ATONEMENT IN ACTION

From Pastor Katie

The Holy Spirit continues to blow through this church and community. One place that the Spirit was quite evident was at my installation service on Sunday, October 15th. A joyful noise was made by the Mariachi Band, choir, and children singing to me, and closing with one of my favorite hymns: *Dazzling Bouquet*. Pastor Dietz, Associate of the Bishop, who installed me, did not think we could top the Spirit filled worship on the day of my call vote (May 28th) but she assured us that we did and then some! We truly are a dazzling bouquet of every kind of flower! Thank you to all those who made that day so special! I continue to feel so blessed to have this opportunity to be your Senior Pastor.



Another way the Spirit has made its presence known is in the activities we have already done and have planned for this fall and winter. Faith formation continues to meet every Sunday morning at 8:45am. Everyone is learning about God's love for them and how they might carry that out into the world. The preschool and congregation are working more closely together to have activities for the littlest ones among us. The 15th annual Common Ground Speaker Series is also under way. Pastor Tom started it off by telling his story which was powerful and inspiring. Join us for the remaining speakers. Be inspired. Attend Thanksgiving Eve worship at 7pm in Lundin Hall with us as well.

Look out for all the worship, learning and serving events that will happen this year and join us any way you are able. Together we are stronger. Together we can feel the Spirit in our midst. Come Holy Spirit!

Peace and love, Pastor Katie











Thanksgiving Eve Worship Wednesday, November 22, 7:00 P.M.

As has been our tradition for many years, Atonement will join with Common Ground Recovery Community to celebrate Thanksgiving on Wednesday, November 22, at 7:00 p.m. in Lundin Hall. We gather together to give thanks to God for the many blessings we have received. All are welcome!

Note that the church office will be closed Thursday, November 23 through Monday, November 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

If you have a pastoral need during that time you may leave a message at the office, as voicemail will be checked throughout the long weekend.

Atonement Lutheran Church

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

Worship for Sundays in November

All Saints Sunday ♦ November 5 10:00 AM ♦ the Rev. Tom Scornavacchi

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 12 10:00 AM ♦ the Rev. Katie Lyon

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 19 10:00 AM ♦ the Rev. Katie Lyon

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 26 10:00 AM ♦ the Rev. Katie Lyon

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.

lectionary readings for the Sundays of November

November 5

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

November 12

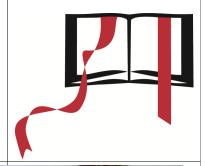
Amos 5:18-24 Psalm 70 I Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13

November 19

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

November 26

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



Pastoral Acts—October

October 1 Blessing of Volunteers Landscape Crew

> October 15 Installation of Pastor Katie

October 22 Baptism for Brooke Kimberly Dahms New Member Welcome

October 31
Affirmation of Baptism for Confirmands





Confirmation Day



Congratulations to the 11 young people who affirmed their baptism on Confirmation Sunday, October 29.

Braelyn Reis, Piper Bialek, Melissa Sweigart, Macy Jane Lord, Gavin Wetzel, Madeline Hottenstein, Dami Johnson-Agiri, Molly Kunkelman, Amelia Eastman, Katerina Wengrowski Inset: Emmett Borelli-Hoh

Please keep these newly confirmed members of our congregation in your prayers!

All Saints Day Sunday, November 5

On Sunday, November 5, at the 10:00 worship service, we will observe All Saints Sunday and remember all members and friends of Atonement who have died in the past 12 months, since last year's All Saints' Day.

If you would like to add family members or friends who are not Atonement members to the list, please contact Crystal in the office at 610-375-3512 or cshirk@atonementwyo.org no later than November 1.

Usher Schedule for November

November 5, 10:00 am Team 2—Kofke

November 12, 10:00 am Team 3—Lubitz

November 19, 10:00 am Team 4—Mehos

November 26, 10:00 am Team 5—Eisenbrown

Greens Needed

We are seeking donations of greens of all kinds to be used to make Advent wreaths for our Advent Event on December 3 (see details on page 4). Collection will take place the week of November 27-December 2; drop off anytime convenient for you. Location for drop off will be in the back corner of church parking lot closest to church (along back of stairwell at side church doors). Boxwood, holly, pines of any type, are among the many greens we will accept, in smaller sized clippings, please.



