

ATONEMENT IN ACTION

From Pastor Katie

The Old Testament is not exactly light reading and that is what we were tasked with studying in Confirmation class this school year. The youth took it on and then presented a skit to the congregation this past Sunday. The underlying message they told us was that God was with the people even when they were not following God's ways. We have since turned to the New Testament and hear this reminder there as well. It's the same message that we receive from God today. The adult faith formation class continues to read the Old Testament, and we repeatedly lift up this same message: God is with us no matter what!



Lent is upon us. We will mark its beginning with ashes on March 5, and the reminder that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Yet the greater reminder is **God is with us no matter what!** We will gather for Lenten services with Common Ground every Wednesday evening of Lent at 7pm in Lundin Hall. The message will be the same: God is with us no matter what! May we not forget this message and may we be bold enough to share it with the world!

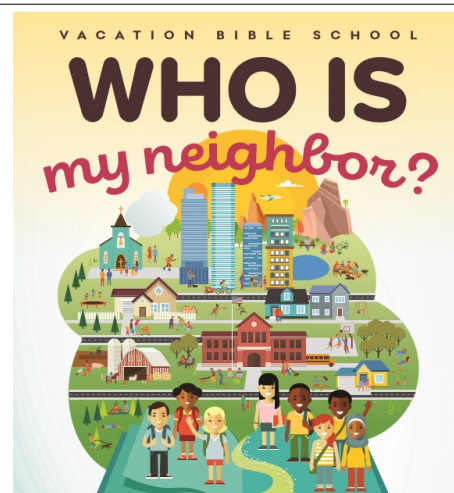
Peace and love,
Pastor Katie



Confirmation students with Pastor Katie, February 23



Save the date! VBS will be held June 16th-June 20th. Please reach out to Miss Caitlyn at cmarella@atonementwyo.org if you are interested in helping during this week. Registration will open March 5th and close June 8th. This vacation Bible school curriculum explores the theme of "Who is My Neighbor?" Participants will learn about some of the people around the world who are our neighbors in the kingdom of God.



Atonement Lutheran Church
5 Wyomissing Boulevard, Wyomissing, Pennsylvania 19610
Phone: 610-375-3512 | www.atonementwyo.org

Worship for Sundays in March

Preschool Sunday ♦ March 2 ♦ 10:00 AM

the Rev. Katie Lyon

On this preschool Sunday we will revisit the familiar story of Noah. God shows his love and care for all of God's creation in the symbol of the rainbow. Children will share their favorite chapel songs. No communion.

First Sunday in Lent ♦ March 9 ♦ 10:00 AM

the Rev. Katie Lyon

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

Second Sunday in Lent ♦ March 16 ♦ 10:00 AM

Rev. Sem. April Mulvey, preaching ♦ the Rev. Mark Christy, presiding

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

Third Sunday in Lent ♦ March 23 ♦ 10:00 AM

the Rev. Katie Lyon

The warnings are plentiful and blunt on the third Sunday in Lent. Cut it out or get cut down! The warnings are accompanied by God's invitation to attentiveness: "Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live." The landowner's ultimatum is forestalled by the gardener's readiness to till the ground one more year. That is good news for all of us. Thanks be to God!

Fourth Sunday in Lent ♦ March 30 ♦ 10:00 AM

the Rev. Katie Lyon

The psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away . . . the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!

Lectionary Readings

March 2

Genesis 7—8

March 9

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13

March 16

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Psalm 27

Philippians 3:17—4:1

Luke 13:31-35

March 23

Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalm 63:1-8

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9

March 30

Joshua 5:9-12

Psalm 32

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



Midweek Lenten Services

Ash Wednesday ♦ March 5

Pastor Katie will have "Ashes to Go" outside in front of the main church doors at noon (weather permitting).

Traditional worship with Common Ground in Lundin Hall at 7pm.



Wednesdays, March 12, 19, 26, April 2 & 9

Common Ground and Atonement are joining together for Lenten Wednesday meals and worship in Lundin Hall. Join us at 6pm for a simple soup supper, then stay for Holden Evening Prayer at 7pm.

