

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



Sunday, August 25
At the 10:00 service

Students of all ages and teachers are invited to bring their backpacks or school bags to church to receive a special back-to-school blessing. A reminder that "God is always with you" will be shared. Refreshments will be served after worship.

Faith Formation

Begins with Rally Day -
Sunday, September 15

Join Community Neighbors
Fotis & Fotis for a Family
Friendly Interactive
Performance.

and continues
every Sunday @

8:45am

Register online or stop in to pick up
a paper copy.

ATONEMENT
The Community's Church
atonementwyo.org



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

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

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

Worship for Remaining Sundays in August

Choir Sunday ♦ August 18

10:00 AM ♦ the Rev. Katie Lyon

Can we pray the way Bartimaeus prays? People try to hush him up because by addressing Jesus as “Son of David” he is making a politically dangerous claim that Jesus is the rightful king. Could our prayers ever be heard as a threat to unjust powers that be? Bartimaeus won’t give up or go away quietly, but repeats his call for help more loudly. Do we ask so boldly? And are our prayers an honest answer to Jesus’ question, “What do you want me to do for you?”

Blessing of the Backpacks ♦ August 25

10:00 AM ♦ the Rev. Art Wyse, presiding; Seminarian April Mulvey, preaching

In today’s gospel many people take offense at Jesus’ invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus’ disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John’s gospel for Peter’s confession of faith. “To whom can we go?” asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. “You have the words of eternal life.” In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God.

We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

Worship for Sundays in September

Time After Pentecost ♦ September 1

10:00 AM ♦ the Rev. Katie Lyon

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God’s law is ignored.

True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart.

Last week Jesus told us “the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life” (John 6:63).

Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

God’s Work, Our Hands Sunday

Choir Sunday, Atonement Praise Band ♦ September 8

10:00 AM ♦ the Rev. Katie Lyon

11:00 AM Pancake Breakfast in Lundin Hall

James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one.

Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophoenician woman in today’s gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don’t deserve the goods meant for God’s children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply?

Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality.

Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

Rally Sunday ♦ September 15

10:00 AM ♦ the Rev. Katie Lyon

Three weeks ago we heard Peter’s confession of faith as told in John’s gospel. This week we hear Mark’s version, when Peter says, “You are the Messiah.” In John, the stumbling block is Jesus’ invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus’ words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus’ words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of messiah) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

Common Ground Sunday ♦ September 22

10:00 AM ♦ the Rev. Tom Scornavacchi

Today we celebrate our close relationship with Common Ground Recovery Community through music led by Common Ground musicians Stephen Longenecker and Cara Hart, through sharing our stories in a safe space, and through gathering at the table to share the Body of Christ. We remember through our readings and prayers that, as Pastor Tom likes to remind us, “we’re all recovering from something!”

Time After Pentecost ♦ September 29

10:00 AM ♦ the Rev. Katie Lyon

Someone who isn’t part of Jesus’ own circle is casting out demons in Jesus’ name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization.

Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus’ word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn’t do it, by people we can’t keep tabs on.

Sunday Attendance in June

	In Person	Online Views**
1st Sunday in June	171	53
2nd Sunday in June	137	53
3rd Sunday in June	156	70
4th Sunday in June	213	44
5th Sunday in June	<u>158</u>	<u>56</u>
Total	835	279

Sunday Attendance in July

	In Person	Online Views**
1st Sunday in July	193	44
2nd Sunday in July	145	14
3rd Sunday in July	190	21
4th Sunday in July	<u>154</u>	<u>56</u>
Total	682	135

** Online attendance as of August 12. Online services are always available to watch the day after they are live streamed, and remain available for re-watching! Click the **LIVE STREAM** button on the home page of atonementwyo.org.

Pastoral Acts

June 1—Wedding for Hunter Beane and Brooke Eveland
June 22—Funeral for Dee Hiehle

July 7—Dedication of Baptismal Font
July 7—Baptism for Elizabeth Lauren Puhlman
July 14—Baptism for Ellie Joy Peshler
July 14—Blessing for Youth Gathering Participants
July 21—Baptism for Charles David Weisman



Baptism of Ellie Joy Peshler.

Lectionary Readings

Remaining Sundays of August

August 18
Jeremiah 31:7-9
Psalms 126
Hebrews 7:23-28
Mark 10:46-52

August 25
Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
Psalms 1
1 John 5:9-13
John 17:6-9

Sundays of September

September 1
Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9
Psalms 15
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

September 8
Isaiah 35:4-7a
Psalms 146
James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17
Mark 7:24-37

September 15

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalms 116:1-9
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38

September 22

Jeremiah 11:18-20
Psalms 54
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

September 29

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29
Psalms 19:7-14
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50



Usher Schedule

August 18	Team 1—Long
August 25	Team 2—Kofke
September 1	Team 3—Lubitz
September 8	Team 4—Mehos
September 15	Team 5—Eisenbrown
September 22	Team 8—Woerle
September 29	Team 9—Bryan

Email reminders will be sent the week prior to the scheduled Sunday, along with a request to let your head usher know your availability for that Sunday. Ushers are asked to arrive around 9:30 am for a 10:00 am service.

