

ATONEMENT IN ACTION



Guiding Principles:

Jesus is Lord.

Everyone is welcome.

Love changes people.

Everyone has something to offer.

The world needs what we have.

from Reclaiming the "L" Word

God has freed us for the Journey of Discipleship with Jesus:

Worship that leads to Formation that leads to Fellowship that leads to Servanthood.

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!



Easter Sunday worship was Spirit filled. The good news is that Easter is not over! Easter lasts for 50 days and we get to continue the story. What a gift to be God's disciples! There are many opportunities to reach up to God, reach in to one another and reach out to our neighbors and beyond through Atonement during the Easter season. Please look through the newsletter for more details. Here are some of the highlights:

- This Sunday (4/7) we will have our annual preschool Sunday with worship at 10am followed by an art show in Lundin Hall.
- The following Sunday (4/14) is our Dixieland Mass at our 10am worship service.
- Faith formation continues each Sunday at 8:45am and our End of Life Preparedness Seminar begins this week (4/7) at 9am in the nave.
- New members' classes begin 4/14 at 11am and new members will be received during worship on 5/5.
- Each Wednesday in Easter there is an opportunity to worship at Common Ground at 7pm. On the first and third Wednesdays of each month a meal is served at 6pm (4/3, 4/17, 5/1, 5/15).
- Our Opportunity House team continues to serve lunch the third Saturday of each month.
- April 8-24 we are hosting Family Promise by bringing meals and gift cards to three different families who are currently in the program.
- Join a group for Walk for the Animals with Humane Pennsylvania (5/4) at Berks County Fairgrounds.

God continues to call us to look for ways to share the message of Jesus in all areas of our lives! I am grateful to be on this Easter journey with you. Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Peace and love,
Pastor Katie



Atonement Lutheran Church

5 Wyomissing Boulevard, Wyomissing, Pennsylvania 19610

Phone: 610-375-3512 | www.atonementwyo.org

Worship for Sundays in April

Preschool Sunday ♦ April 7

10:00 AM ♦ the Rev. Katie Lyon

On this Preschool Sunday, we will revisit the familiar Bible story of Zacchaeus. "God loves us all, both big and small," a child's verse declares. We are able to stand tall before God because in the person of Jesus "salvation has come to this house," – to our house today. Jesus seeks us out to save us!

Dixieland Mass ♦ April 14

10:00 AM ♦ the Rev. Katie Lyon

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

Fourth Sunday of Easter ♦ April 21

10:00 AM ♦ the Rev. Tom Scornavacchi

The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

Fifth Sunday of Easter ♦ April 28

10:00 AM ♦ the Rev. Katie Lyon ♦ Hershey Baptism

This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

lectionary readings for the Sundays of April

April 7

Luke 19:1-10

April 14

Acts 3:12-19

Psalm 4

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

April 21

Acts 4:5-12

Psalm 23

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18

April 28

Acts 8:26-40

Psalm 22:25-31

1 John 4:7-21

John 15:1-8



End of Life Preparedness Seminar

Sundays, April 7-May 19 | 9:00—9:30 am

Prepare to embrace the end of life with confidence by joining us for an informative seminar. Expert guidance will help you navigate essential topics such as medical, legal, and financial planning, funeral options, document organization, and spiritual needs. Don't miss this unique opportunity to gain valuable insights and an empowering journey towards peace of mind.

Come to all 7 sessions, or pick a few. Bring family members, friends, neighbors - anyone you feel would benefit! All sessions meet in the nave except week 2, which meets in Lundin Hall.



Week 1—introduction and a conversation project

Week 2—hospice care

Week 3—medical issues, advanced directives, POA, POLST

Week 4—legal issues and concerns

Week 5—financial planning and concerns

Week 6—funeral options and planning

Week 7—documentation organization

New Members Welcome

We invite everyone interested in becoming a member of Atonement to join us for new member classes after worship the Sundays of April 14, 22, and 28, in room F122. New members will officially be welcomed during 10:00 am worship on May 5.

Call the office or email Crystal at cshirk@atonementwyo.org if you would like to attend or if you have any questions.

Sunday Attendance in March

	In Person	Online Views*
1st Sunday in March (10am)	171	51
2nd Sunday in March (10am)	152	64
3rd Sunday in March (10am)	217	75
4th Sunday in March (10am)	283	78
5th Sunday in March (9:30am)	325	47
5th Sunday in March (11am)	193	23
Total	1,341	338

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** to the right with your smart phone.



*Online attendance as of April 3. Online services are always available to watch the day after they are live streamed, and remain available for re-watching! Online readers use the link below to go directly to Atonement’s YouTube page, which is also available at atonementwyo.org.
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCg1TXf607Z5yGtNI2d0e_qQ

Financial Report

as of March 31, 2023

February Unrestricted Income	\$132,720
February Expenses	\$ 97,673
March Unrestricted Income	\$121,424
March Expenses	\$ 88,308
YTD Unrestricted Income	\$443,939
YTD Unrestricted Expenses	\$267,119
Mission Investment Fund Loan	\$425,318.81
Principal Payments to Date	\$236,864.52
Remaining Loan Balance	\$188,421.29

Thank you, Atonement, for your generosity!