Holy Week Schedule

Journey with us through the events during the last week of Jesus' life—from the gates of Jerusalem, to the Upper Room, to the foot of the cross, to the empty tomb!

Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion

April 13 ♦ 10:00 AM

Maundy Thursday

April 17 ♦ 7:00 PM

Good Friday

April 18 ♦ 7:00 PM

Easter Vigil

April 19 ♦ 7:30 PM

NEW TIMES

Easter Sunday

April 20 ♦ 9:00 AM & 10:30 AM

From the Deacon

On March 5 we will observe Ash Wednesday, the beginning of our 40-day journey through the season of Lent. Lent is traditionally a time when we turn our attention to our Christian walk in a more intentional way. How will you observe Lent this year?

One way could be to join us in our Bible reading project. About 50 church members and friends have committed to reading the whole Bible in the year 2025, using a program called "The Bible Recap." We started with Genesis in January, but it's never too late to join us. During the season of Lent, our readings will be very appropriate: we'll be reading about the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the wilderness in the books of Numbers, Deuteronomy, and Joshua. If you'd like to begin reading, just let me know in an email to tyenser@atonementwyo.org and I'll get you started!

Another way to observe Lent this year is to join us on Wednesday evenings for worship with our ministry partner Common Ground Recovery Community. We'll worship every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in Lundin Hall. This peaceful, candlelit service can be an oasis of serenity amid our busy, often stressful lives. There is also a simple soup supper each Wednesday before the service at 6:00 p.m. Please consider attending as often as you can. The dates are March 5, 12, 19, 26 and April 2, 9, 16.

And of course, I encourage you to come every Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. for uplifting, faith-building worship. Remember the words of Scripture: "And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another." (Hebrews 10:24-25a)

Peace,
Deacon Tom



Pastoral Acts—February

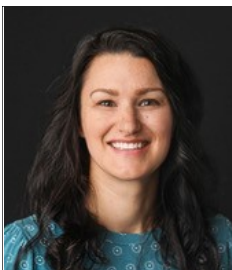
February 2

Children's Bible Presentation

February 23

Baptism for Maria Louise Bowman, Elsa Abigail Bowman, and Sophia Joan Bowman





From Caitlyn Marrella, Director of Children's Ministries

Faith Formation: Our Faith Formation hour begins with a "Gathering" of the whole. All students meet to sing, talk about God in their lives, and pray. Recently we shared our experiences of handing out the homeless care packages. This act led families to discuss what was included in the packages and why this is such important work. Please see Pastor Katie, Crystal or myself if you would like to take one for someone in need.

Lenten Event: The Lenten Event will be held on March 23rd from 8:45-9:45 in Lundin Hall. Come for fun, fellowship and light refreshments! If you are interested in helping with this event please reach out to Miss Caitlyn at cmarella@atonementwyo.org.



*Angie Drebusenko
Owner and Founder*

Introductory Zentangle Workshop Offered by Mindful Masterpieces

Zentangle is an easy to learn, relaxing, and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns. Zentangle focuses on gratitude and appreciation for all that we have.

When: March 12 or March 19

Time: 5:00-7:00

Who: Ages 9 and up are welcome
(children must be accompanied by an adult)

Where: Atonement Lutheran Church Privacy Room

Email mindful.masterpieces.czt@gmail.com or scan QR to register.



Bear Creek Camp

Bear Creek Camp's overnight program is centered on spiritual growth, outdoor living, and small group development for all children who have completed grades 1-12. Each age group experiences a mix of small-group and all-camp activities throughout the week to meet their group's spiritual, social, and developmental needs.

This summer is about the connections that unite us - at camp and beyond. Like intertwined roots, together we grow stronger through love and service, grace-filled faith, and belonging and community. Registration is now open. **Use the code ATW200 when registering to receive \$200 off the registration fee.**

Visit bearcreekcamp.org for details.



Stewardship Corner

From the Stewardship Team Reaching Out in Our Community

The stewardship team will present several opportunities to Reach Out this spring. Beginning March 9 there will be a stewardship table in the narthex for you to get details and sign up for various opportunities including, but not limited to, Pastoral Care Team, Lawn Care Team, Family Promise, Blue Marsh Clean-Up, and Humane Pennsylvania's Walk for the Animals.

