

ATONEMENT IN ACTION

from Pastor Katie

“Mine is the church where everybody's welcome” are some of the words to one of my favorite hymns: Dazzling Bouquet. We got to sing it with the children during Vacation Bible School this year. What a gift to hear them sing it! What a gift for them to believe the words and know them to be true! Atonement is a place where everyone is welcome!

Over the summer Pastor Molly will continue her small group meetings to help us with our strategic plan and learn more about one another in the process. We will begin planning for Confirmation instruction and other youth gatherings, the 50th anniversary of the preschool and so many other fall events. This message of welcome is what we will keep at the center of all our conversations and planning sessions. Thanks be to God that Atonement is a place where everyone is welcome!



“Mine is the church where everybody’s welcome.
I know it’s true ’cause I got through the door.
We are a dazzling bouquet of every kind of flower.
Jump in the vase, ’cause we’ve got space for more.”

Words and music by Bret Hesla. © 1995 Bret Hesla. Admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Peace and love,
Pastor Katie



Worship for Summer Sundays

U.S. Semiquincentennial ♦ July 5 ♦ 10:00AM
the Rev. Molly Hagerty

We will mark the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence with music from America's history and a liturgy written for the occasion.

Time after Pentecost ♦ July 12 ♦ 10:00AM
the Rev. Tom Scornavacchi

The themes of patience and growth are revealed in the Parable of the Sower. Special music by violinist Olivia Szor. Eli Hershey helped to shape today's liturgy as a part of his work toward a Boy Scout merit badge in communications.

Time after Pentecost ♦ July 19 ♦ 10:00AM
the Rev. Katie Lyon

Today's parable of the wheat and the weeds raises an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? Special music by Atonement Bach Scholarship winner Artemis Drake on oboe and a soft pretzel sale following worship.

Christmas in July ♦ July 26 ♦ 10:00AM
the Rev. Katie Lyon

Enjoy favorite carols, music by the Summer Choir and sweet treats as we celebrate Jesus' birth in the middle of the summer!

Youth Sunday ♦ August 2 ♦ 10:00AM
the Rev. Katie Lyon

Youth from grades 7 to 12 will plan and lead worship this morning. The liturgy includes an infant baptism and will be followed by a picnic on the church lawn, weather permitting.

Time after Pentecost ♦ August 9 ♦ 10:00AM
the Rev. Katie Lyon

In today's gospel, Jesus walks on water and cares for his disciples in their time of fear and doubt. Guest musician Anthony Arana will lead music with a Latino flair!

Time after Pentecost ♦ August 16 ♦ 10:00AM
the Rev. Molly Haggerty

Whenever Jesus encounters outsiders, he widens the circle to include them. How can we reach out to those who are left out? Summer Choir will offer special music.

Blessing of Backpacks ♦ August 23 ♦ 10:00AM
the Rev. Tom Scornavacchi

Students and educators alike gather for a blessing as school begins again. Fellowship and treats from the Sunday Snack Pack will follow worship.

Time after Pentecost ♦ August 30 ♦ 10:00AM
the Rev. Katie Lyon

Atonement Praise Band returns after a summer hiatus to provide lively music. Jesus reminds us that to find our life, we must first lose it in service to God and our neighbor.

Looking ahead:

Time after Pentecost ♦ September 6

Jesus offers practical advice on restoring broken relationships. Summer Choir returns for the final time this year to offer special music.

Rally Day and the 50th anniversary of Atonement Christian Preschool ♦ September 13

This energetic, family-friendly service is for everyone, but especially for our littlest members! A picnic on the church lawn to follow, weather permitting.