Please contact Amy Rogers with any questions.

ELCA Youth Gathering Matching Funds Campaign

We are very excited to have 11 Atonement members and friends traveling to the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer (8 teenagers and 3 chaperones). In order to help families with the costs of this life-changing event, we are holding a matching funds campaign this winter. Thanks to an anonymous donor and some “leftover” youth funds, we will be able to match up to \$6000 in donations toward the gathering costs. Please help us with this fundraiser – every gift, no matter how large or small, will help us toward our goal. Checks can be made payable to Atonement Lutheran Church with “Youth Gathering Matching Funds” written in the memo line. Thanks in advance for your help!

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. These two awards have been combined into one application form and one interview with our Book Awards Committee. Interested seniors can find the application and filing instructions at atonementwyo.org, online readers click here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeGRaw74mPWQrerBheSL6e_hgWV2jpb8lkkW5y8_pjHjcM4Apg/formResponse

This may be the last year that we are able to offer these awards. If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Tom.





Preschool News

From Jen Dauber, Preschool Director

March Recap

- Themes: Dr. Seuss, dinosaurs, space, transportation, spring, and Easter
- Chapel Theme: With my EARS, I can hear Jesus. Story of Mary and Martha; Luke 10:38-42
- Highlights: Dad’s Day and Easter egg hunts

April Happenings

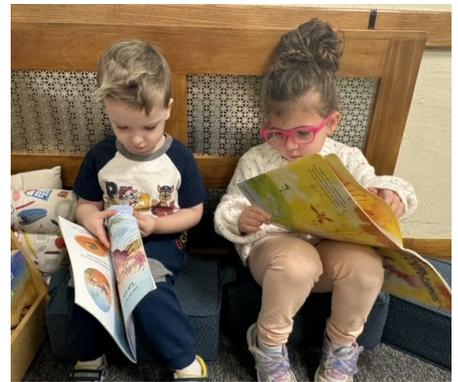
- Themes: farm, weather, ecology, flowers, and insects
- Chapel: rehearsal for Preschool Sunday
- Highlight: Preschool Sunday & Art Show, Sunday, April 7 – children will sing their favorite chapel songs during our shortened family-friendly worship service, artwork on display in Lundin Hall
- Meal PopUp fundraiser with Crave Café & Sweet Ride, Thurs. April 25, 5:30

Registration Update

- 2024-25 registration: 136 students enrolled with many registered in more than one class for a total of 181 filled spaces.
- Availability in Together Time 2, all Toddler classes, Tues/Thurs 3’s, STEAM and Naturalist.
- Contact Jen Dauber jdauber@atonementwyo.org to schedule a tour.

Summer Camp 2024

- July 8-12 Explorer Camp – explore different countries and cultures.
- July 22-26 Naturalist Camp – discover Weird Sea Creatures.
- Aug. 5-9 Kindergarten Kickstart – kindergarten bound students brush up on their readiness skills.
- Aug. 5-9 Preschool Storytime Camp – listen to favorite stories, play, create art & more.



**MEAL
POPUP do it LOCAL
FUNDRAISER**

MADE POSSIBLE BY **MADJ** marketing
madjmarketing.com



**Atonement Christian
Preschool**

**Thursday, April 25th
Pick up time: 5:30pm-5:45pm**

Orders Due by Tuesday 4/23 by 9:00pm

Details & easy online ordering
available at MealPopUp.com

**Save the Dates for
Vacation
Bible School**

June 17-21
9am—11:30am
VBS Sunday, June 24



From Caitlyn Marrella, Directory of Christian Formation



Children of all ages are welcome at Atonement! We have many programs to accommodate all ages. All teachers have clearances and are excited for the opportunity to teach about God. We can't wait for you to join us!



Faith Formation Hour: (Sundays 8:45am-9:45am)

Faith Formation is a time our children work with peers of the same age to learn about God. They look forward to seeing familiar faces each week but are excited for new faces as well. There are three groups that meet regularly: preschool, K-grade 2 and grades 3-6.



Bible Study:

On March 3rd the Bible Study Class completed their study and participated in worship during the children's message "Did you know?" skit and delivered a Bible reading.



Worship: (Sundays 10am)

During the 10 a.m. worship service children ages 3-2nd grade can participate in the worship service with the children's message as well as a chapel time in the privacy room. Chapel time often includes a story, craft and activity or game. Children preschool age and younger are supervised in F126. The livestream of the service is played in the nursery.

Lenten Workshop:

On March 24th, 50 individuals of all ages enjoyed fun and fellowship in Lundin Hall. They made Resurrection Gardens, Edible Empty Tombs, and made over 50 goodie bags which will be shared with some of our friends in a local retirement home. Way to REACH OUT!