From Caitlyn Marrella, Directory of Christian Formation

Faith Formation:

Children grades K-6th meet in the sanctuary for songs, a message and prayers before heading to their classrooms. Children 3 and 4 years old start in their classrooms immediately. The large group opening and small group lessons are from the Spark Lectionary Curriculum.

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.

Advent Workshop:

Please join us December 3rd during the Faith Formation hour (8:45-9:45 a.m.) in Lundin Hall for our Advent Workshop. Not only will we create the beautiful make-and-take wreaths, but we will also work on many service projects for our homebound members, college students and those needing a little holiday cheer. We will even have a special visitor, St. Nicholas! Volunteers are needed to make this event a success. Please see me if you are interested in helping out at one of the many stations.



Sidewalk art created in Children's Chapel at our outdoor service.

*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 27th - December 2nd.

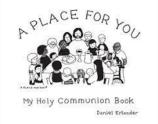
Kids Night Out:

On December 8th from 6:00-8:30 p.m. Atonement will be hosting a special night for kids ages 4 and up (must be potty trained). The night will consist of pizza, games, crafts, and a movie. This will be on a first come first serve basis, as we are opening it up to 25 children. Registration forms are coming soon and will be due December 3rd. STAY TUNED!

*Please reach out to Cara Pepper or myself if you are interested in helping out at this event.

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 7th, 14th, and 21st. On Sunday, January 28th, we will have a Communion Celebration - rehearsal and light refreshments during the Faith Formation hour, followed by receiving communion in worship at 10 a.m. Register your child by emailing me at cmarrella@atonementwyo.org.



Faith Formation Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 17, 10:00 am



All children from Preschool through Grade 6 are invited to participate in our annual Christmas pageant on Sunday, December 17, during our worship service. There will be two rehearsals for children who wish to participate: Sundays, December 10 and 17, 8:45-9:45 a.m., during the regular Faith Formation hour. If you have children in your life who would enjoy reenacting the Christmas story, please bring them to one or both rehearsals – all are welcome, even if they do not attend Faith Formation classes!

From Deacon Tom Surprised by Joy

As this year's confirmands were preparing for Confirmation Day on October 29, Pastor Katie asked them to come up with the top five values of Atonement Lutheran Church (from a list of 26). After some spirited debate, here are their results: evangelism, education, diversity, community, and joyful.



My favorite of their answers is "joyful." It is not a value that I would have expected them to choose or one that I would have picked myself. Yet the more I reflected on it, the more I realized that it is a wonderfully appropriate choice.

Here's the thing: you can plan for evangelism and education, and I think that we do. You can even set goals for diversity and community – and we are trying our best in those areas too. But as soon as you start *planning* for joy, as soon as you start *trying* to be joyful, those efforts will feel forced and fall flat.

Oh, you might achieve some smiles, some chuckles, even some warm fuzzies, but joy cannot be manufactured. It is a gift from the Holy Spirit that comes when we least expect it. We can't make it happen, but we can be open to it. We can be expectantly waiting for it.

Our world is filled with dangers and disasters, from Ukraine and the Middle East to wildfires and floods, from opioid addiction and gun violence to hunger and loneliness. But our God is an awesome God who loves us and walks with us through it all. Thanks be to God that our little flock can find joy in our life and mission together!

"No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging, Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?"

from the Prayer Team

Sometimes it's easy to lose faith in people.
And sometimes one act of kindness is all it takes to give you hope again.

-Randa Abdel-Fattah

Need Prayer?

The prayer team is a ministry here at Atonement that will pray for all requests daily. You can make your needs known by calling or emailing the church office or Lois Hein from the pastoral care team.

Interested in joining this ministry and becoming a pray-er with us? Contact Dorothy DeLong for more information. Please consider being a part of this important ministry!