Lectionary Readings

July 5

Zechariah 9:9-12
 Psalm 145:8-14
 Romans 7:15-25a
 Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 12

Isaiah 55:10-13
 Psalm 665:[1-8] 9-13
 Romans 8:1-11
 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 19

Isaiah 44:6-8
 Psalm 86:11-17
 Romans 8:12-25
 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 26

1 Kings 3:5-12
 Psalm 119:129-136
 Romans 8:26-39
 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

August 2

Isaiah 55:1-5
 Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21
 Romans 9:1-5
 Matthew 14:13-21

August 9

1 Kings 19:9-18
 Psalm 85:8-13
 Romans 10:5-15
 Matthew 14:22-33

August 16

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8
 Psalm 67
 Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
 Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

August 23

Isaiah 51:1-6
 Psalm 138
 Romans 12:1-8
 Matthew 16:13-20

August 30

Jeremiah 15:15-21
 Psalm 26:1-8
 Romans 12:9-21
 Matthew 16:21-28

Sunday Attendance in May

	In Person	Online Views*
1 st Sunday in May	198	86
2 nd Sunday in May	236	86
3 rd Sunday in May	168	71
4 th Sunday in May	223	69
5 th Sunday in May	159	57
Total	984	369

*Online attendance as of June 23. Online services are always available to watch following the service. You can find the link on the home page of atonementwyo.org.

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

Usher Schedule

July 5	Team 5
July 12	Team 8 - Woerle
July 19	Team 9 - Bryan
July 26	Youth Team
August 2	Team 2 - Kofke
August 9	Team 3 - Lubitz
August 16	Team 4 - Mehos
August 23	Team 5
August 30	Team 8 – Woerle

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.

Pastoral Acts – May & June

May 15 - Funeral for Carolyn Auman

May 16 - Funeral for Michael Moyer

May 24 - Blessings for high school seniors

May 29 - Funeral for Judy Stoudt

June 8 - Funeral for Sharon Stoner

June 12 - Funeral for Darlene Woerle

June 14 - New member welcome

June 19 - Funeral for Rosemary Bestwick

June 20 - Graveside service for Faye Rickenbach



New Member Welcome during June 14 worship



High school seniors received afghans and book awards during May 24 worship. Photo includes the new graduates along with members of the Atonement knitting group.

Book Award Recipients

- Annelise Hafer – Marian D. Connelly Academic Advancement Award
- Madison McCrae – Marian D. Connelly Academic Advancement Award
- Zoe Shirk – Gail I. Hoch Memorial Book Award
- Laura Crocona – Atonement Book Award
- Meredith Rogers – Atonement Book Award



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 (5/31/2026):

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
Income:	\$739,704	\$639,317	\$100,387	\$1,241,900
Expenses:	<u>(\$535,913)</u>	<u>(\$579,093)</u>	\$43,180	<u>(\$1,241,900)</u>
Net Income:	\$203,791	\$60,224	\$143,567	\$0

Mission Endowment Fund – “Reach OUT”

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

Schwab	\$1,931,718
Mission Investment Fund CD	\$ 127,580
Total	\$2,059,298

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!

· **Preschool Playground Resurfacing – \$37,500**

To replace the woodchips with a rubberized foundation to allow all ages of children to participate.

· **Replacement of the Nave and Narthex Wall Indirect Lighting – \$18,985**

To replace the current incandescent lighting in the wall sconces with LED lights that are more efficient and effective

· **Repairing and Painting of the Walls in Lundin Hall - \$6,655**

To prevent deterioration

· **Replacement of the Lundin Hall Chairs – \$15,340 or \$102/chair and dollies to hold them**

To promote safety and reduce the risk of tripping

· **2 New Microphones for Nave \$186 each**

· **“Spot bot” Carpet Cleaner \$200**

To clean up spills and stains on carpeting.

· **Preschool Items:**

2-3 new scooters - \$139 each ♦ 1 small trike - \$249 ♦ 1 medium trike - \$279

↓ Raised over \$38,000,
thank you, Atonement!

Stewardship Corner

from Cara Pepper, Stewardship Chair

Your Stewardship team is looking forward to two upcoming events this summer!

Christmas in July

As we were reminded in Pastor Richter’s sermon on Christmas morning, we tend to forget the true spirit of Christmas as the year moves on. We are bringing Christmas to the forefront this summer by celebrating Christmas on July 26. There will be a Christmas message and some familiar music. Following the worship, there will be cookies and frozen hot chocolate. We are using this Sunday for our service project. Like last year we are going to be putting together hygiene kits, but this time for our friends at Common Ground. So please come join us for both.

