \$200 includes lodging, meals and programming. Let Brenda Grall or the church office know of your interest so that you can be included in our group.



Kid's Page Color me



DirectColoring.com



Sunday School We will have classes on the first and third Sundays of the month. Teachers and assistants are needed, see Darcy de la Rosa or Sarah Black for more information.

Youth in Worship

We love to encourage our children and teens to assist in various ways on Sunday morning! Our ushers are more than happy to assist you in everything! We enjoy seeing our youth assist with worship!



March 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>9:00am Adult Forum 10:00am Worship In-person & Zoom 10:00am Sunday School 11:30am Choir 12:00pm Lights of Christmas Mtg</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10:45am Library Meeting</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>12:00noon Contemplative Prayer 6:00pm Simple Supper 7:00pm Holden Prayer</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:00am Men's Bfst @ Pig 'N Pancake 11:00am Beach wk. / Fellowship & Fun</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:00am Adult Forum 10:00am Worship In-person & Zoom 11:15am Outreach 11:30 Choir 12:00pm Worship & Music Mtg</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>12:00noon Contemplative Prayer 12:45pm WELCA 6:00pm Simple Supper 7:00pm Holden Prayer</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:00am Men's Bfst @ Pig 'N Pancake 11:00am Beach wk. / Fellowship & Fun 2:15pm Social Ministry Mtg</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:00am Adult Forum 10:00am Worship In-person & Zoom 10:00am Sunday School 11:30am Choir 2:00pm Youth Symph.</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>12:00noon Contemplative Prayer 6:00pm Simple Supper 7:00pm Holden Prayer</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:00am Men's Bfst @ Pig 'N Pancake 11:00am Beach wk. / Fellowship & Fun 6:30pm Finance Mtg</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:00am Adult Forum 10:00am Worship In-person & Zoom 11:30am Choir 12:00pm Council Mtg</p>	<p>23</p> <p>5:00pm Stone Soup @ St Stephen</p>	<p>24</p> <p>11:00am ALC Book Club</p>	<p>25</p> <p>12:00noon Contemplative Prayer 6:00pm Simple Supper 7:00pm Holden Prayer</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8:00am Men's Bfst @ Pig 'N Pancake 11:00am Beach wk. / Fellowship & Fun 1:00pm Grafting Demonstration 5:00pm ALC Book Club</p>	<p>27</p> <p>WAVES Deadline</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:00am Adult Forum 9:00am Choir Warm up 10:00am Worship In-person & Zoom</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>				

Worship Page

<u>Worship</u>	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Altar Guild</u>	<u>Musicians</u>	<u>Recorder</u>
1 10:00 am	Lynn Moody	Darcy de la Rosa	Tami Johnson	Arnie Anderson
8 10:00 am	Alder <small>(David Cramer)</small>	Bill Innis	Melodie McKenzie	Arnie Anderson
15 10:00 am	Darcy de la Rosa	Sally Woodward	Tami Johnson	Arnie Anderson
22 10:00 am	Brenda Grall	Karen Johnson	Melodie McKenzie	Arnie Anderson
29 10:00 am	Sandy Cramer		Tami Johnson	
	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Zoom Host</u>
1 10:00 am	_____	Dan Moore & Patty Fox	Pete Kraack & Sally Woodward	Susan Painter
8 10:00 am	_____	Barb Ward & Karen Johnson	Vo Newell & Cliff Woodward	Travis Fox
15 10:00 am	_____	Maryellen Murphy & Jeannie Innis	Travis Fox & Peggy Gilman	Travis Fox
22 10:00 am	_____	Dan Moore & Maryellen Murphy	Travis Fox & Sally Woodward	Barb Ward
29 10:00 am		Brenda Grall & Rhonda Harman	Peggy Gilman & Pete Kraack	Travis Fox