Check your email for updates regarding dates and times as we get closer to each event, or email Bob Eisenbrown with questions at eisenr1952@gmail.com.

Family Promise

Atonement is hosting Family Promise the weeks of April 14 and April 21. Find the link at atonementwyo.org by clicking VOLUNTEER from the top menu and scrolling to Family Promise.

Online readers click here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E49A9A822A4F94-54551912-family#/>

Sunday Attendance in February

	In Person	Online Views**
1st Sunday in February	204	54
2nd Sunday in February	116	87
3rd Sunday in February	146	63
4th Sunday in February	248	40
Total	712	244

** Online attendance as of February 25, 2025. Online services are always available to watch the day after they are live streamed, and remain available for re-watching. You can find the link on the home page of atonementwyo.org.

Financial Report

as of January 31, 2024

January Unrestricted Income	\$205,328
January Expenses	\$ 90,061
YTD Unrestricted Income	\$205,328
YTD Unrestricted Expenses	\$ 90,061
Mission Investment Fund Loan	\$425,318.81
Principal Payments to Date	\$323,256.51
Remaining Loan Balance	\$102,062.30

Thank you, Atonement, for your generosity!

Please contact Amy Rogers with any questions.

Gifts of Stocks or Securities

Gifts of stocks or securities are always welcome donations. If you plan to give stock or securities, please notify the office of the pending donation to Atonement's Schwab Account at Weik Investments (the office will provide account number, etc.), along with the purpose for which you are donating it, the name of the stock, its value, where it is coming from, and who the donor is.



Don't forget that your offering can be given by **credit card** on our website or by scanning the **QR code**.

Atonement Book Awards for High School Seniors

Atonement is pleased once again to offer two \$1000 book awards to high school seniors who are going on to higher education. Interested seniors can find the application and filing instructions at atonementwyo.org, online readers click here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeGRaw74mPWQrerBheSL6e_hgWV2jp8lkkW5y8_pjHjcM4Apg/viewform

Many thanks to Bob Hoch for his donation for these awards in memory of his wife, Gail I. Hoch.

Perseverance in Prayer

The Atonement Prayer Team wishes to honor the memory of two of our founding members who passed away in 2024 and for whom we have made a donation to the Thanksgiving and Memorial Fund.

In the 30 years I have been at Atonement there has been a Weekly Prayers list in the bulletin and now online with a link <https://atonementwyo.org/weekly-prayers> on the church website under the Ministries menu, and in the weekly email about the Sunday service. All members and friends of Atonement are invited to pray for the people on this list.

In the 1990s Faith Ann Jones organized a Prayer Chain phone tree to supplement the bulletin list. When someone called the church or Faith Ann directly and asked for prayer, the phone tree jumped into action. Prayers started immediately and continued for 30 days. Sometimes we were praying for several people and sometimes there was no one that needed extra prayer. I joined the Prayer Chain in 1999 and only had to be habitual for 30 days at a time.

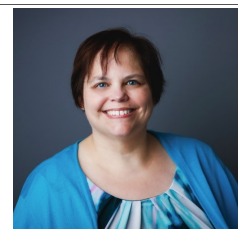
On September 28, 2006 Bob Sharets started a monthly meeting with a mission "to pray with and for those who are hurting, and encourage others to follow Christ's teaching about God's promise for prayer by offering opportunities to study, share, and learn about prayer." The Prayer Chain phone tree prayer partners were incorporated into this group which Bob led until December 2012 and in which he participated until the month before his death at age 95. This team maintains a list to supplement the Weekly Prayers list, of people who need confidential prayer. There are about a hundred people and families on this list for whom we pray daily. Some team members through the years have not attended meetings but committed to pray daily at home.

With the help of Faith Ann and Bob, and all the other past and present members of the Atonement Prayer Team, I have learned to be more habitual in my prayer life. For me, prayer removes hopelessness. It reminds me that I am not the center of the universe; it gives me perspective. Prayer raises my awareness of God acting in the world. Knowing that God is only a prayer away is comforting, not warm fuzzy blanket comfortable, but deep inside comforting. I pray for that comfort for all of the people on the prayer lists at Atonement and for all of you reading this.