Lois Hein email: lhein@atonementwyo.org

Dorothy DeLong email: pbjdelong@comcast.net

Sunday Attendance in October

	10:00 am	Views ⁵
1st Sunday in October	136	56
2nd Sunday in October	186	61
3rd Sunday in October	236	99
4th Sunday in October	180	63
5th Sunday in October	<u>257</u>	59
Total	995	338

*Online attendance as of October 30. Online services are always available to watch the day after they are live streamed, and remain available for re-watching! Online readers use this link to go directly to Atonement's YouTube page, which is also available at atonementwyo.org.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCg1TXf607Z5yGtN I2d0e qQ

Preschool News



October was a busy, fun-filled month at Atonement Christian Preschool. We learned about fire safety. Some classes visited the Wyomissing Fire Station while other classes explored the fire truck that visited the preschool parking lot. Classes celebrated the fall harvest with apple tasting, pumpkin carving, and leaf hunting. Our Fours and PreK classes spent beautiful autumn mornings at Weaver's Orchard. We had our first preschool chapel with Deacon Tom, Pastor Katie, and Miss Caitlyn. Our lesson was "how with my eyes, I can see Jesus" and the story of Zacchaeus. We cohosted Community Trick or Treating with the Stewardship Committee and ended the month with Halloween celebrations including costume parades.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Community Trick or Treating! Your donations of treats and your time were greatly appreciated!

In November, the classes will learn about nutrition and being healthy, gratefulness, and Thanksgiving. The 3's, 4's & PreK classes will visit the Reading Public Museum to visit Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood: A Grr-ific exhibit along with several other exhibits. Our chapel lesson will be "how with my voice, I can tell about Jesus" and the story of John the Baptist. All classes will have in-class Feasts before Thanksgiving break November 22-27. Happy Thanksgiving from the students and staff of Atonement Christian Preschool!









Atonement Trick-or-Treat

Co-hosted by Atonement Christian Preschool and Atonement Stewardship Committee

























Atonement CROP Walk Team



On Sunday, October 8, Atonement has a team of 19 youth and adults participated in the annual Berks CROP Walk for hunger. The team raised \$500 this year. Thank you to all who gave or walked!

Can You Help?

Woman is seeking to rent a room in someone's house in the Reading area with use of kitchen and bathroom. Her father was a local Pastor in this area. Will pay rent/utilities. She is easy to get along with and neat!

Please contact her at 484-269-0358 or contact Pastor Katie for more information.

Parents of College Students

Once your **college bound student** is settled at school, **please notify the church office** of their new address.

We are trying to keep in touch with all of our youth when they leave home, letting them know that their church home remembers them and is praying for them.

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 can 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.





Outdoor décor—contact Carolyn Auman at ccauman 1936@gmail.com.

Do you know that the church has an assortment of medical equipment that you may use if the need arises?



Men's Huffy multi-speed, aluminum bike with new helmet and extra seats—contact John Furst at 610-670-6753 or Jtlfurst@gmail.com



Craftsman table saw with extra new blade—contact John Furst at 610-670-6753 or Jtlfurst@gmail.com

Contact Dr. Ken Lord at klord@atonementwyo.org if you have a need for a wheelchair, walker, or other medical equipment.

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation continues with the curriculum **Animate Faith**, Sunday mornings through November 26. Highs and lows will happen from 8:45 to 9am and we will get started promptly with Animate Faith at 9:00am. We will explore central topics in Christianity like God, Religion, Jesus, Salvation, Cross, Bible, and Church. Seminary Student, April Mulvey, will be leading most classes with Pastor Katie filling in along with being a participant. Each participant needs an Animate Faith Journal. Atonement will be purchasing the journals for a reduced group rate. Each journal is \$14. Donations are welcome: cash or a check made out to Atonement with "Faith Formation" in the memo.

