

ATONEMENT IN ACTION

from Pastor Katie

We had a great month celebrating and thanking different groups over the month of October. The month of November will bring more celebrating and thanking God. There are baptisms planned along with Stewardship Sunday, Praise Band, Kids’ choir, Christ the King Sunday and the First Sunday in Advent with an Advent workshop. This month our adult faith formation will switch gears and focus on grief. We will be thanking God for being in the midst of our sadness. Our annual Thanksgiving Eve service with Common Ground will also occur. What a joy to be able to gather together to celebrate and thank God for all the amazing gifts we have been given!

Peace and love,
Pastor Katie



Pastoral Acts – September & October

- September 9 – Funeral for Betty Shirk
- September 24 – Commendation of the dying for Barbara Homsher
- October 4 – Blessing of Quilts – October 4
- October 10 – Funeral for Kathryn Maier
- October 11 – Blessing for CROP Walk Participants
- October 14 – Inurnment of ashes for Marian Connelly
- October 18 – Recognition of Pastor Art’s 20 years at Atonement & 55 years of ordained ministry
- October 25 – Affirmation of Baptism for Confirmands



Above: former Atonement Christian preschool students

Right: Confirmation Class of 2026: (back row) Vivian Rogers, Leah Boston, Oliver Lord, (front row) Pastor Molly Haggerty, Presley Wengrowski, Madeline Long, Samantha Nied, Hannah Liskey, Pastor Katie Lyon.

Worship for Sundays in November

All Saints Day ♦ November 1 ♦ 10:00AM
the Rev. Molly Haggerty

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord’s table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

Time after Pentecost November 8 ♦ 10:00AM
the Rev. Katie Lyon ♦ Stewardship Sunday ♦ Baptism of Hudson Beau Tuell

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ’s coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the Lamb.

Time after Pentecost ♦ November 15 ♦ 10:00AM
the Rev. John Richter

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ’s coming among us.

Christ the King ♦ November 22 ♦ 10:00AM
the Rev. Katie Lyon ♦ Baptism of Theodore Francis Potts and Robert Frederick Early IV

On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus’ great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

First Sunday of Advent ♦ November 29 ♦ 10:00AM
the Rev. Katie Lyon

Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist’s plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

Lectionary Readings

November 1

Revelation 7:9-17
Psalm 34:1-10, 22
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12

November 8
Amos 5:18-24
Psalm 70

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

November 15
Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

November 22
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm 95:1-7a
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46

November 29
Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

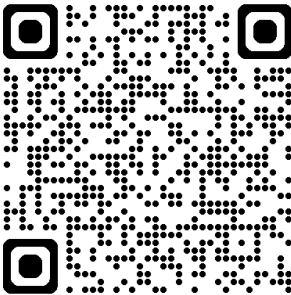


Sunday Attendance in October

	In Person	Online Views*
1 st Sunday in October	213	55
2 nd Sunday in October	168	109
3 rd Sunday in October	203	83
4 th Sunday in October	244	89
Total	828	336

*Online attendance as of October 26. Online services are always available to watch following the service. You can find the link on the home page of atonementwyo.org or use the QR code to the right.

Please help us to keep our records accurate by signing the attendance sheet found in the pews every week that you are here.



From Pastor Molly

Adult Faith Formation **GROWING IN GRIEF**

Sundays at 8:45am in the **parlor** (not F122) November 1, 8, 15 and 22
Come join us for a month of reflecting and learning about the grief process and how we can heal together through this journey. Pastor Molly will help us understand grief and how it affects us, along with making space to share our stories. Deacon Tom will explore how music can help us through our grief. The last week, Pastor Katie will go from learning to live in grief to resiliency.



Bible Study at the Highlands

Tuesday, November 10 and 24 at 2pm in the Franklin Room

We are joining with Trinity Lutheran to gather at the Highlands for a Bible Study with our Sunday readings. Deaconess Deborah from Trinity, Pastor Molly, and Pastor Katie are all sharing the leadership to gather with people, listen to their faith journeys, and bring church to the Highlands.

Wednesday Small Groups

Faith & Recovery with Pastor Tom - 1st (Privacy Room) & 4th Wednesdays (Room F122) of the month.

Join this small group to learn about using recovery tools as a form of discipleship. This is a 12-session series; however, you can join at any time!

Faith & Justice with Pastor Molly - 2nd Wednesdays of the month (Privacy Room).