New ushers are always welcomed!

If you or anyone you know would like to be added to an usher team, please email Crystal at cshirk@atonementwyo.org. The commitment is about one Sunday every two months. Youth in grades 7 and older are invited to join our youth team, or to join a team with their parents.

From the Deacon

Are You Feeling the Joy?

Summer is coming to an end, and the cooler autumn weather is around the corner. A new school year starts soon, and with it comes a renewed energy at Atonement for worship, learning, and service. Are you feeling the joy?

Last Sunday, Pastor Katie reminded us that no matter where we are, no matter what life throws at us, God loves us, God forgives us, and the table is set for us with the bread of life. Are you feeling the joy?

There are so many opportunities at Atonement to praise, to learn, to grow, and to give. Are you thinking about your place in our community of faith? Are you feeling the joy?

Here are just a few of those opportunities:

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Students who have completed two years of instruction will be confirmed on Sunday, October 27. Students who have completed one year will continue with classes on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. The primary teacher for confirmation this year will be Pastor Katie. If you have a student entering 7th grade or older who is interested in beginning our confirmation program, please contact Pastor Katie or me as soon as possible. Classes will begin in late September or early October.

ADULT CHOIR

Regular Atonement Choir rehearsals will resume in October on Thursday evenings, 7:30-8:30 p.m. We have one more Summer Choir coming up on Sunday, September 8 – just show up at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday morning to sing in 10:00 a.m. worship. For this final Summer Choir Sunday, we will be accompanied by the Atonement Praise Band! Summer Choir has been such a big success that we will continue a similar program throughout the year called Impromptu Choir – no Thursday rehearsals, just show up on Sunday morning to rehearse and sing! Look for more dates soon!

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

This year we will hold Children's Choir rehearsals on most Sunday mornings, 11:00 a.m. to 12 noon. (This is simultaneous with confirmation class.) Children in grades K-6 are welcome. The first rehearsal will be on Sunday, October 6.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Adult classes will resume each Sunday, 8:45-9:45 a.m. The starting date is still to be decided, so stay tuned. The first topic will be a book study, "40 Days with Martin Luther" (Similar to our Dietrich Bonhoeffer study last year).

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

We kick off the new school year with Rally Day on Sunday, September 15, 8:45-9:45 a.m. in Lundin Hall, with special guests Jeanette and Matt Fotis. We need help with teaching Faith Formation, staffing Nursery, and special events throughout the year. Fill out the form on page 5 and return to the church office.

The psalmist wrote: "My heart is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body shall rest in hope. You, O God, will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore." (*Psalm 16:9-11*) Are you feeling the joy?

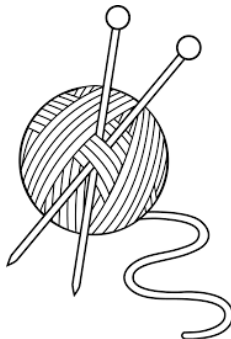
Joyfully,
Deacon Tom



Prayer Shawl News

We will resume our needlework starting this September. Due to the Labor Day holiday we will meet Tuesday September 3 at 3:00 in the Parlor. We will go back in October to our regularly scheduled first Monday of the month.

All are welcome to join us!



College Bound Students

Keep in touch with church by sending your newest college address to the church office. We want to make sure you are remembered while away from home.



From Caitlyn Marrella, Director of Christian Formation

Summer is winding down which means many of our Children's Programs will start back up again!

WORSHIP (Sundays 10am)

Nursery and Children's Chapel September 15. During the 10 a.m. worship service children ages 3 to 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.

FAITH FORMATION HOUR (Sundays 8:45-9:45)

Faith Formation begins September 15 with Rally Day. This special event will be held in the Nave. Official classes begin September 22. Families will meet for a whole group opening in the Choir Room led by Deacon Tom and Miss Caitlyn. They will then break up into the following groups:

Preschool - room 4

K-2 - room 3

3-6 - Choir Room

I am ready to help!

☐ Faith Formation (Sunday 8:45-9:45) - if you have an age preference please select below

_____ Preschool _____ K-2 _____ 3-6

☐ Nursery (Sunday 10am service)

☐ Advent Event

☐ Lenten Event

☐ Kid's Night Out

☐ VBS

☐ Other: _____

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Financial Report

as of July 31, 2024

June Unrestricted Income	\$ 65,232
June Expenses	\$ 61,450
July Unrestricted Income	\$ 57,220
July Expenses	\$ 54,415
YTD Unrestricted Income	\$742,891
YTD Unrestricted Expenses	\$618,772
Mission Investment Fund Loan	\$425,318.81
Principal Payments to Date	\$263,171.33
Remaining Loan Balance	\$162,147.48

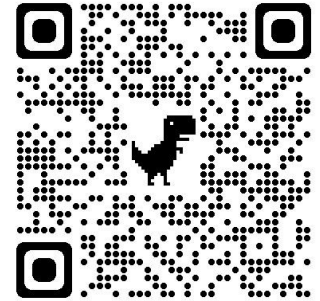
Thank you, Atonement, for your generosity!

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** to the right with your smart phone.



