

ATONEMENT IN ACTION



From Pastor Katie

I'm grateful. One Sunday in October we talked a lot about gratitude. When someone asks: how are you? our response can be: I'm grateful. There is so much pain and sadness in our lives and in the world, yet there is also so much to be grateful for in our lives and in the world!

There is also so much to be grateful for here at Atonement. We are especially grateful for the amazing church and preschool staff and volunteers, for without all of them, we would not be able to serve God and our neighbor. We are looking to thank all of our volunteers on Sunday, November 23 during the 10am worship service along with welcoming in new members. Then on Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 26th, at 7pm, we will gather with Common Ground to worship and give thanks to God. Sunday, November 30 is the First Sunday of Advent and we will do our yearly advent workshop at 8:45am in Lundin Hall. Join us for these special opportunities and look for other ways to express your gratitude to God and to one another. We are grateful! Thanks be to God!

Peace and love,
Pastor Katie

Confirmation

On Sunday, October 26, 11 young people affirmed their baptism in worship. Please continue to pray for these teens as they continue to live out their baptismal calling as members of the Body of Christ.



Back row: Hannah Raifsnider, Jack Neiswender, Gwenyth Wetzel, Max Romig; Middle row: Junia Hershey, Sophia Bowman, Precious Johnson-Agiri, Timothy Biltcliff; Front row: Deacon Tom, Elsa Bowman, Maria Bowman, Quinn Orzechowski, Pastor Katie

Atonement Lutheran Church

5 Wyomissing Boulevard, Wyomissing, Pennsylvania 19610

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

Worship for Sundays in October

All Saints Sunday ♦ November 2 ♦ 10:00 AM
the Rev. Katie Lyon

*"God loves us all, both big and small," a child's verse declares.
The sins of the world are covered. We are able to stand tall before God our righteous
judge because in the person of Jesus "salvation has come to this house"—to our house
today. In Christ Jesus God seeks us out to save us.*

Stewardship Sunday ♦ November 9 ♦ 10:00 AM
the Rev. Katie Lyon

*We worship on the first day of the week because Jesus was raised on that day.
Every Sunday is a little Easter. This Sunday feels more like Easter than many as the
appointed texts celebrate the reality of the resurrection. Live it up this Lord's day.
Our God is the God of the living.*

Time after Pentecost ♦ November 16 ♦ 10:00 AM
the Rev. Katie Lyon

*The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's
texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are
strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally
around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."*

Christ the King Sunday ♦ November 23 ♦ 10:00 AM
the Rev. Katie Lyon

*Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds
ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.
It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal.
This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat.
Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.*

First Sunday of Advent ♦ November 30 ♦ 10:00 AM
the Rev. Sem. April Mulvey

*The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon!
In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know
neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will
gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering.
Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we al-
ready have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our
faith in the promises of God.*

Lectionary Readings

November 2

Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalm 32:1-7

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Luke 19:1-10

November 9

Job 19:23-27a

Psalm 17:1-9

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

Luke 20:27-38

November 16

Malachi 4:1-2a

Psalm 98

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Luke 21:5-19

November 23

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Psalm 46

Colossians 1:11-20

Luke 23:33-43

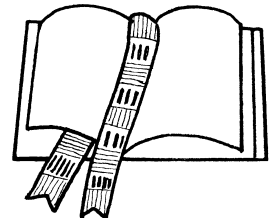
November 30

Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm 122

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:36-44



New Member Welcome

We invite everyone interested in becoming a member of Atonement to join us for new member classes during the Faith Formation hour, 8:45-9:45 am, the Sundays of November 9 in the privacy room and November 16 in room F122. New members will be officially received during 10:00 am worship on November 23.

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

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Atonement Lutheran Church and Common Ground Recovery Community will meet together in Lundin Hall to give thanks to God for all God's blessings on Wednesday, November 26 at 7:00 pm, following the weekly fellowship supper at 6:00 pm. Special music provided by Anthony Arana, guitar and vocals. Bring a friend to this uplifting, joy-filled service!

Thanksgiving Office Hours

The church office will be closed Thursday, November 27 through Monday, December 1 for the Thanksgiving holiday. If you have a pastoral need during that time you may email atonement@atonementwyo.org or leave a message on the office voicemail, which will be checked periodically during that time.



