



Makin'

Waves



Worship Services

Sundays @ 10:00am

Pastor John Smithies

pastorjohn@atonementlutheran.com

425-923-8558

Atonement Lutheran Church

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office@atonementlutheran.com

541-265-2554



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

May 2026

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

Tuesday thru Friday

Website / Facebook Page

Sunday Worship Service on YouTube

www.atonementlutheran.com



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



Gardening from a Spiritual and Ministry Perspective

There is an apocryphal story about Luther, and we don't know if this is legend or just story, but he was once asked what he would do if he knew the world was ending tonight. His response was "I would plant a tree." He wanted his last act, before the birth of the new creation, to be a new creation. This is what gardening means, being a co-creator of life. This is part of the meaning behind the Genesis account. God makes things that participate in life, God creates fruit bearing trees, he creates us to serve and tend. We are all a fractal of God and God is a living, giving, creative Spirit. We participate in the life of God when we create, when we give life, when we love. Creating a garden also has the added gift that it can feed people.

Which brings up the question and problem of food insecurity, something that we are constantly hearing talked about. Again, this raises the question of what can we do? If the root cause of food insecurity is that there is not enough easy access to a food source, then maybe one way of tackling this is to teach people how to grow their own, and then provide spaces for those without space to grow food. In the ancient world almost everyone tended small gardens, it was not a hobby, it was survival. Maybe we need to think about that as our infrastructure is crumbling and we realize how isolated we could become. May we provide hope, and education, and give real answers to real problems. You know that the church throughout history has been really bad at this, as Marx would famously criticize religion as the opium of the masses. But I think we are called to be more, and teaching how the ancient practices of agriculture can be applied to our modern life is a step in the right direction. After all, we gather each Sunday around a meal. Grain and vines grow in tended gardens. Without gardens we would not have our sacraments. Gardening is incarnational spirituality and may we learn it, and pass it on, as an aspect of the overall path of wholeness that we want our people to have.

Amen, Pastor John

Financial Snapshot Report by Treasurer - Peggy Gilman

Updates for March 2026

General Fund:	Revenues	\$ 19,311
	Expenses	\$ 25,832
	General Fund balance	\$ 52,779
Capital Fund:	Our capital fund revenues from leases are current.	
	Our mortgage balance	\$ 53,601
	Capital Fund balance	\$ 160,204
Dedicated Fund balance		\$ 17,674
Undedicated Fund balance		\$ 3,540
Restricted/Endowment balance		\$ 159,468



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.



Fred Meyer 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 first quarter of 2026 (January-March) we received \$49.99!

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.



Pastor John Smithies



For Such a Time as This

We are still in Easter. I often remind you of this, but it bears repeating: every Sunday is Easter. This is why we have Sundays *in* Lent, but never Sundays *of* Lent. Sunday itself is an Easter, and liturgically speaking, it cannot be otherwise. Easter is the promise that God brings life from death. It echoes the seasonal rhythm we all know: spring follows the death of winter, and rebirth follows. Even science confirms this instinct. Nothing truly dies; it is only transformed. Death always paves the way for new life.

With that theme in mind, I want to tell you about the upcoming Council Retreat May 11-13, because at the end of this year something is going to die in our community, and it is a very happy death. The mortgage we owe will be paid off, and as it is buried (or burned, as is the ritual), the real question becomes: what new life will come from this death?

I know it may feel strange to think of a paid-off mortgage as a death. But I invite you to take that step. Even when it is a good and joyful ending, the old way is passing and the potential for rebirth is here. Which means this is our moment to dream, to hope, to imagine what we are going to do with those funds once we are no longer paying the bank.

This is a good, blessed, and wonderful problem to have. Many congregations in our denomination would love to face it, and I give thanks to God for it. This church has had great leadership, has made sound financial decisions, and has kept our ministry sustainable. We are on the verge of something genuinely exciting, and we should celebrate that, and we will. But I also want to be honest with you, because along with the hope and the dreams, there is a very real danger. That danger lies in a comfortable complacency. Two roads lie ahead of us, and as a congregation we will have to choose.

The first road is the one I am praying we take together: a new birth. These new funds could give life to new ministry, new mission, new outreach. We have already been working hard in this direction to create new missions, some of these include: growing food, recycling, the Hope Team, the Light of Christmas event, and a few initiatives still too early to mention. We continue to find ways to make Atonement a place of genuine spiritual encounter. I am also about to complete my Spiritual Director training and will soon be certified to lead Spiritual Direction, and I pray God will use that to draw into our midst those who are searching for community, growth, and meaning.