Check out the following trailer to get an introduction of the class: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b67T2TCzZyM&list=PLUZCdbcS-u6we90UN9YKtOalEN-Gif YE

Financial Report

as of September 30, $2\overline{0}23$

September Unrestricted Income	\$ 72,805
September Expenses	\$ 72,538
YTD Unrestricted Income	\$704,443
YTD Unrestricted Expenses	\$756,640
Mission Investment Fund Loan	\$425,318.81
Principal Payments to Date (08/31/2023)	\$178,690.52
Remaining Loan Balance	\$246,628.29

Thank you so much, Atonement, for your incredible generosity!

Please contact Amy Rogers with any questions.

Thrivent Action Team Grants

Thrivent Action Team Grants are ALWAYS welcome to support the ministries at Hope's Table and Café Esperanza. Thrivent members use link below to find out how easy it is to support the community with the Action Team grants for up to \$500 annually:

https://www.thrivent.com/what-we-offer/generosity/thrivent-action-teams.html

Yoga at Atonement

Join yoga teacher Amy Ebersole-Sharkey in Lundin Hall, Tuesdays. 9:15-10:15am in November. This is an all levels vinyasa flow (movement with breath). Give yourself 1 hour a week to breath, stretch, and strengthen your mind, body, and soul. Cost is \$12 per class, come when you can, or \$40 for the 4 week session (cash, check, or Venmo amy-sharkey-3)

RSVP, questions, or concerns please contact Amy at 610-334-4528 or amyskidsyoga@yahoo.com.

Bring a friend or meet new friends at class. All are welcome!

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, by **texting** 610-624-8412, and by scanning the **QR code** to the right with your smart phone.



Our 2024 Pledge Campaign Is Underway!

Letters and have gone out to the congregation requesting your pledges for 2024. Please prayerfully consider a generous pledge that will help Atonement to continue its ministry to our congregation, our community, and our world. If you need a pledge card, they are available in the narthex, along with the Time and Talent Sheets that were included with the mailing, or contact the office and we can send one to you.

Stewardship Sunday will be held on **November 12**, when you may return your pledge cards in person during the worship service. You may also return them directly to the church office if you prefer. Thank you for your continued support of time, talent, and treasure!

Stewardship: It's everything we do after we say, "We Believe".



An Opportunity To Serve

We are blessed. Actually, let me say that again with more oomph.

We are truly BLESSED!

Why are we so truly blessed? Because I'll bet not many of us have had to face the prospect of what it's like to go without.

But the folks that live at Opportunity House (a safe haven for those in recovery, homelessness, and/or abuse) know. They've been there and done that and know the pain of having nothing. Many have lived more than one lifetime already and are in the process of getting their life together to try and become whole.

Here's the good news! Our Atonement family is one of many groups that are there to help. As part of our stewardship commitment, on the third Saturday of each month our team cooks and serves lunch to a very grateful group of human beings.

And the feeling of goodness it brings to each of us when we serve is something you just want to hold onto. Not because we're so great. But because, through the grace of God we are able to help.

I've been part of this group for over 20 years and it still amazes me to go there each month and hear, with sincerity, "thank you" and "God bless you" for the meal. I thank God each day for the gifts I've been given and am humbled by it all.

As with many things, this outreach is strictly voluntary. Can you spare 1 to 2 hours each month to help prep a meal and 1 to 2 hours on the third Saturday of each month to serve the meal? If so, this could be your "opportunity" to help those less fortunate than you are.

Think about it. Pray on it. And if you're so moved why not give it a shot? We'd love to have your help. And if we get enough help maybe we can set up a second team. Believe me, the folks at Opportunity House will be grateful.

God bless our Atonement family. Bob Eisenbrown

A Lutheran Response to the Crisis in the Middle East

Due to escalating conflict in Gaza and Israel, a severe humanitarian crisis is rapidly unfolding in the Holy Land. The ELCA has a longstanding relationship with partners in the region, including the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and Augusta Victoria Hospital. Lutheran Disaster Response has a history of providing support for our partners and will be prepared to answer calls for assistance when the time comes.