Sunday Attendance in October

	In Person	Online Views**
1st Sunday in October	212	72
2nd Sunday in October	181	69
3rd Sunday in October	187	47
4th Sunday in October	233	67
Total	813	255

** Online attendance as of October 27, 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.

November Usher Schedule

November 2	Team 1—Long
November 9	Team 2—Kofke
November 16	Team 3—Lubitz
November 23	Team 4—Mehos
November 30	Team 5—Eisenbrown

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 or if you are interested in finding out more about scheduling the ushers.

Reading Berks 44th Annual CROP Hunger Walk

Thank you to everyone who walked on Sunday, October 12, in the Reading Berks CROP Hunger walk at Grings Mill, and to those who donated to our team. Atonement raised over \$1,200! I really appreciate everyone's support.
Michelle Endy



Pastoral Acts— October

Prayer Service for Debbie Gentry
October 8

Blessing for CROP walkers
October 12

Funeral for Dorothy Leas
October 29

Graveside Service for Doris Sailer
October 29



In October We Wear Pink in honor of two of our own Wonder Women!

Preschool News

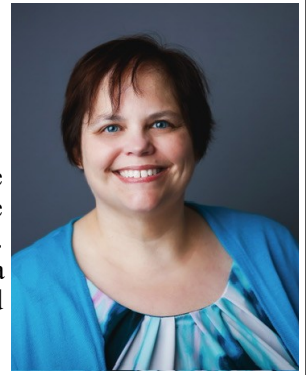
From Jen Dauber, Preschool Director

October Recap

Our Fall Open House on October 4 was well attended by our preschool families. The Wyomissing Fire Department visited the preschool for Fire Safety Week, and we had a fire drill. We had our first gym classes with Mrs. Spayd and preschool chapel with church staff. The Community Trick or Treat event cohosted with Atonement's Stewardship committee was a fun family-friendly morning! We wrapped up the month with Halloween costume parades and in-class celebrations.

What is coming in November?

The students will learn about nutrition and being healthy, gratefulness and Thanksgiving. We will hold speech and vision screenings for 3-5-year-olds. The PreK classes will visit the Reading Public Museum to see the Native American, Animal Habitats, and The Pigeon Comes to Reading! exhibits. The Department of Human Services (DHS) returns in November for our license renewal inspection to upgrade our provisional certification to permanent. Wish us luck with the inspection! We will host in-class Thanksgiving Feasts before our Thanksgiving Break November 26-December 1.



Community Trick-or-Treat

More than 250 people joined us on the church lawn Saturday, October 25 for our annual Community Trick-or-Treat event. Thank you to the friends and family of Atonement Lutheran Church and Atonement Christian Preschool for donating treats and candy.



An Inspiring Message from Bob Eisenbrown, faithful Opportunity House volunteer

I just wanted to share something with all of you that happened today when I took the candy left over from our community trick-or-treat event yesterday to Op House.

I met with one of my contacts there, a man named Brian who handles the front desk for entrance to Op House. He's in recovery and doing well.

He knows me as the "bagel man" since I see him every Friday or Saturday when I deliver the bagels there.

So today, when I got there he jokingly said, "It's the bagel man. But where are the bagels?"

I laughed and said no worries I'll be there next week with more but said I was here today to deliver candy from Atonement Lutheran Church that we had left from our community event yesterday at the church.

He stopped, looked at me, and said thank you so much because they didn't have any candy for the kids and were hoping to get some before Halloween. He thanked me/us over and over again and said he would make sure the candy got to the right people at Op House so they could hand it out to the kids.

I was so moved by this that I just had to share with all of you and thank you for all the tremendous good you all are doing and that our church family is doing to try and help so many that have so little. A small thing in the scheme of things but something that will make those kids smile!

This just made my day.

As Tiny Tim said, "God bless us everyone."

Peace.

Bob

From Deacon Tom

Caroling, Caroling, Here We Come!

Our annual caroling to those in our community who are not able to get out like they once were will take place on Sunday afternoon, December 7. We will meet in the church narthex at 3:45 pm for warm up and organizing, then different groups of us will travel via carpool to carol from 4:00 until 6:00 pm. All ages are welcome!



Sing with the Choir for Christmas Eve

All voices are welcome to join us for our Festival Christmas Choirs - no experience needed! Here are the schedules:

For Children, Grades K through 6:

Rehearsals on Sundays after worship, 11:00-11:45 am in the choir room: November 23, November 30, December 7, December 14, and December 21. Please try to attend at least 3 of these 5 rehearsals. On Christmas Eve, December 24 - warm up at 10:00 am in the nave, worship at 11:00 am.