In November, we will participate in ELCA Hunger Advocate training. We will learn what it takes for anyone in our church and community to help make a difference through hunger awareness, supporting local organizations, and sharing stories.

Musing in Menopause with Pastor Molly - 3rd Wednesdays of the month (Room F122).

Each month we take on a different part of the decade long + journey of “the change”. Using humor, scripture, education and stories, we will walk along side each other to find spiritual tools to navigate this womanhood together.

Confirmation and Youth Group

A Dinner of Faith – Sunday, November 22, 5:30-7:30pm.

Confirmation students and REVIVE youth will gather for a dinner of faith. We are inviting adult members of the church to join us for dinner so the youth can ask questions about your faith stories. A “fancy” meal will help multigenerational conversation about our faith together. Please contact Pastor Molly if you are interested in being one of the adults being interviewed at 717-321-4877 (cell) or mhaggerty@atonementwyo.org.

Confirmation

Students will meet Sunday, November 1, 8, and 15 in the privacy room. 11:15am-12:15pm, and Sunday, November 22, 5:30-7:30pm in Lundin Hall for the Dinner of Faith. Questions? Contact Pastor Katie or Pastor Molly. There is NO confirmation on Sunday, November 29.

Thanksgiving Eve Service with Common Ground

Atonement and Common Ground will gather in Lundin Hall to give thanks to God for all God’s blessings on Wednesday, November 25 at 6:30pm. A community meal will be served 5:30-6:15pm. Join us as Pastor Tom and Pastor Katie lead us in ways to be thankful together.



Financial Corner

General Fund – “Reach IN”

The General Fund provides funding for all of the ongoing routine activities of the church.

Year-to-Date Results (9/30/2026):

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>Annual</u>
Income:	\$989,082	\$891,125	\$97,957	\$1,241,900
Expenses:	<u>(\$854,512)</u>	<u>(\$915,718)</u>	<u>\$61,206</u>	<u>(\$1,241,900)</u>
Net Income:	\$134,570	(\$ 24,593)	\$159,163	\$0

Pledge and preschool payments received earlier in year than budgeted. Larger amount received of estate and one-time donations, interest income, and room donations than expected.

Mortgage Balance - zero

Mission Endowment Fund – “Reach OUT”

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

Schwab	\$1,894,240
Mission Investment Fund CD	\$ <u>130,075</u>
Total	\$2,024,315

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, along with the purpose for which you are donating it, the name of the stock, it’s value, where it is coming from, and who the donor is. The office will provide you with any additional information necessary to make the transaction.

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



Atonement’s Grateful Upgrades

During the life of the congregation, various needs are identified that provide additional opportunities for giving. Atonement’s Grateful Upgrades has been developed as an on-going means of communicating such needs. You may pay any portion of the cost that you feel called to do and can also donate in honor or memory of a loved one. Checks may be made out to Atonement with the item in the memo. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity in supporting the mission of our church!

- Gym door upgrade – cost TBD
- Lighting upgrade in nave – cost TBD
- Pew candles for Christmas candlelight services - \$160
- Glow sticks for Christmas candlelight services - \$75
- Hand held candles for Christmas candlelight services - \$120

Usher Schedule

November 1	Youth Team
November 8	Team 2 – Kofke
November 15	Team 3 – Lubitz
November 22	Team 4 – Mehos
November 29	Team 5 – Eisenbrown

New Ushers are always welcomed!

All adults and youth in 7th grade and older can be part of our usher teams! This is a great way for younger youth to volunteer and gain leadership experience. Email cshirk@atonementwyo.org if you would like to be added to an usher team or have any questions.

CROP Hunger Walk

From Michelle Endy

The weather did not cooperate on October 11 and we did NOT walk in the soggy rain, but instead chose to walk on our own later that week. Thank you to the youth for a fun morning, and for even considering walking in that mess of a day. Thank you to everyone who donated money to this great cause again this year. Team Atonement raised \$807. If you did not get a chance to do so, consider making a check or cash donation directly to Helping Harvest Food Bank. You can also bring a food item along with you one Sunday and add it to our food cart in the narthex.

Bless you all!