Gifts and Memorials

Thanksgiving and Memorial Fund

In memory of Carl Trettin

Dan Kimball

In memory of Dr. William Reifsnnyder

Dan Kimball

Marian Pounder

Charles Lusch

Bill and Cindy Laubach

John and Cathy Meharg

Ann Dean

Linda J. Manwiller

In memory of Tiffany Allbert

Kelley Bell

Patty and John Lehr

Political Science and Economic Department

East Stroudsburg University c/o Cynthia M. Hamill

Music Fund

In memory of Dr. William Reifsnnyder

C. Louise Fair

In memory of Delores (Dee) Hiehle

the Chen Family

Mr. and Mrs. David Rohrbach

Karen B. Orquiza

Cindy and Bill Laubach

Ken and Linda Lord

Pat and Len Pietroszynski

Barton and Kristina Smith

Evans and Barbara Goodling

Joanne M. Wagner

Janet H. Schlegel

Endowment Fund

In memory of Dr. Laree Trollinger

By Marian Pounder

Dan Kimball

Cindy and Bill Laubach

Joanne M. Wagner

Susan and Thomas Stoughton

CROP Hunger Walk

Walk. Give. Change the World.

Please join "Atonement Team" by registering online at www.crophungerwalk.org/ReadingPA. Scroll down to the highlighted blue words: "the list of teams" and choose Atonement Team to hop on board for this year's event on **Sunday, October 13** at Gring's Mill at 1:15PM. Online users can click here to go directly to the registration page: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/crowwalks/team/team-atonement>

Come early 12:30pm to participate in some new activities this year! We will

- **Collect food**
- **Write advocacy letters**
- **Create CWS Hygiene Kits!**

Please bring a non-perishable food item for Helping Harvest! Enjoy a sweet treat from Stroopies! (<https://www.stroopies.com/shop> to take a peek). We are hoping to gather some folks together to participate this year! Contact: Michelle Endy at 610-396-5055 or email calendar@atonementwyo.org.



CROP Walk Isaac's Fundraiser

Thursday, September 5, 11am - 8pm.



Let them know you are supporting CROP Walk, and Isaac's will donate 15% of you food purchase to CROP Walk.



Preschool News

From Jen Dauber, Preschool Director

Summer at Atonement Christian Preschool was quieter than usual this year. With me undergoing surgery and recovery, I decided to cut back on our camp offerings. We hosted 4 camps in July and August. The campers had fun exploring different countries, learning about weird sea creatures, hearing favorite stories and kickstarting their kindergarten readiness skills. Thank you to the teachers and campers for a successful summer! Also, thank you to everyone for the prayers and well wishes for my surgery. They were greatly appreciated!

The preschool staff will return the last week of August to prepare for the 2024-25 school year. We have 157 students registered with many students enrolled in multiple classes for a total of 210 filled spaces. We have openings in our afternoon fours class on MWF 12:30-3:00. Contact Mrs. Dauber jdauber@atonementwyo.org for more information.

The staff and I are looking forward to greeting the preschoolers and their families at our Meet the Teacher sessions on September 3 & 4. The 2024-25 staff includes Danielle Arce, Kelly Bender, Nancy Brossman, Janine Busack, Regina Doyle, Donna Egan, Michelle Endy, Moira Fallon, Betsey Flite, Jeanette Fotis, Debra Hoffman, Beth McIntyre, Amy Miller, Katie Ney, Libby Pflomm, Kim Rayho, Christina Seyfert, Julia Tavenner, Melody Walley and Theresa Williams. We are excited to have two new teachers joining us this year. Lisa Mazzerle will teach 3-day threes in our newly renovated preschool room on the first floor. She is a preschool mom and former kindergarten teacher. Carrie Spayd will lead the two sessions of Together Time on Wednesday mornings. She has two children who are preschool alums and a third child who is a current preschooler. Carrie is also a former kindergarten teacher. Lisa and Carrie will bring their many years of experience in the classroom and as moms to our preschool.

We are excited for Atonement Christian Preschool's 48th school year to begin!

Stewardship Corner

Pancake Breakfast

The Stewardship Committee will host a pancake breakfast in Lundin Hall Sunday, September 8, following the 10:00 am worship service. Everyone is welcome!



Thank you to all who walked, helped to organize, donated candy or decorations, or cheered us on in the Wyomissing July 4 parade!



2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

God created us to be our authentic selves. This was the message we heard loud and clear at our time in New Orleans for the National Youth Gathering, July 16-21. Thanks to all of you who helped make this trip happen. Your generous donations and prayers made all the difference. Throughout our time we were lifted up, as well as challenged to love others. Almost \$100,000 was raised for ELCA World Hunger during the gathering. Look out for more ways that we can help support ELCA World Hunger in the near future!



Youth members and friends of Atonement: Kaia Arana Lyon, Sofia Arana Lyon, Clayton Aurentz, Emmett Borelli-Hoh, Dami Johnson-Agiri, Franchesca Marquez, Florencia Marquez, Lili Marshall, Michael Weiler
Chaperones: Dave Aurentz, Kate Aurentz, Pastor Katie

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

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.