The second road is more comfortable, and therefore more dangerous. We could simply settle in, relieved that the mortgage is gone, and quietly conclude: *I don't have to give so much to Atonement anymore*. In my work at the Prison, we had a name for this: Retired While on Post. You've known that person. Maybe at some point in life, you've been that person. There is nothing wrong with being that person, you have done the hard work and now it is a slow waltz to the finish line. The bills are paid, so why give? If we choose that path, I believe we will eventually join the long list of congregations that are slowly dying, what people are now calling

"Holy Closure." It won't happen immediately. We would have many comfortable years before we got there. But we would get there, as the funds that could have launched new ministry quietly get redirected just to keep the lights on, those funds will eventually get spent and eventually the lights will go out.

Two paths. One of opportunity, one of peril. And all of this arriving at the very moment I believe the Church is needed most.

We are living through a genuine crisis of meaning. People are hungry for human connection, for belonging, for hope. Our world is changing with breathtaking speed, and the rise of artificial intelligence alone raises profound questions about what it means to be human, to work, to matter, to belong. Where in the future will there be places for genuine human encounter but the church? The Church has always been in the business of answering those questions, and our community needs places where belonging is offered and care is real. Then there is the very conflict that has engulfed the Middle East, and it is not just oil that is stopped in the Strait of Hormuz. About 1/3 of the world's fertilizer comes from there, and at this moment, when the fertilizer needs to be in the ground, it is sitting on cargo ships. So, what do we do about this? We do what we can - let's grow food, let's teach people how to grow food, let's work to help our community feed itself.

Perhaps this is our Esther moment. When Esther stood at the threshold of the king's court, risking everything for her people, she was told: *"Who knows? Perhaps you have come to your position for such a time as this."* We are here. We are about to have resources to give birth to ministries that can speak to the deepest questions people are asking. Maybe this mortgage being paid off is God saying: it is time. For such a time as this.

That is why your Council is going on retreat, guided by Partnership for Renewal, who walk alongside congregations discerning where the Spirit is leading. It is no secret that I want us to go down the road of new life. We have the opportunity to have a mission that far exceeds what our membership size might suggest is possible. There is a boxing term for this, "punching above your weight". We can do this! We have the opportunity to lead our community with faith, hope, and love. This is an exciting time to be your pastor, and I am overjoyed by what I believe God is making possible.

Now, the big ask. First and always: your prayers. Please hold your Council in prayer as we prepare for this retreat, that we would be guided by the Spirit, that we would discern well, and that we would return with fresh and faithful visions for our common life. But the retreat is only the beginning. This is not something the Council can do without you. So secondly, support us in this work. We need your voices, your dreams, and your continued commitment to the mission of this congregation, so that with the death of the mortgage we can give birth to new life, new ministry, new excitement, and above all a renewed sense of the power of the God who, in Christ Jesus, gives life to that which has died. We are participants of the New Creation that God is unfolding in Christ Jesus. May we participate in this miracle to the fullest of our abilities!

Amen. *Pastor John*



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!



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.



HOPE Team by Brenda Grall

Thank you for your contributions of time and resources. Monthly the team is continuing to provide at least two meals and an act of kindness. Examples have included home cooked meals, pizza delivery, notes of encouragement, laundry and special requests such as finding Harry Potter books.

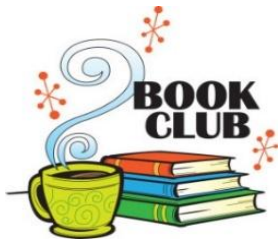
The foster family is very appreciative and is currently praying for our church family and our ministries. Here is an excerpt from the mom: "I wanted to say thank you so much for your team...You are all such amazing blessings and exactly what it means to be the body of Christ. The notes and cards have been such an inspiration and exactly what our family needs...Please share our thanks and gratitude. If there is ever anything we could share we would love to...We hope to join you all for church soon..."

Please consider providing a meal (frozen, ready to cook, hot or delivery) or making a donation to the Hope Team. Reimbursement is available from our Hope Team donations for those who would like to make a meal and turn in a receipt for the supplies. I can pass along notes and cards to the family. Helping with yard work or laundry are also possibilities. If you have suggestions for other acts of kindness, please let me know. The invitation has been extended for a potluck to meet the team, but a date has not yet been set.

Does anyone need a mini crib or high chair or know of anyone that does? The mom asked if I'd share with the team.

Family Support Court Volunteers

Thank you to our Hope Team members (Robert, Dan & Patty) who've been entertaining the young ones while parents are attending Family Support Court on Mondays 3:45-5:00. Others are welcome to take a shift with another volunteer once they've completed the background check. See Brenda Grall for more info.