Crafting for a Cause

Crafting for a Cause will take place Saturday, August 29, 9-4pm in Lundin Hall. The proceeds from this event will go to our quilting group to help defray the costs of materials and shipping. As with most things these days, they are getting more expensive. This group spreads God’s love around the world, and we want to help them to continue to do just that. No matter what you like to do that’s creative – color, paint, cross stitch, knit, crochet, build models or Legos, make cards, scrapbook, and so many more – join us! Even if you are not creative at all, join us for fellowship and to make a difference. Meet some new people and maybe you’ll get inspired. The cost is \$20 and includes breakfast items, a few snacks, and entry into a drawing for a \$100 gift card to Michael’s. You are on your own for lunch but as you know there are plenty of options nearby. Come for just a few hours or the whole day. Sign-ups will start in July but feel free to contact anyone on the Stewardship team or leave a message for the office if you’d like to attend.

From Lauryn Lacy, Director of Children's Ministry

Faith Formation

Our Faith Formation classes have ended and will resume September 13. We are continuing to add more adult leaders and teen helpers for instruction. If you are interested in volunteering 1-2 hours per month, please contact me directly at llacis@atonementwyo.org. Signups for children to attend Faith Formation will be sent out later this summer.

Nursery

During the 10a.m. service preschool age children and younger are supervised in F126. Nursery is done for the summer but will resume on 9/13.

Chapel Time

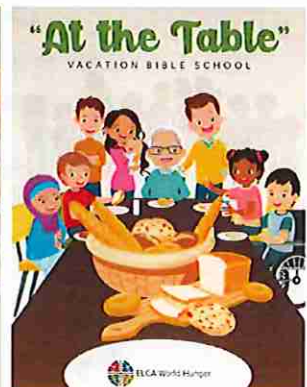
During 10a.m. service children aged 3 to 2nd grade have an opportunity to experience worship geared just for them. After the children's message, the children are supervised in the privacy room for a story, craft, and activity based on the gospel story of the day. Chapel is done for the summer but will resume September 20.

Blessing of the Backpacks

On August 23 during our 10am service we will have the Blessing of the Backpacks, where all school aged children (and teachers) are welcome to receive a blessing for their upcoming school year! We can't wait to see you then.

Vacation Bible School

We had a wonderful turnout for this year's VBS! We had over 77 children attend and 33 volunteers assisting with the activities. Children made a variety of crafts, had story time, participated in a gym/game setting, ate yummy snacks, and created neat science experiments. We are so grateful for how this week went! Save the date for next year's Vacation Bible School, June 14-18, 2027.



Summer Service to Family Promise

Family Promise uses the Apartment Shelter model to house families, with three rental properties that shelter 3-6 families (12-20 people). The families move on to permanent housing as quickly as possible.

Staying in one place during their time with Family Promise allows families to have bedtime routines for the children and more flexible work schedules. Since the families are in houses, they have access to a kitchen. Atonement provides prepared meals on Mondays and donates grocery gift cards to cover the rest of the week. Providing gift cards for groceries for the families empowers the families to oversee something when much of their current situation leads them to feel powerless, while cooked meals on Mondays provide a welcome break during this stressful time.

Atonement is scheduled for Family Promise Monday Meal Ministry July 13 and July 20.

There is a SignUpGenius for the two Mondays in July at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E49A9A822A4F94-61814653-family> or scan the QR code.



This is an easy way to directly support families experiencing homelessness. You can team up with a friend to prepare a meal, draft your children to help, or even have pizza delivered! Please help serve our Family Promise guests with delicious food, groceries, and hope.

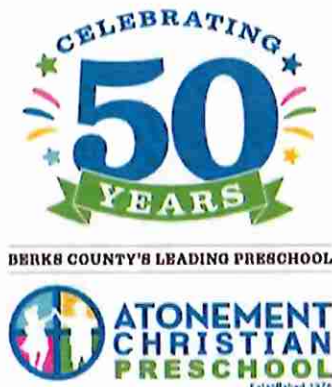
Preschool Update from Jen Dauber, Preschool Director

The preschool has been quiet for about a month since our last day of school in May. The quiet ends as our Summer Camps gear up the week of June 22 with Sports Camp. Campers will learn about all different sports and games through stories, activities, crafts, music, and more! We continue with Wild West Camp July 6-10, Around the World Camp July 20-24, Preschool Storytime and Kindergarten Kickstart Camps August 3-7. We still have space in all weeks. Camps are available for 3-5-year-old children who are potty trained. Registration is on our website atonementwyo.org > Preschool > Preschool Classes.