You are welcome to join the Atonement Prayer Team when we meet on the 2nd Monday of each month at 11:30 am in the church parlor, or volunteer to pray daily at home. Contact Dorothy DeLong by email pbjdelong@comcast.net, or text/phone 484-529-0878.

Preschool News

From Jen Dauber, Preschool Director



February Recap

- The Family Valentine's Day Diner & Dance on Feb. 7 was A LOT of FUN! We had about 40 families join us for dinner & dancing in Lundin Hall.
- Indian Run Environmental Education Center shared several animals including owls with the PreK classes.
- Mighty Kicks soccer returned for an eight-week session in the gym on Fridays.
- Registration for 2025-26 is open! We have 107 students enrolled for the fall. We have availability in Together Time, Toddlers, 3's and 4's, and afternoon Stay n Play classes.

March Happenings

- Themes: Space, Dads, Transportation and Spring.
- **Preschool Sunday is Sunday, March 2.** The preschoolers will sing their favorite chapel songs during the short family-friendly service. Rumor has it that Noah and his Ark might make an appearance during worship. Light refreshments and Family Bingo are in Lundin Hall following the service.
- Preschool Dads will attend the first hour of preschool in our 3's, 4's and PreK classes on March 13 & 14 for our annual Dad's Day.
- Mrs. Donna Egan hosts a five-week Mini Masters Art class starting March 14.
- Meal Pop-Up Fundraiser with Crave Café and Sweet Ride Ice cream takes place on Thursday, March 27.
- Everyone is Welcome to Atonement Day at the Reading Royals on Sunday, March 30 at 3pm!

Preschool Sunday & Family Bingo
Sunday, March 2, 10:00am

Families are invited to church to hear our preschoolers sing their favorite chapel songs during worship. Light refreshments and BINGO following the service.



ATONEMENT DAY AT THE READING ROYALS!




MAR 24TH | 3PM | SANTANDER ARENA

JOIN ATONEMENT FOR A DAY WITH THE READING ROYALS! KIDS TICKETS ARE JUST \$1

To Purchase Tickets, Visit
fevo-enterprise.com/event/Atonementchristian

FOR MORE INFORMATION- CONTACT CHRIS
Call 610-898-7293 Email: CHAZEL@ROYALSHOCKEY.COM



Or Scan Here

Meal PopUp Fundraiser
Thurs. March 27
5:15-5:30 pickup




Scan to Order




Angel Tree Library Donations

Our Christmas Advent Tree book drive was another wonderful gift for one of the schools in the Reading School District. This year was the 11th year that Atonement has been doing this. Our school for 2024 was the elementary school at 16th and Haak. This year we raised \$1146.00, and the check was delivered to the librarian after Christmas. She was thrilled to add so many books to her library - and the kids were excited, too. Thank you, Atonement!



Easter Plants and World Hunger

Donors are needed for the Easter plants which will decorate our worship space for Easter. We are requesting \$10 per plant, but any amount is welcome. If you wish to order one or more plants, please use this form and return to the office no later than Palm Sunday, April 13.

As an alternate to (or in addition to) donating a plant, you are invited to make a donation to the World Hunger Appeal.

Donations will be listed in the Easter bulletin and may be made in memory of or in thanksgiving for loved ones. Please clearly list the names as you would like them to appear in the bulletin.

I wish to provide _____ plants for Easter (suggested donation, \$10 each)

_____ in loving memory of _____

_____ thanksgiving for _____

I wish to provide a donation of \$_____ to the World Hunger Appeal

_____ in loving memory of _____

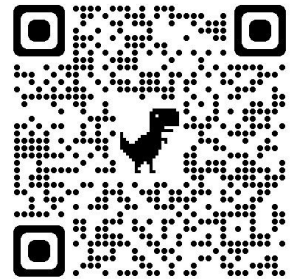
_____ thanksgiving for _____

Donation made by: _____

Two easy ways to pay: _____ Check payable to Atonement with Easter Plants or
World Hunger on the memo line



_____ Scan the QR code



Usher Notes

March Schedule

Sunday, March 2	Preschool Teachers
Sunday, March 9	Team 2—Kofke
Sunday, March 16	Team 3—Lubitz
Sunday, March 23	Team 4—Mehos

New ushers are always welcomed! The commitment is about once every two months, and is a great way to meet new people! We are also seeking a new usher coordinator. Contact Crystal at cshirk@atonementwyo.org if you would like to be added to an usher team are interested in finding out more about scheduling the ushers.