For Teens and Adults:

Rehearsals on Thursday evenings, 7:30-8:30 pm in the choir: December 4, December 11, December 18

Rehearsal on Saturday morning, 9:30-11:00 am in the nave: December 20 (come at 9:00 am for coffee and donuts!)

Please try to attend at least 2 of these 4 rehearsals. On Christmas Eve, December 24 - warm up at 7:00 pm in the choir room, worship at 7:30 pm.



From Lauryn Lacis, Director of Children's Ministry

Faith Formation: Children will meet at 8:45 a.m. in the choir room for songs, a message, and prayers before heading to their classrooms. We are always looking to add more volunteers to teach Faith Formation!

Chapel Time: During the 10 a.m. service children ages 3 to 2nd grade have an opportunity to experience worship geared just for them. After the children's message, the children are supervised in the privacy room for a story, craft, and activity based on the gospel story of the day.

Nursery: During the 10 a.m. service children preschool age and younger are supervised in F126

Advent Workshop: We will hold our Advent Workshop on November 30 from 8:45-9:45 a.m. in Lundin Hall. There will be lovely wreath making and service projects for our homeward bound members. Volunteers are needed for this event. Please reach out to me if you are interested in helping at one of our many stations.

***If you have shrubbery, pine boughs, holly, etc. from your property to donate for the wreaths, please drop them off anytime at the church during the week of November 24-29.**

A Place at the Table: This January, all children 2nd grade and above who would like to receive communion instruction are encouraged to participate in A Place at the Table classes. Children will learn about Jesus and his special meal, Holy Communion. We will gather Sundays, January 4, 11, and 18 during the Faith Formation hour, 8:45-9:45 a.m. On Sunday, January 25, we will have Communion Celebration – rehearsal and light refreshments during the Faith Formation hour, followed by receiving communion in worship at 10 a.m.

Email me at llacis@atonementwyo.org with questions or to register.



ATONEMENT
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Faith Formation



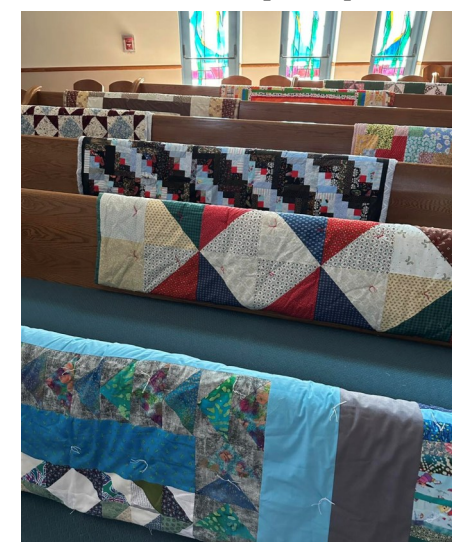
Test Your Quilt Group Knowledge!

Just as we see the colorful leaves in autumn, Atonement Church is covered in colorful quilts on one Sunday in September. You may have been thinking, “Wow, finally I can sleep in comfort during the sermon,” but no! We bring the quilts to church so that we can bless them before they are sent to Lutheran World Relief in Maryland. Lutheran World Relief then sends them all over the world, including to the United States. Some quilts recently were sent to Texas after the floods there. There is a poster in the narthex listing some of the other destinations.

How much do you know about Atonement’s Quilt Group? The Quilt Group was founded in 2013. Since then we have made 968 quilts! (almost a thousand! Wow!) The quilts may not feature any religious symbols or flags, and must be 60 by 80 inches, with the knots eight inches apart. Sounds complicated, doesn’t it? We joke about quilt math, but we have the process down to a science. When we started out, we used tape measures and foot rules to measure the distance between knots, but now we have a frame which makes the measuring very easy.

We are always looking for volunteers. We normally meet on the third Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Privacy Room at church. Several of us sew the quilt tops and bottoms at home, so the primary role of the volunteers at church is to tie square knots. If you are hazy on knot tying from your Boy or Girl Scout days, we will do a review for you! We have had group members of all ages, from middle school to senior citizens, and even Pastor Lee helped to do some knotting when he was at Atonement. We always have good conversations, and occasionally we are lucky enough to get to hear Deacon Tom play the organ while we are knotting.

We welcome donations of fabric or old sheets. They may be brought to the church office at your convenience. It costs \$2.80 for LWR to ship one quilt, which seems very cost effective. If you have carried around some of those quilts, you



will realize that they are heavy! If you would like to donate money toward the shipping, please make a check payable to Atonement and put “quilt shipping” in the memo. And, of course, we always appreciate prayers for the group members, for the folks who deliver the quilts, and the people who receive them. For additional information, contact Jo Sturgis at jesturgis@comcast.net or phone the church office.