Thanksgiving Office Hours

The church office will be closed Thursday, November 26 through Monday, November 30 for the Thanksgiving holiday. If you have a pastoral need during that time, call the church at 610-375-3512 and follow the prompts to the directory to select *Pastoral Emergency* to be connected with the pastor on call.



from Jen Dauber, Preschool Director

During the October 18 church service, the congregation recognized Pastor Art Wyse for his 20 years of service as Atonement’s visitation pastor and 55 years as a pastor. We also thanked the many ministries that care for the people of Atonement. Pastor Katie, in her sermon, talked about a man who wrote a letter to a different person each day for an entire year. In each letter, he expressed how grateful he was for the person he was writing to. While writing these letters, he realized he had been misspelling the word “grateful” by writing it as “greatful.” She explained that grateful came from the word gratitude.



As we head into the month of November and the Thanksgiving holiday, I sit in my office thinking about the people in the building who I am grateful for, and I want to express my gratitude for them.

I am grateful for the church staff, church council, groundskeeping crew, and the sextons.

I am grateful for the preschool staff, my bookkeeper and cleaning person, and the support people from the BCIU and ABA clinics that help our higher needs students.

I am grateful for our preschool families for sharing their children with us and for those same children who brighten our school days with conversations and laughter in the classrooms, hallways and on the playground.

I am grateful that 50 years ago “a preschool in which children may be taught both educational and values of the Christian life in today’s world”* was started at Atonement and that I am the fourth person who has the pleasure of calling herself the Director of Atonement Christian Preschool.

*Referenced from Reading Eagle article dated January 21, 1978, “They Come, Learn and Love It” written by Penne Martin, Eagle Religious Editor.

November in preschool is our usual learning 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 “How People Make Things” exhibits. We will host in-class Thanksgiving Feasts before our Thanksgiving Break, November 25-30.

Happy Thanksgiving from the staff & students of Atonement Christian Preschool!



from Lauryn Lacis, Director of Children’s Ministry

Faith Formation

Our Faith Formation classes have resumed! This is for ages 3 through 6th grade. We are continuing to add more adult leaders and teen helpers for instruction. If you are interested in volunteering 1-2 hours per month throughout the school year, please contact me directly at llacis@atonementwyo.org. Signups for children to attend Faith Formation have been posted, or you may contact me directly.

Nursery

During the 10a.m. service, preschool age children and younger are supervised in F126. Nursery has resumed for the year. If you would like to be a volunteer for nursery, please reach out to me directly.

Chapel Time

During 10am service children aged 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. Chapel has resumed for the year.

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 Sunday, January 10, 17, and 24, 9-9:45am in the privacy room. On Sunday, January 31, we will have Communion Celebration – rehearsal and light refreshments during the Faith Formation hour, followed by receiving communion in worship at 10am. Register your child by emailing me at llacis@atonementwyo.org.



from Deacon Tom

100th Anniversary of Reading Musical Foundation

This year RMF is celebrating 100 years of promoting and aiding music and musicians throughout Berks County. The Atonement Bach Scholarship has been an important part of that program for many years. Last year RMF made eight merit awards through our scholarship to top performing high school students in each instrumental category totaling \$2,800. All recipients played or sang in worship.

The balance of the Atonement Scholarship Fund was \$62,625 on June 30 of this year. The distribution allowance is 4.75%. If you would like to add to the fund in honor of RMF’s 100th anniversary, please contact me. Please know that RMF is very grateful for our support!

Children’s Christmas Pageant

Our annual Christmas Pageant will be presented in worship at 10:00am on Sunday, December 20. This year the pageant is titled “Christmas Light Show,” and there are NO rehearsals! Children from preschool through Grade 6 are invited to come to worship and to participate when they are called upon. For more information, please contact Lauryn Lacis or Deacon Tom.

Join a Choir for Christmas

Even if you are not a regular member of Atonement Choir or Children’s Choir, please consider joining a choir for Christmas Eve services. Children’s Choir, Grades K-6, will rehearse 11:15am-12:00 noon on Sundays, December 6, 13, and 20, and will sing at the 11:00am service on Christmas Eve. The adult choir will rehearse 7:15-8:15pm on Thursdays, December 3, 10, and 17, and will sing at the 7:30pm Christmas Eve service. Contact me for more information.

Christmas Caroling

Our annual Christmas caroling to members who can no longer attend worship regularly will be Sunday, December 13, 4:00-6:00pm. We will meet at 3:45pm in the narthex to organize into groups. All ages are welcome to join us for this annual tradition that brings tidings of comfort and joy!



Children’s Choir, October 25

Atonement's Stephen Ministers: Helping You Feel God's Presence When You Face Difficult Times

Did you know that Atonement's Pastoral Care Team includes **Stephen Ministers**? The representative for Stephen Ministry on the Pastoral Care Team is Ray Warmkessel. Ray has been a Stephen Minister at Atonement since 2005, and trained as a Stephen Leader in 2006.

