

ATONEMENT IN ACTION

From Pastor Katie

This summer we have been looking for ways to deepen our connections with children, youth, young adults and the community. What a joy to focus our efforts on these important relationships. Here's a snapshot of what we have done and what we are looking to do in the future:



- **Vacation Bible School** was a huge success for our children, youth and adult volunteers as well as the community. There were familiar faces from years past and new ones from the preschool and community. We are now gearing up for a new school year with the preschool and have many events already planned.
- We are also in conversation with the **West Reading Elementary Center** and the **Wyomissing Library** to find ways to partner with them to help our children and families. Stay tuned for more info in the near future...
- Some of our **youth** were able to participate in the first day of the **West Berks Mission District (WBMD)** at home mini mission trip on July 14th. WBMD is a group of all the Evangelical Lutheran Church in American (ELCA) churches in Western Berks. We helped out at Mary's Shelter and Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. It inspired us to look at joining other churches in WBMD for a mission trip next summer! We will also be exploring the possibility of a joint Sunday evening youth group in the fall.
- A group of **young adults** (those between the ages of 18 and 35) will meet on **Tuesday, July 29th at 7pm** in the privacy room to brainstorm what events and activities we could do together. If you are a young adult or know of any who might like to join us please know that all are welcome!
- **Common Ground** is now offering a **meal every Wednesday evening at 6pm in Lundin Hall**. Come for dinner and conversation. Then go home or stay for worship at 7pm if you're able. Pastor Tom has also shared his gifts with the Synod with his **Twelve Steps for the Rest of Us**. Please check it out and join in the study. This month is the second step: We came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity. It's not too late to join in with us. <https://nepasynod.org/connected-in-christ/>
- We financially contributed to a **Shower Trailer** for the greater community and it will soon be up and running. **On God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday, September 7th**, we will be making toiletry kits for those using the shower trailer during our pancake breakfast following worship in Lundin Hall. The shower trailer will come to Atonement's parking lot on September 14 so we can tour it and learn more about this important ministry to the community!

Welcoming. Serving. Caring. Community - that's what it's all about. Thanks be to God we get to be on this journey together!

Peace and love,
Pastor Katie



Dami, Emmett, & Kaia beating the heat



Precious, Lase, Dami, Kaia, & Emmett weeding at Good Shepherd



Sorting clothes at Mary's Shelter

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

Worship for Sundays in August

Time after Pentecost ♦ August 3 ♦ 10:00 AM

the Rev. Katie Lyon

Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's supper and the encouragement of God's word.

Time after Pentecost ♦ August 10 ♦ 10:00 AM

the Rev. Katie Lyon

Jesus says, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is God's promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part in today's assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

Time after Pentecost ♦ August 17 ♦ 10:00 AM

the Rev. John Richter

The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today in worship we are surrounded by a great "cloud of witnesses." In the word and in holy communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, "the pioneer and perfecter of our faith."

Time after Pentecost ♦ August 24 ♦ 10:00 AM

the Rev. Katie Lyon

Remember the sabbath day. Call the sabbath a delight. This is the Lord's day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing.

Time after Pentecost ♦ August 31 ♦ 10:00 AM

the Rev. Katie Lyon

Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God's grace in holy baptism we have a place at Christ's banquet table. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.

Lectionary Readings

August 3

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

Psalms 49:1-12

Colossians 3:1-11

Luke 12:13-21

August 10

Genesis 15:1-6

Psalms 33:12-22

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Luke 12:32-40

August 17

Jeremiah 23:23-29

Psalms 82

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Luke 12:49-56

August 24

Isaiah 58:9b-14

Psalms 103:1-8

Hebrews 12:18-29

Luke 13:10-17

August 31

Proverbs 25:6-7a

Psalms 112

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Luke 14:1, 7-14



Sunday Attendance in June

	In Person	Online Views**
1st Sunday in June	183	52
2nd Sunday in June	160	60
3rd Sunday in June	171	71
4th Sunday in June	200	61
5th Sunday in June	142	405 [#]
Total	856	649

** Online attendance as of July 21, 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.

Not a typo—what a popular service!

Thank You!

"For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm, and a shade from the heat." -Isaiah 25:4

Thank you for sharing your treasure, time and talents serving the Family Promise guests at Raymond Ave. and S 17th St. homes the weeks of July 14th and 21st. We served 3 families with 5 adults and 6 children between them.

We provided hot meals on Mondays and grocery gift cards for the families so they could shop for the rest of the week, as well as a collection of hygiene products that are given to families when they enter the Hospitality Network program. The whole is greater than the sum of the parts! Thank you for each adding your part in aiding these families.

Yours in Christ,
Coordinator Dorothy DeLong

Council Update

from Emmett Borelli Hoh, youth representative

Summer has officially arrived! With it comes growth and new life in the world around us, as we see gardens bloom and temperatures rise (sometimes more than we would like). We hope you all stayed cool during the record-breaking heat-wave at the end of June.

As the year progresses, the council continues to refine operations. When discussing decisions, we always examine how they serve our mission. In our effort to make our church a more welcoming environment, we would like to create a tagline that sums up our values. By crafting a short, memorable phrase to display on our website, we can help people seeking God easily identify what our church stands for. Through our small group process Atonement has defined the core values of our church: Welcoming, Serving, Caring, Christ-Centered, and Community. In the coming months we are going to ask you to help us create a motto that demonstrates these values. So, if you have any thoughts this summer, begin brainstorming, and we will let you know when to start submitting your ideas.