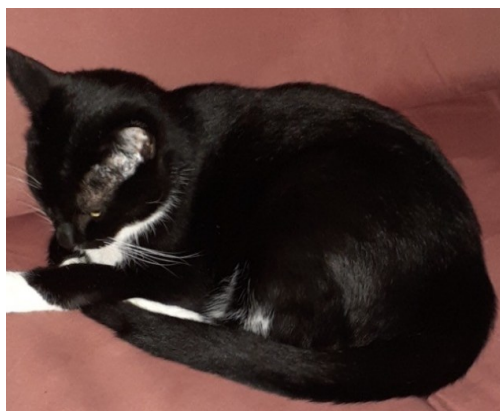
Members of the quilt group are Kay April, Angela Beam, Pat Bressler, Sue Colon, Kathryn Fellman, Mary Lou Hall, Janet Law, Barb Mischler, Marilyn Pounder, Barbara Stone, Jo Sturgis, and Sally Youngcourt.

Free Things!

Have you ever heard the saying “One person’s trash is another person’s treasure”?

People are often calling the church, wanting to know if we or someone we know would like an item that they no longer want, hoping it will be someone else’s treasure. Items include office supplies, furniture, pianos, and more! If you have something to add to our Free Things! section, please send a picture, description, and your contact information to cshirk@atonementwyo.org. Items will be listed for one month, and will include the donor’s name and contact information, so that interested people will contact the donor directly. **Please note that items will NOT be stored at the church.**

This month 2 cats are looking to be re-homed. Contact Lois Hein at 610-223-9392 for additional information.



Financial Corner

As of September 30, 2025

General Fund – “Reach IN”

The General Fund provides funding for all of the on-going routine activities of the church.

Year-to-Date Results:

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
Income:	\$979,221	\$852,875	\$126,346	\$1,160,800
Expenses:	<u>\$921,973</u>	<u>\$851,509</u>	<u>(\$ 70,464)</u>	<u>\$1,160,800</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 57,248	\$1,366	\$ 55,882	\$ 0

- The church's income is in a favorable position due primarily to pledges and preschool tuition paid in advance at the beginning of the year or school year.
- The church's expenses are being negatively impacted by recent major repairs to the church building.

Mortgage Balance: (\$45,909)

Over the years, some very generous donations have been made to reduce our mortgage debt. Going forward, we want to recognize, with permission, such donations.

Mission Endowment Fund – “Reach OUT”

The Mission Endowment Fund provides funding to support mission outreach to the congregation and the broader community.

Fund Balance: \$1,836,139 (only 4% of this balance can be used each year by the church)

Memorials:

By Kate and John Harenza in gratitude for the life and spirit of Debbie Gentry

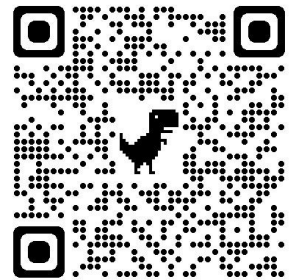
Types of Gifts and Assets Accepted:

There are many different ways to give to Atonement and we would be glad to provide guidance on what types of gifts and assets are accepted. Please reach out to the church office if you have 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.



Do You Like to Bake?

Our Stewardship Team is looking for additional bakers to provide cookies for Meals on Wheels.



We are asking each baker to provide four dozen cookies of your choice, delivered to the church December 7. Call the office if you are interested or have questions.

2025 Congregational Council

Class of 2023:

Tyler Good ♦ Jennifer Nied
Shannon Nowotarski ♦ Cara Pepper

Class of 2024:

Robin Border ♦ Scott Boyer ♦ John Lehr

Class of 2025:

Robert Bailey ♦ Emily Garl ♦ Jeff Good ♦ Kate Harenza
Henry Turner ♦ Emmett Borelli Hoh, youth representative

Cara Pepper, *president* ♦ Tyler Good, *vice president*
Kate Harenza, *treasurer* ♦ Henry Turner, *secretary*

The next council meeting will be Monday, November 17

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

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

Attorneys

Daral A. Woerle, Esquire
I am a general practice attorney focusing primarily on Estate Planning, Estate Administration, and Business and Real Estate law. I also help clients find great attorneys for all their other legal needs.
Cell phone: 610-914-0699
Office phone: 610-779-0950
woerlelaw@gmail.com

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