- Sarah Black 3/3
- Ed Milliken 3/5
- Jaya Lapham 3/7
- Terri McCulley 3/8
- Renee Andrews 3/10
- Carol Duvall 3/14
- Rhonda Harman 3/20
- Bennett Mann 3/21
- Sally Woodward 3/21
- Vo Newell 3/25
- Sabine Maresco 3/25
- Heather Wiggins 3/27
- Tecia Ezzell 3/29



Pete & Beverly Kraack 3/5
Rhonda Harman & Cathy Devereaux 3/7



Flowers for Worship

- 1 ALC Lent Display
- 8 ALC Lent Display
- 15 ALC Lent Display
- 22 ALC Lent Display
- 29 ALC Lent Display

Social Ministry by Sally Jennings

Food Pantry Program - Black Barrel

Ongoing typical items that the Pantry would really appreciate receiving: Canned Tuna, Chicken, Vegetables, Fruit. Ready To Eat Items such as 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 Ramen, 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, March 23rd at 5:00pm. If you would like to help: please call Sally Jennings @541 444-2687. It is much easier to plan how everyone can help.



Dog and Cat Food Needed for March Stone Soup



Please help feed our furry friends by donating dry dog and cat food for our crew to take along to Stone Soup. Each month, we make 15 one-gallon bags of dog food and 15 one-quart bags of cat food. They are much appreciated. Donations can be left under the Donation Station table in the Narthex.



Agape Respite Center

Agape is a nonprofit organization in Newport that provides basic needs & offers a range of vital services to support individuals experiencing homelessness or facing transitional challenges. For the month of March they are requesting: Coffee, sugar & creamer packets, men's boxer briefs and women's underwear size small and medium. They also now accept new and gently used men's and women's clothing, especially coats, sweaters, sweatshirts, stocking caps and mittens, socks and rubber boots.

Please leave any donated items on or under the Donation Station Table in the Narthex.



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 - Make your check out to Atonement Lutheran Church, and indicate on the "memo" portion of your check what fund you would like to support such as Agape, Samaritan House, Diapers, Pet food for Stone Soup, Ukraine Refugees etc.

Bejeweled

Bejeweled is the major fundraiser for Food Share of Lincoln County. This January through March, we have a donation basket on the Donation Station table in the Narthex. Please donate any jewelry you no longer wear. You can also donate jewelry making equipment, beads, broken jewelry, watches, and jewelry boxes.

(Continued on next page)

Winter Overnight Shelter Desperately Needs Donations

The Winter Overnight Shelter is a different organization than the Agape Respite Center. Jim Ezzell is helping to keep the overnight shelter open this winter. He wants us to know they desperately need donations. Clothes for men and women (in all sizes) are needed: waterproof jackets, waterproof boots, shower flip-flops, underwear, t-shirts, sweats, socks, and belts. They also need washcloths, towels, toilet paper, trash bags, pillows, tooth brushes, hair ties, cleansing wipes, disposable razors and sample size shave cream, toothpaste, and shampoo. You may put your donations in the tub under the table at the Donation Station in the Narthex.



Diapers for Samaritan House Day Care Center

Diapers are an ongoing need at Samaritan House's Yellow Submarine Childcare Center. If you would like to donate funds, please note "Diapers" on your check.

Help Samaritan House Families Celebrate Easter

We will be giving each resident family at Samaritan House a \$50 gift card to help them purchase food this Easter. You are invited to donate to our Food Basket fund to help purchase these cards. Please make your check out to Atonement Lutheran Church and write Food Baskets on the memo line.



moa.aphilwslbnochoa15.www

Yaquina Cab rides to Atonement

Do you need a ride to Worship or other activities at Atonement? We have partnered with Yaquina Cab to provide rides for our friends and members. To receive a ride, please contact Pastor John at 425-923-8558. He will walk you through the process to get a ride here and back home again at no cost to you.

Notary Services

Sandy Cramer is able to notarize documents during regular office hours, Tuesday thru Friday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. There is no charge for registered members or friends.

Did you know?

The "Innercross" art piece by Bill Kucha that hangs in the Narthex has a color changing feature. It had been set to cycle through the different colors, but we found that we could select specific colors. Check it out at different times throughout the year!