Not only is the preschool hosting camps but we have some classroom renovations taking place this summer. We are having a pour-in-place rubber surface installed on the playground. The walls between rooms G128/130 and G111/113 are being widened to help make following some DHS regulations easier for staff. Rooms 3 and 4 are having new windows installed. These renovations help the preschool continue to provide excellent care in a safe and welcoming environment. Thank you to all those involved with these projects!

Our experienced preschool staff provides a play-based early childhood education that promotes the social-emotional, physical, cognitive, and spiritual development of every child in a nurturing learning environment. This summer the staff is partaking in a book study of Amanda Morgan's book *Not Just Cute: How Powerful Play Drives Development in Early Childhood*. The goal is to use this book and our discussions to help educate parents to better understand how important play is in the development of their child as a whole and to give them easy ways to incorporate more play and less screen time at home. We hope to offer fun educational opportunities for parents every other month throughout the 2026-27 school year.

The staff will return August 31 in preparation for the 2026-27 school year that starts the following week. As of mid-June, we have 155 students registered with many students enrolled in multiple classes for a total of 203 filled spaces. There are still a few openings in our Together Time 1 class for 18 - 30-month-old children and a caregiver on Wed mornings 9:00-10:15, Tues/Thurs Threes 9:00-12:00, and Tues/Thurs Young Toddlers 9:15-11:30.



Save the Date!

50th Anniversary Carnival

Sunday, September 13, 2026

Carnival on the front lawn following the
10:00am family-friendly church service.

All are Welcome!

Food, Games, Fellowship & More!

Common Ground Update from Pastor Tom

Common Ground is on the move!

First, thank you for your support of Common Ground. Can you believe that we have been worshipping here at Atonement for 16 years? Thank you!

As you know we also meet at Trinity Lutheran Church in downtown Reading. This August we will be there for ten years. Recently, we changed from Sundays to Mondays.

Why?

Because we can have more time to be with our community. We still have worship and a restaurant-quality meal, but now we also provide groceries and clothing, arts, crafts, games, and fellowship, and pastoral care.

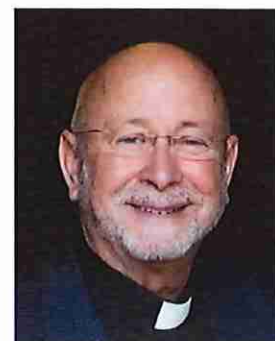
We coordinated with Refresh Berks, The Shower Trailer Project, to be on site so that our guests can get clean clothes and a shower all in the same day.

When asked why they come to Common Ground, here's what two of our frequent guests said, "I come here because I love being part of the community and most of all the church service and fellowship, we get fed three ways and I love it all."

- Henry T.

"It feels like a safe place for me. I feel very comfortable here. I fit in here; it's more like family."

YOU can be a part of this wonderful new opportunity! The link to sign up to help is on our website atonementwyo.org. Click VOLUNTEER/GIVE from the top menu, then scroll down to "Common Ground Mondays". Online readers click here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040445AFAA22AAF85-64140740-common#/>



Summer Choir

Everyone is invited to sing with our Summer Choir!

There are 3 opportunities to sing this summer: July 26 (Christmas in July), August 16, and September 6.

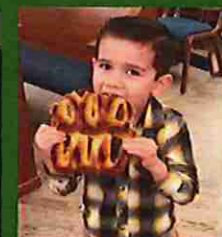
No choir experience is necessary. Just meet in the choir loft at 9:00 a.m. to learn some fun, easy music to sing in worship at 10:00 a.m. All ages are welcome, but children should be able to read song lyrics. Dress is casual. A regular choir member? Please come to lend your voice and your experience! Never been in a choir before? Here's your chance to give it a try!

Questions? Contact Deacon Tom at tyenser@atonementwyo.org or 610-301-2190.

PRETZEL SALE

SUN JULY 19
AFTER CHURCH
\$2/pretzel

Cash or Venmo



proceeds will support the preschool's 50th anniversary carnival celebration on 9/13

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
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