2024 Atonement Bach Scholarships

Winners of the 2024 Atonement Bach Scholarship will play in our worship services from April through June. This year Reading Musical Foundation (RMF) awarded seven scholarships to six deserving Berks County high school students. Here is the list of the 2024 scholarship recipients:

Jack Burrell	Voice	Grade 12	Boyertown Area HS
Daniel Freed	Percussion	Grade 12	Boyertown Area HS
Anna Nygard	Piano & Trombone	Grade 10	Kutztown HS
Olivia Szor	Violin	Grade 11	Wyomissing JHS/SHS
Adam Underwood	Bassoon	Grade 12	Wilson SHS
Lawrence Zeng	Piano	Grade 11	Wilson SHS

Right now is a great time to give to the Atonement Bach Scholarship. Please make checks payable to Atonement Lutheran Church and write "Atonement Bach Scholarship" in the memo line. Any amount is accepted. Your continued support will help Atonement and RMF provide financial help to the highest level of young musical talent Berks County. Please contact Tom Yenser if you have questions or would like more information.

Stewardship Corner

Stewardship

As you know, last year we, the congregation, voted to focus more energy on reaching out to help our community. Your stewardship team took that to heart and has begun the first of what will be many endeavors to do just that this year and beyond!

For now, we're focusing on three areas: Humane PA and the upcoming Walk for the Animals on May 4 (our pets, God's creatures); Opportunity House serving lunch the third Saturday of each month (our less fortunate neighbors, God's people); and Blue Marsh Lake cleanup, June 22 (our environment, God's wonderful creation).

Response so far from you has been awesome and we look forward to your help to make each of these outreach opportunities a success.

And don't worry, if you're unable to help at these events there will be more opportunities to serve.

Watch the big screens and weekly emails for updates!

Upcoming Stewardship Events:

- April 7—Humane Society presentation to congregation
- April 20—Opportunity House lunch
- April 21—Blue Marsh presentation to congregation
- May 4—Humane Society walk
- May 12—Opportunity House presentation to congregation
- May 18—Opportunity House lunch
- May 19—Pancake Breakfast
- June 15—Opportunity House lunch
- June 22—Blue Marsh clean-up day

Lawn & Grounds Ministry

Do you enjoy being outside, meeting new people, and being part of a team? The lawn & grounds ministry is looking for some additional members to assist with cutting grass, weed-whacking, raking, weeding, watering, mulching, planting, and more! The team meets Saturday mornings, and the commitment is just a few hours per month. All ages and skill levels are welcomed!

Contact John Lehr at johnt.lehr@gmail.com or call the Atonement office if you would like to find out more about becoming part of this amazing group of volunteers.

Family Promise

For 2024, Atonement and Trinity Lutheran of Reading will partner together to host Family Promise 4 weeks:

- April 8 July 8
- April 15 July 15.

There are currently 3 shelter houses, for which we will provide the following:

- Groceries for two weeks worth of food, diapers, cleaning supplies, etc. There is money in the Family Promise dedicated fund to cover this if the volunteer shopper doesn't want to donate groceries (many shoppers have donated the groceries).
- Grocery gift cards for whatever we forget and special needs, for the case manager to distribute as needed.
- A prepared meal on Monday nights.

Additional information and sign-up links are available at atonementwyo.org.

Online readers click here:

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E49A9A822A4F94-47414684-family#/#](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E49A9A822A4F94-47414684-family#/)

April Usher Schedule

- April 7, 10:00 am Team 1—Long
- April 14, 10:00 am Team 2—Kofke
- April 21, 10:00 am Youth Team 1
- April 28, 10:00 am Youth Team 2

New ushers are always welcomed! Contact Crystal at cshirk@atonementwyo.org if you would like to be added to an usher team. The commitment is about once every two months, and is a great way to meet new people!



Atonement is hosting the 2024 Northeastern PA Synod Assembly!

Saturday, June 8, 8:30-4:30 p.m.

It is a great honor to have been chosen to host the annual meeting of all the congregations in our synod. Atonement members are needed to help with the hosting. If you are willing to help, please sign up here:

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040445AF8A22AAF85-48912287-nepa#/#](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040445AF8A22AAF85-48912287-nepa#/)



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

Legal Services

Jill M. Scheidt, Esquire
Masano Bradley
Concentrations in wills, powers of attorney and living wills, estate administration and divorce.
1100 Berkshire Boulevard, Suite 201, Wyomissing, PA 19610
Phone: 610-372-7700
Masanobradley.com
Jscheidt@masanobradley.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

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

Dave and Mel Mattes
RE/MAX of Reading
We have a team of 4 experienced Realtors and we assist people to sell and purchase residential real estate in Berks and surrounding counties.
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.

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.
Phone: 610-587-7273
Marc@IronGateBuildersInc.com
Michelle@IronGateBuildersInc.com
IronGateBuildersInc.com
Facebook: Iron Gate Builders Inc.