ALC Book Club by Pastor John Smithies

Heirs to Forgotten Kingdoms by Gerard Russell

Join us May 26th at 11:00 am and/or May 28th at 5:00 pm in person in the Narthex, or on Zoom.

For this month we are reading *Heirs to Forgotten Kingdoms* by Gerald Russell. While this will be the longest book we read this cycle of book club, I think it will be fascinating and exciting. This work looks at seven different religious traditions of the Middle East and why the author calls these seven "disappearing." Beyond just the fascination of what and how other people center their Spiritual life, for me there is always the question of meaning. What does each group deeply mean behind their symbols and statements. As you should all know by now, I think we are all trying to understand great mysteries. Behind the exoticness of each group, their different ways of worshiping, and different words they use, is the question: does their meaning overlap with ours? Please join me in reading this work, appreciating other viewpoints, and looking to see where we overlap. Above all may God be with us in this work as we discover that the mystery of God is far beyond anyone's tradition. Book club will be on the last Tuesday and Thursday of the month.

Our Book Club schedule for the next 4 months:

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 May 20 at 12:45 pm for the monthly scripture study from Gather Magazine. We will be looking at Session Three – "Resurrection and Life" by the Rev. Hannah Hawkinson. God, whose name is "I AM", promises to lead us into abundant life, now and forever.



Men's Breakfast Group by Pastor John Smithies

We meet 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.

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.

A Corner Of Hope by Susan Painter, Council Vice President

"We live in a world of mystery."

Pastor John Smithies, Easter Sunday 2026

In the bright light of Easter morning, we assembled in the Narthex, gathering with awe and wonder. Friends and family – some returning after long weeks gone – hugged and rejoiced. Around us, on the walls, fluttering on windows and seeming to share our joy, the butterflies had emerged! The caterpillars had flown from their sleepy cocoon, bearing proof of new life and the mystery of creation. They announced our hope and our work: prayer, donations, acts of kindness, searches for faithfulness and yearnings in devotion. Through the sanctuary, white banners proclaimed that, "He is Risen!" as the fragrance of lilies wafted through the air. Organ notes joined our voices proclaiming, "Hallelujah!"

In later days, Easter is opening more fully. Walking with Thomas, we learn his doubt is really a question of faithfulness. Pastor John reminds us, "Doubt is not the opposite of faith. Doubt is a part of faith and ... the deeper your faith, the more doubt you will encounter." We are "called to be faithful to the risen Lord, whether we see him or not."

Doubt is an essential component of belief, not its opposite. "To a skeptical believer," writes Christopher Behā,^{*} "the great mark of sincerity is the extent to which you attempt to live out your beliefs in your own life despite your ... doubts, not the extent to which you silence those doubts or the doubts of others."

Christ the good shepherd is a door to faithfulness and hope for us. As war and cruelty rage all around, hope may seem elusive and ephemeral, but it is there... and God calls us to see it. The essential mystery is the Christ not just in bread and wine, but in the stranger who walks beside us, the face of our neighbor in the garden, the outstretched hand of the homeless woman on the corner. If we can see them, we may recognize that God is not hiding but all around us, in all things....

Seeing Christ around us offers hope, and "to hope as a Christian is never to concede that wickedness must be the end of any person's – or nation's – story . To hope does not imply accepting a false peace that laments division without naming evils done...hope demands a certain doggedness, a refusal to let go. Mutual hatred is a national wound that we [must] work to heal and that will require letting go of who we've become. It's the only way forward for all of us."[†]

Let us walk forward together in hope.

*The New York Times 14 February 2026

†Prof Esau McCaulley

What's Happening in the Garden? By Barb Ward

Emily held an apple grafting workshop on 4/9. She provided great information on the grafting process, and we now have many apple trees in pots. They will be in the pots for about 1 year as the two parts graft together. Look for future opportunities for the Apple Tree Project.

The potato bed is prepped and ready for potatoes! Thank you to the volunteers who transplanted the hydrangeas that were in the "potato bed", removed the weed fabric from the area, added some compost, and raked the bed. **We will be planting the potatoes on Friday, May 8th at 11:30.** See you in the garden!

Patty Fox has secured a \$250 grant from Thrivent to be used for the mason bee and for pollinator plants.

As we move into the growing season, we have plans for adding additional beds and will be planning work parties to help get them going. Additionally, when we get wood chips, we will be getting together to move them to the playground area. Watch the WOW for gardening volunteering opportunities.