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton has issued a letter of solidarity to Bishop Dr. Sani-Ibrahim Azar of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. In it, she writes,

"I encourage the people of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to unite in prayer for the families of innocent civilians whose lives were lost, as well as pray for healing for all the injured, fearful and traumatized.

"I pledge our accompaniment and support to you as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and its ministries provide 'critical and timely assistance (psychological and otherwise) to those affected by this war."

The full text of Bishop Eaton's letter can be read here: <u>ELCA presiding bishop issues statement on Israel-Hamas war - ELCA</u>

Gifts made payable to Atonement Lutheran Church and designated "Middle East Crisis" in the memo line will be sent to Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR), helping to equip them to respond to this tragedy. LDR has pledged that gifts so designated will be restricted to and used in full (100%) for those affected by disasters in the region. Thank you for any and all support given, whether it be through prayers, monetary gifts, or both.

Poinsellias & World Hunger Donors are needed for the poinsettias which will decorate the church on Christmas Eve. We are requesting \$10.00 per poinsettia, but any amount is welcome. If you wish to order one or more plants, please return the attached form to the church office by December 17. All plants will be delivered to homebound members following the Christmas Eve services. As an alternative to (or in addition to) donating a poinsettia, you are invited to make a donation to the World Hunger Appeal. Donations will be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletin and may be made in memory of or in thanksgiving for a loved one. Please return the form below by December 17 with your donation. I wish to provide poinsettia plant(s) for Christmas Eve/ make a donation of to the World Hunger Appeal. in loving memory of: _ in thanksgiving for: _____ Name Three easy ways to pay: Check payable to Atonement Text your donation to 610-624-8412 Scan the OR code

Atonement Angel Tree

We will offer three opportunities for you to help local children this Christmas season through our Angel Tree program during Advent.

Wrapped gifts for infants and toddlers of Berks County Teen Parent Program

You will be able to select a name either online (sign-up genius coming soon) or from a clipboard near the tree. Names will include an Atonement-assigned number, and the sex, age, and size of the child. Please **wrap gifts** and include a gift tag including the **child's name and the number**. There will be a sign-in sheet to mark when the gifts are returned.

Monetary donations for the Lauer's Park Elementary School in the Reading School District

Donations in **ANY amount** will be accepted for the library at Lauer's Park Elementary School. Checks may be made payable to Atonement, please mark **RSD library on the memo line**. There will be a box for library donations next to the angel tree.

New or gently used toys for BCIU Early Intervention

This year we are accepting toys, either new or gently used, for BCIU Early Intervention, a program that serves approximately 2,500 preschool-age students annually across the 18 school districts in Berks County. The primary objective of this program is to support young learners between the ages of 3 and 5 years, who have been identified with special education needs, ensuring that they receive specially designed instruction necessary to foster their developmental areas and school-readiness skills. To find out more about BCIU, visit berksiu.org. Below is the list of toys desired by the program. They can be brought to the church, **UNWRAPPED**, and placed in the bin labeled BCIU.

- Activity Cube
- Bead Maze
- Busy Boards
- Cause and Effect Toys—Ball Popper Toys, Pop Up Toys
- Pop Linking Beads or Animals
- Shape Sorters
- Stacking Rings, Cups, or Blocks
- Baby Dolls
- Dramatic Play Costumes

- Kitchen Toys, Shopping Cart
- Cash Register
- Car Ramps and Garages
- Constgruction Toys—Tool Sets
- Vehicles—all kinds
- Wooden Trains / Tracks
- Easel
- Musical Instruments
- Play-Doh Tool Set

- Character Toys: Paw patrol, Disney 0 Bluey, Firebuds, Mickey Mouse, etc.
- Fisher Price Little People Toys
- Lego Duplo Sets
- Riding Toys, Scooter
- Small Basketball Net
- Educational Insights Turn Taking Games, ages 3-5
- Learning Resources, Learning Toys and Games, ages 2-5

Sing in the Choir on Christmas Eve!