There will be one more meeting for Head Ushers and anyone who fills in for head ushers after worship March 2 in room F122. If you were unable to attend any of the head usher meetings, please contact the office to find what you missed.

Thank you to all who serve as ushers!

Atonement Business Directory

Health Services

Penn State Community Medical Group, All About Children
655 Walnut Street, West Reading, PA 19611
Phone: 610-372-9222
Fax: 610-372-0232

Stephen Fehnel, MD, Gynecology and Urogynecology
740 Penn Ave, West Reading PA 19611
610-376-3700
Stephenfehnelmd.com

Financial/Insurance

Fred Kofke, Principle
Kofke Associates
Business key man insurance, estate planning, disability insurance with a 43 year history of serving clients in Berks and beyond.
kofkeassoc@comcast.net
Cell: 610-207-7124

Ray Melcher, President
Marathon Capital Advisors
Offers business succession services to company owners who wish to sell their business and to business persons who wish to buy a business. Also assist business owners and executives with obtaining business financing. Also serves as interim, part time, transitional business leadership and management as CEO, COO, or other executive level role.
4 Park Plaza, Wyomissing, PA 19610
Phone: 610-898-8086 x22

HVAC

Raymond Stocker, Vice President
Alltemp Enterprise, Inc.
Alltemp Enterprise, Inc. is a HVAC Contractor. Residential, commercial, and industrial heating and air conditioning. We service any make, sell and install Carrier brand.
2 Front Street Plaza, Mohnton, PA 19540
Phone: 610-796-1233
jeff@alltempenterprise.com

TUTORING

Karen Sandloop, Retired Reading Specialist
kloop13@comcast.net
610-659-4630

Custom Home Design and Construction

Marc J. Geddio, President
Residential Designs by Geddio
Engineer stamped blueprints for custom homes and additions, since 1992.
Phone: 610-587-7273
MarcJ905@msn.com
CDsbyGeddio.com

Marc and Michelle Geddio,
President and Project Coordinator
Iron Gate Builders Inc.
Custom Home Builder in Berks and surrounding counties, with more than 25 years experience.
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Michelle@IronGateBuildersInc.com
IronGateBuildersInc.com
Facebook: Iron Gate Builders Inc.

Real Estate

Barry Ciabattoni, Realtor, CSP, GRI
Re/Max of Reading
Representing both buyers and sellers in Berks county for 30 years.
1290 Broadcasting Rd., Wyomissing, PA 19610
Cell: 610-698-2623
Office: 610-670-2770 x3242
Website: BarryCsells.com

Pat Kofke, CRS, GRI, Hall of Fame
RE/MAX of Reading
Specializing in the purchase and sale of all homes in Berks County with 35 years of real estate experience.
pat@patkofke.com
Cell: 610-207-5601

Sue Colon, Realtor
Coldwell Banker Realty
975 Berkshire Blvd., Suite 100, Wyomissing, PA 19610
Office: 610-373-9900
Cell: 610-223-2456
sue.colon@cbhomes.com

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1290 Broadcasting Rd., Wyomissing, PA 19610
Phone: 610-334-0294
davidmattes@remax.net
www.DaveMattesTeam.com

Eva Eisenbrown, Associate Broker/Broker Appraiser
Coldwell Banker Realty
Phone: 610-334-3496
evae3018@gmail.com & eva.eisenbrown@cbrealty.com.

Bob Wertz, Realtor-Associate Broker
REMAX of Reading
Representing buyers and sellers in Berks for over 36 years.
1290 Broadcasting Rd., Wyomissing, PA 19610
Phone: 610-413-1346
bwertz@goberkscounty.com.



Trying to decide on a preschool for your child?

Check out

ATONEMENT CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL
ESTABLISHED 1976

schedule a tour!

Jen Dauber
jdauber@atonementwyo.org
610-375-8049