Furthermore, our longtime Facilities manager, Tom Gresh, will be retiring around the end of the year or early 2026. While we will miss his help, we are extremely thankful for all his years of dedication to Atonement. If you have any experience in electrical, plumbing, carpentry, HVAC, or general contracting, and would like to help us increase our property committee, please contact the main office at cshirk@atonementwyo.org. If you or someone you know might be interested in a part-time position as facilities manager, please let the office know.

My key takeaway from council meetings is that at every meeting, we examine ways to serve our congregation, our community, and God's mission for Atonement. A large portion of that involves finding ways to engage the congregation. Therefore, if you have any ideas about how the church can serve and interact with the community, we would love to hear your feedback.

Above all else, we wish you a lovely summer.

Emmett Borelli Hoh

Youth Representative Church Council

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, September 15

Financial Report

as of May 30, 2025

May Unrestricted Income	\$104,571
May Expenses	\$133,119
June Unrestricted Income	\$ 40,608
June Expenses	\$ 59,357
YTD Unrestricted Income	\$595,264
YTD Unrestricted Expenses	\$571,133
Mission Investment Fund Loan	\$425,318.81
Principal Payments to Date	\$333,295.30
Remaining Loan Balance	\$ 92,023.51

Thank you, Atonement, for your generosity!

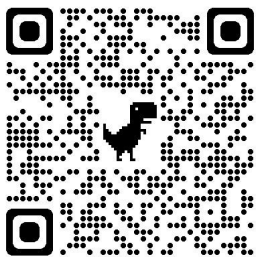
Please contact Amy Rogers with any questions.

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**.



Pastoral Acts—June

June 14—Committal for Bobbie Fischer

June 21—Celebration of Life for Marian Connelly

August Usher Schedule

August 3	Team 4—Mehos
August 10	Team 5—Eisenbrown
August 17	Team 8—Woerle
August 24	Team 9—Bryan
August 31	Youth Team



From Caitlyn Marrella, Director of Children's Ministries Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School was an absolute success! We had 66 campers, averaging 60 each day. Our campers and volunteers had so much fun learning who our neighbors are and how we can help them. I continue to receive emails thanking us for a great week and expressing excitement for next year. Thank you to everyone who helped make this year a success!



Important Upcoming Dates

August 24 Backpack Blessing during 10am worship

September 14 Rally Day during Faith Formation Hour starting at 8:45, Chapel and Nursery to resume during 10am worship

Summer Choir

- One remaining Sunday this summer – August 24
- No preparation needed – rehearse at 9:00 a.m. in the nave, sing in worship at 10:00 am
- No experience needed – open to all teens and adults
- Fun, easy-to-learn music in a relaxed, non-judgmental setting
- No sign up needed – just show up on Sunday at 9:00 !

We would love to have YOU join us!

Contact Deacon Tom (tyenser@atonementwyo.org or 610-301-2190) with any questions.

Preschool News

Summer time in the preschool is a time for refreshing our classrooms. This summer is no different. Three of our classrooms had new carpeting and molding installed. Thank you to the property committee and church council for approving this project.

Summer time is also a time for professional development. We have two training classes scheduled for August. On August 13, we will host Trauma 101 at Atonement for our staff, the staff of neighboring faith-based preschools and RACC ECE students. On August 18, the entire preschool staff will be trained in pediatric CPR and First Aid. We look forward to these learning opportunities!

The preschool staff will return the last week of August to prepare for the 2025-26 school year which starts the week of Labor Day. We have 153 students registered with many students enrolled in multiple classes for a total of 208 filled spaces. There are still a few openings in our Together Time 2 class for 18 – 30-month-old children and a caregiver on Wed mornings 10:30-11:45, Tues/Thurs Threes 9:00-12:00, and afternoon Naturalist enrichment for 4 & 5-year-olds on Tues/Thurs 12:30-3:00. Contact Mrs. Dauber for more information.

We recently were made aware that preschools in churches like Atonement Christian Preschool need to become licensed by PA Department of Human Service (DHS) to continue to operate in the capacity that we do. We are in the process of becoming licensed. The process is moving along in a way that we are very hopeful we will be licensed by the start of the 2025-26 school year. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Peace,
Jen Dauber, Preschool Director
jdauber@atonementwyo.org



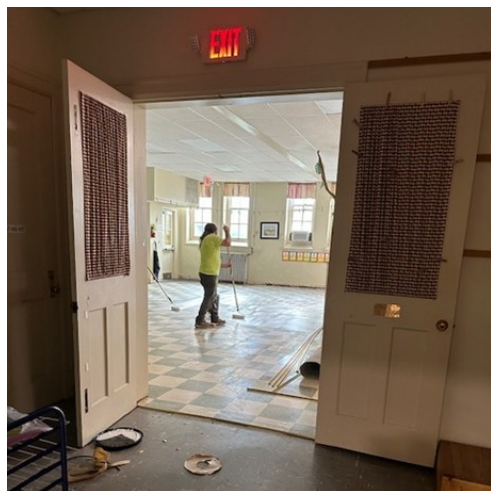
Room G111



Room G111



Room 3



Room 3



Room 4



Room 4

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.
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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.
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MarcJ905@msn.com
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Real Estate

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Re/Max of Reading
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1290 Broadcasting Rd., Wyomissing, PA 19610
Cell: 610-698-2623
Office: 610-670-2770 x3242
Website: BarryCsells.com

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