Women's Weekend at Camp Lutherwood

JULY 31-AUGUST 2, 2026

Time away to reflect, rest, and renew is what this weekend is all about. The Camp Lutherwood staff will provide leadership for a variety of camp activities, such as archery, the climbing tower, and hiking if you seek some personal challenge. Or enjoy time in the pool, a quiet moment by the creek, or coffee and conversation on the patio. Daily study and worship round out this weekend designed just for you. Bring a friend or come on your own; it is a weekend you won't want to miss. Cost of \$200 includes lodging, meals, and programming. Scholarships are available through the church if cost is at all a barrier. Let Brenda Grall or the church office know of your interest so that you can be included in our group.

<https://www.lutherwoodoregon.org/camp#womensweekend>

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.



Lights of Christmas

- in July! by Robert Bayley

In anticipation of Christmas event and lights display, we are planning a Christmas in July Fundraiser! The date is not yet set. For a successful event we need 3 components.

1. Entertainment! We are working on arranging a Christmas concert for us to enjoy.
2. Food! We would like to serve (homemade) Christmas cookies and hot cocoa. We need someone to coordinate this. Please talk to Robert or Sandy for details.
3. Silent Auction! To generate donations we would like to have a silent auction. Sandy has agreed to head this up. We are looking for Christmas arts and crafts type items to auction off. Please talk to Sandy if you have an item to donate.

More information on the Lights of Christmas December event, such as costs, activities and schedule, will be shared as details become available.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: A Creation Care Initiative

by Marcia McKean



YES WE CAN!

A NEW LOOK AT AN ONGOING CHALLENGE

What can we, as responsible citizens and members of this lively, forward-thinking church community, do to cultivate responsible stewardship of God's creation?

A group of us are asking this question and exploring ways to integrate the principles of reducing, reusing, and recycling into the life of our church community.

- Research current and emerging recycling and waste-reduction opportunities, identifying practical ways our congregation can participate.
- Evaluate our current practices and develop a more organized, accessible, and user-friendly system for waste reduction and recycling.
- Engage and educate congregation members on best practices, evolving environmental insights, and faithful stewardship.
- Explore opportunities to share what we learn with other congregations in Newport and beyond.

Our goal is to design and implement a simple, effective, and congregation-supported system at Atonement that encourages sustainable practices, and to use this model as a resource for the broader community.



Kid's Page



Sunday School We usually 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!

May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:00am Adult Forum 10:00am Worship In-person & Zoom Sunday School 11:30am Choir 12:00noon Butterfly Making w/ Sandy	4 10:45am Library Meeting	5	6 10:00am Endowment meeting 12:00noon Contemplative Prayer	7 8:00am Men's Bfst @ Pig 'N Pancake 11:00am Beach wk. / Fellowship & Fun	8	9
10 9:00am Adult Forum 10:00am Worship In-person & Zoom 11:15am Outreach 11:30 Choir	11 Council on Retreat 10:00am – 1:00:pm Quilt Tying	12 Council on Retreat	13 Council on Retreat 12:00noon Contemplative Prayer	14 8:00am Men's Bfst @ Pig 'N Pancake 11:00am Beach wk. / Fellowship & Fun 2:15pm Social Ministry Mtg	15	16
17 9:00am Adult Forum 10:00am Worship In-person & Zoom Sunday School 11:30am Choir 12:00pm Worship & Music Mtg	18 10:00am – 1:00:pm Quilt Tying	19	20 12:00noon Contemp. Prayer 12:45pm WELCA 6:00pm Simple Supper 7:00pm Holden Evening Prayer	21 8:00am Men's Bfst @ Pig 'N Pancake 11:00am Beach wk. / Fellowship & Fun 6:30pm Finance Mtg via Zoom	22	23
24 9:00am Adult Forum 10:00am Worship In-person & Zoom 11:30 Choir 12:00pm Council Mtg 2:00pm Concert Musicorum Medicorum	25 10:00am – 1:00:pm Quilt Tying 1:00pm Stone Soup Prep 5:00pm Stone Soup @ St Stephen	26 11:00am ALC Book Club WAVES Deadline	27 12:00noon Contemplative Prayer	28 8:00am Men's Bfst @ Pig 'N Pancake 11:00am Beach wk. / Fellowship & Fun 5:00pm ALC Book Club	29	30
31 9:00am Adult Forum 10:00am Worship In-person & Zoom 11:30 Choir						