Who doesn't love to sing carols old and new at Christmastime? Check out the schedule below for children, teens, and adults, and add your voice to our celebrations!

<u>Children Grades K-6 – singing at 11:00 a.m. worship on Christmas Eve</u>

Two rehearsals – must attend at least one to participate:

Sunday, December 17, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon in the choir room (immediately following worship)

Wednesday, December 20, 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the nave (main worship space)

Warm up: Sunday, December 24, at 10:15 a.m. in the nave

Teens Grades 7-12 and Adults – singing at 7:30 p.m. worship on Christmas Eve

Three rehearsals – must attend at least one to participate:

Thursday, December 14, 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the choir room

Thursday, December 21, 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the choir room

Saturday, December 23, 10:00-11:00 a.m. in the nave (9:30 coffee and donuts in the narthex!)

Warm up: Sunday, December 24, at 7:00 p.m. in the choir room

For questions and more information, please contact Deacon Tom at 610-301-2190 or email at yenser@atonementwyo.org

Christmas Caroling

Sunday, December 10, 3:45-6:00 P.M.

Carolers of all ages are invited to join together on Sunday, December 10 to carol to our homebound members. Carolers will meet in the CHOIR ROOM on the lower level at 3:45 for warm up and instructions. This gathering location is a change from previous years: please note that there is a choral concert by Wheatland Chorale in the nave at the same time. Please park in the lower lot or, if you park in the main lot, please enter quietly and proceed downstairs to the choir room. We will carol from 4:00 p.m. until approximately 6:00 p.m. Let's add a little Christmas cheer to the lives of some of our oldest and most frail members!

Pastoral Care Team

The pastoral care team at Atonement meets twice a month to discuss various needs of our congregation members. The team is led by Lois Hein, who serves as our "quarterback." Other members are: Pastor Katie Lyon (spiritual leader), Pastor Art Wyse (homebound and hospital visitations), Ray Warmkessel (Steven Ministry), Sharon Calder (Eucharistic ministers), Ed Hein (Helping Hands ministry), and myself, Ken Lord (congregation health advocate).

At one of our recent meetings, we were visited by a graduate student in pastoral care ministry who is doing research and writing a term paper about pastoral care. Sarah currently works at Reading City Church in West Reading. She was impressed by our team model and stated that we take a very holistic approach to individuals in need.



Our most important ministry is reaching out to individuals in need and assisting or recommending services to these individuals. We have amazing pastors here at Atonement who provide spiritual care, and we are fortunate that Berks county has many social service and health care agencies that we can access. We are blessed to have many congregational volunteers who help to provide care and support to our members. We take special care to assure confidentiality when discussing an individual's situation.

Some of the services provided are: spiritual care, prayer team (both private prayer and more public prayer, depending on the individual's request), card ministry, visits to hospitalized members, homebound visits which may include administration of communion, grief booklets, telephone check-ins, meals, transportation if available, companionship, medical recommendations and advice (however no actual diagnosis or treatment), medical equipment available to loan, occasional assistance with household chores, referrals to social services, and other individualized services as occasions arise.

We are ONLY effective if we are informed when an individual has an issue. We are not always informed when someone is admitted to the hospital of if someone is scheduled for surgery or other medical procedure. We don't always know when someone transitions to an extended care facility or when someone may become homebound. We are not always informed when there has been a death of a family member. Please inform us by calling the church office whenever you are experiencing or have experienced a life situation. We need the "eyes and ears" of the congregation and we need you to "tattle" on each other when a need arises.

Ken Lord, M.D.



Healing Power of Spirituality Speaker Series

The Spirituality of Beowulf and the Recovery Journey

Todd Whitmer, Regional Vice President, Caron, New York will speak at Atonement Tuesday, November 7, 7:00 pm. In his 50th year of Recovery, Todd's journey finds truth in the "Today is Forever" challenges and rewards of life-on-life terms. There are guideposts and pitfalls and strategies embodied in the Beowulf Story.



Presented by Common Ground together with Caron Treatment Centers.

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 www.aacpp.com

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

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