Stephen Ministers are lay congregation members who are trained to provide confidential one-to-one Christian care to people who are experiencing a difficult time in life. It might be a serious medical diagnosis, losing your job, a death in the family, divorce, or other challenge. Stephen Ministers meet with you weekly to listen to you, encourage you, and provide spiritual and emotional support. Many Stephen Minister caring relationships have been fostered over the past 23 years. **Atonement's Stephen Ministers are here to walk with you.**

Atonement's Stephen Ministers are Michelle Endy, Rachel Gambone, Yvonne Gilbert, Ed Hein, Lois Hein, Ted Hershberger, Ray Warmkessel, and Sue Ziemer. You will see us on Sundays wearing our blue name badges. Please feel free to talk with us about this Christ-centered caring ministry.

What is it like to be in a caring relationship with a Stephen Minister? Here is what one Atonement member says:

When my daughter died, I was very sad and lonely. Lois Hein asked if I would like a Stephen Minister and I said "yes." I could talk about anything, and she would listen. At the end of our visit we would pray together. I really felt like God was present with us. I am so glad I said "yes" to a Stephen Minister.

If you want to talk about entering a caring relationship with a Stephen Minister, please contact Ray Warmkessel at rwarmkessel@comcast.net, or call the church office at (610) 375-3512. We are here to extend Christ-centered care.

Do you feel called to be a Stephen Minister? We are preparing our next training session in the coming months; please feel free to talk to any of our Stephen Ministers, especially Lois Hein or Ray Warmkessel.



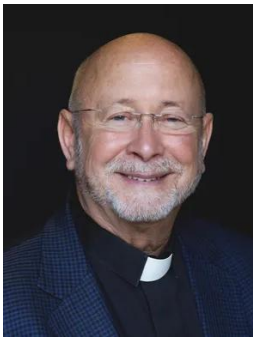
We Are Grateful for Volunteers!

Did you know that our volunteers help us during the week as well as on a Sunday morning? In addition to the readers, communion assistants, ushers, musicians, altar guild, faith formation teachers, and nursery attendants that you see every Sunday, we have volunteers helping all week: keeping our outdoor grounds beautiful and free of weeds, helping in the office, scheduling volunteers, and helping to keep our building safe and tidy. We have members volunteering out in the community representing Atonement, and volunteers visiting homebound and hospitalized members. We could not do all that we do without your help!



If you would like to get involved, call the office to find out the many ways you can give of your time and talents this year!





common
ground
recovery community



Why do you come to Common Ground?

Here are a few testimonials from Common Ground participants



“People are special. People help each other out. I was baptized here this summer. The art activities help us relax and learn. We also have fun with our pastors.”
- Chris and Laura



“I am here for friendship and recovery. Back a few years ago, Pastor Tom helped us furnish our apartment. G-O-D good orderly direction! That is how we do it here.”
- Dave



“I love that we have the clothing closet! I can create so many fun looks and feel good about myself. This really makes a difference!”
- Tracy



18th Annual Healing
Power of Spirituality

SPEAKER SERIES



Speaker Series: Save the Date



November 10, 2026

Brian Hughes
Vice President of Business Development
& Alumni at Caron



March 9, 2027

Fred Kofke
Caron Regional Advisory Board Member



April 13, 2027

Honorable Eddie Moran
Mayor, City of Reading

This event is complimentary, and you do not need to pre-register.

Atonement Lutheran Church | 5 Wyomissing Blvd. | Wyomissing, PA 19610

Brought to you by Common Ground Ministries & Caron Treatment Centers

Donations

Common Ground continues to collect clothing (new or gently used) and toiletries. You can use the large laundry bin next to the coat room in the narthex. As the weather gets colder, the need for tents, sleeping bags, and other warm items is great. Use the QR code to go directly to the Common Ground Amazon Wish List.

Community Aid Thrift Shop

If you find yourself donating to the Community Aid Thrift Shop on 5th Street, you can benefit Common Ground by giving them the code **50244** when you make your donation! This is a great place to take items including plates, pots and pans, toys, games, holiday decorations, linens, working electronics, furniture, unopened cosmetics, and more!

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

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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
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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.
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Sue Colon, Realtor

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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.
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Bob Wertz, Realtor-Associate Broker

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