Worship Page

<u>Worship</u>	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Altar Guild</u>	<u>Musicians</u>	<u>Recorder</u>
3 10:00 am	Brenda Grall	Darcy de la Rosa	Tami Johnson	Arnie Anderson
10 10:00 am	Darcy de la Rosa	Bill Innis	Melodie McKenzie	Arnie Anderson
17 10:00 am	Alder	Sally Woodward	Tami Johnson	Arnie Anderson
24 10:00 am	_____	Karen Johnson	Melodie McKenzie	Arnie Anderson
31 10:00 am	_____	Susan Painter	Tami Johnson	Arnie Anderson
	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Zoom Host</u>
3 10:00 am	_____	Dan Moore & Patty Fox	Peggy Gilman & Vo Newell	Travis Fox
10 10:00 am	_____	Jeanne Innis & Karen Johnson	Travis Fox & Peggy Gilman	Barb Ward
17 10:00 am	_____	Maryellen Murphy & Barb Ward	Sally Woodward & Pete Kraack	Susan Painter
24 10:00 am	_____	Dan Moore & Maryellen Murphy	Cliff Woodward & Travis Fox	Travis Fox
31 10:00 am	_____	Brenda Grall & Rhonda Harman	Vo Newell & Pete Kraack	Travis Fox



- Bob Olson 5/4
- Jim Ezzell 5/5
- Laura Swanson 5/9
- Helen Ezzell 5/11
- Penelope McCue 5/11
- Lily Phelps 5/20
- Jan Day 5/21
- Tami Johnson 5/25



Flowers for Worship

- 3 Cheryl Dufrenne
- 10
- 17
- 24
- 31 Lynn Moody

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, May 25th at 5:00pm. If you would like to help prepare and/or serve food please call Sally Jennings @541 444-2687. It is much easier to plan how everyone can help.



Dog Food Needed for May Stone Soup



Please donate dry dog food. We give out 15 gallon bags of dog food and 15 smaller bags of dry cat food each month at Stone Soup. We only had enough dog food for 11 bags in April. Thanks to your generosity, we have enough cat food to use for several months. 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 May they are requesting anything to make sack lunches. Bread, peanut butter, jelly, brown lunch size bags, lunch meat, and snack items. With the warming shelter closing on the 30th they will see an increase at their facility. They can still use men's and women underwear. 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.

(Continued on next page)



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.



Summer Fun Bags for Samaritan House Children

At the end of each school year, our Sunday School children shop for summer fun items and put together bags of fun for the children living at Samaritan House.

Last year, we gave Summer Fun Bags to 19 children. Please donate funds to help us with this giving project. Please write Samaritan House in the memo line on your check. Our acts of caring and community are so important to these families.



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.

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.



Coffee Hour by Sandy Cramer

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

Snacks and goodies are always appreciated, either for the current week or to store in the pantry for later!



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.

Praying the Rosary with the Gnostics

Hello everyone at Atonement Lutheran Church! As many of you already know, I am a clergy member and in a seminary program at the Queen of Heaven Gnostic Church in Portland, OR. We are an Independent Catholic Church, not affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church. That means we have a very "Catholic" mass, with candles and incense and lots of fancy vestments, but socially, we're very liberal. We celebrate marriage equality, recognize all genders as valid, ordain all genders, and allow married clergy. As Gnostics, we have a slightly different idea about salvation, based largely on the teachings of a 2nd Century theologian named Valentinus. While we still recognize the need for forgiveness, we teach that salvation comes from knowledge of the Father, as revealed by his Son.

It is my hope and dream that our churches, Queen of Heaven Gnostic Church and Atonement Lutheran Church, will share many projects and moments together, from planting gardens and apple trees to meals and prayers. Our shared gardening projects are off to a great beginning, and starting this month Atonement Lutheran is providing space for Queen of Heaven Gnostic Church to hold a rosary prayer service on Wednesday nights from 8:30 to 9:15 pm. The prayer service will be held in Atonement's Narthex and over zoom. Please feel free to join us online or in-person! Extra rosaries are available to those who need one. If you have any questions, would like to be added to the email list (and emailed the zoom link), or would like a tutorial on praying the rosary, please reach out! I can be contacted at ej363707@gmail.com or 740-856-8239. And from my church to Atonement, thank you!

Pax et lux, Emily Johnston

Quilting Help by Darcy de la Rosa

Quilters (and anyone else that wants to help): Since I didn't hear preferences from anyone, let's meet on Mondays starting May 18 from 10-1 (ish). There are 10 quilt tops that are waiting to be tied. If we have 4-6 folks helping we should be able to get them tied so that they can be bound, labeled and distributed to those in need. There is really no skill required; just the ability to stand and tie knots! Instruction will be provided. This would be a short-term commitment. We should be able to get them tied in 2-4 three hour sessions. Please let me (Darcy) know if you are willing to help. It should be a low-key, stress-free time with lots of laughs and conversation!

Thanks to Jeanne Innis who sewed Atonement labels onto 6 unlabeled quilts. They are now complete & ready to go!



ATONEMENT LUTHERAN CHURCH