

Atonement Lutheran Church
2132 Deckner Ave
Green Bay WI 54302

August 2020
Volume 2, Issue 8

The Visitor

Dear Friends of Atonement,

August is here, so the end of summer and the beginning of the fall activities come to our minds. This year will be different. We have been saying that every month for several months now. Usually we would be welcoming students back to Sunday School and Confirmation, but like many things, it will be different. Corina and the Education Team are looking at some distant learning options. If you have a child or grandchild in that age group, please make sure that Corina has your correct email address.

One of the liturgical planning resources that gets printed in January (online is updated quarterly) had this reminder for churches:

“Although autumn starts with a bang—the pews are often fuller, the singing is more robust, faith formation programs are up and running—fatigue likely sets in between September and October. Once refreshed by summer, the intensity of fall settles in and it can seem overwhelming. It’s not just what’s happening at church; it’s also what’s happening everywhere else. Practices, meetings, and work and family commitments crowd in around people, causing weariness.”

This year we are entering the fall season with weariness. This time of COVID is definitely a marathon and not a sprint. We will continue to experiment with some different options for fellowship and for education. Please take a moment and read the letter on page 2 for a new opportunity emerging. FORE is thinking about a book study or two- so contact Jean Keim if you are interested. I encourage you to continue to figure out how to be the hands and feet of Christ in our neighborhoods.

One of the quotes that Winston Churchill reportedly said, “We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” reinforces our prerequisite of our Christian life. So as we move into this fall and winter season, think about how do we define our lives and our church less by what we have gotten and more by what we give away. As that way of life moves into all areas of our life—our relationships with friends and family, with neighbors and coworkers, and with God: It shifts our focus from asking “What have they done for me lately?” to “How can I be a friend, family member, neighbor, and servant to others? But, when we give, we do not have less, and we do not become less. We have more and become more. Because when we give, we join in the bond of friendship and family, the bond of service to those around us out of love for them. As Jesus said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).

Looking for at Least 10 or More Good Christians who want to grow their knowledge and understanding of the Bible. If this sounds like you, then join us!

Pastor Brenda & Pastor Don Staude Are Planning A Seven Week Adult Educational Biblical Study Group.

Pastor Don Staude has been thinking about this question; how many of you have experienced a formal educational endeavor into the study of the Bible? In fact, he has a few questions for you to consider.

- Do you know that Mark wrote his Gospel about 70 CE? – He did!
- Do you know that Matthew wrote his Gospel about 15 years later in 85 CE? – He did!
- Do you know that Luke wrote his about 90 CE., and John about 95 CE.? – They did!

That means the Gospel's of Mark, Matthew, Luke & John were written some 40 to 70 years after Jesus was killed.

- Did you know that Mark, Mathew, Luke and John all believed that the earth, not the sun, was the center of the universe when they wrote their Gospels?
- Do you believe that the four writers, just mentioned, wrote the books that carry their name, or did God write those biblical messages?
- Did you know that all inhabitants of the time believed that the male was the only one who was responsible for the birth of a child? The female only carried the child till birth but in no way provided any of the child's DNA?

In his words regarding this class, Pastor Don states: "I am not sure if members are open to thinking about a dynamic and ever-growing understanding of biblical thought. Perhaps some may think that their Confirmation Classes gave them all they need to know. But, if people are open to discovery, and open to looking seriously at the Biblical message, this is an experience they will want to share. As a person of faith, I believe that God does not expect us to bury our heads in the sand and pretend we know it all. From my perspective and understanding, transformation is a key concept. That means we are always, in our life on earth expected to be transformed from what we are to what we can become. Education matters for adults, particularly in our time of change and transition. We must grow! The knowledge explosion in the last 200-500 years makes this an absolute necessity. I sincerely believe the following: **It is Difficult to Give One's Heart to Something One's Head Rejects.**"

Pastor Don will be teaching the class using the Zoom App, beginning mid-September concluding after seven weeks (approximately October 31st).

To begin this endeavor, we will need at least ten members and ask that those who are interested commit to all seven sessions. Your commitment and that of the others in the group will allow for well-rounded conversations and learnings. The time would consist of a 40-minute formal presentation and allow for 15-20 minutes of questions and discussion. You can be assured that this class is not intended to be your typical biblical study.

Note: Any in-person classes at present seems to be impossible, but open to review.

If you are interested in this time together, please sign-up by calling the church office. You can also send a note to the church office or directly to Pastor Staude at:

Pastor Don Staude
185 Forest Drive
Sobieski, WI 54171

The over-all class theme is: **REBOOTING: THEOLOGY 101**

DISCOVERING A NEW CODE

Atonement Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 18, 2020

In attendance: Jarred Kopkey – Vice President, Lora Vandevoorde – Secretary, Julie Geyer – Treasurer, Denise Martin, Leah Bergstrom, Al Gajeski, Jean Keim, Jolyn Helgeson, Marilyn Rabideau, Dane Bergstrom, Pastor Brenda Crossfield
Absent: Corey Kirch, Patricia Perez

Denise called the meeting called to order at 6:03pm.
Denise began the meeting with a devotion.

Approval of May 21 and June 4, 2020 minutes: Denise motioned to approve. Jarred seconded. Motion carried.

Committee reports were sent electronically to the council. The following items were discussed:

FORE – planning a bible study on social justice. Still making calls to home-bound members.

Christian Ed – no report provided. VBS materials are going out to kids; committee meets next week.

Youth/Family – no meeting since last month.

Properties – New keys have been made and numbered. They will be handed out and tracked as people request keys.

Technology subcommittee: Corey working on a hardware issue with the outdoor electronic sign.

Worship & Music – report was provided

MPS – Stewardship subcommittee plans to add an article to the newsletter and a message in the Moment of Atonement regarding the financial situation and a plea for donations.

United 2 Serve – No distributions requested this month. Only \$80 received last month. Of that, 50% will go to the general fund because the church's general fund had a loss for May.

Jean made a motion to approve all committee reports. Leah seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

Zoom fellowship is going well. Pastor has helped some older members with the capability to see the virtual services or attend Zoom fellowship. Some small groups are forming. One wedding held in June and another planned for July. She's working with Corina on VBS materials and possible activities on Zoom.

Jarred made a motion to approve Pastor's report. Dane seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Julie reviewed the financial reports for May. Year-to-date, revenues are underbudget by about \$12,000 and expenses are underbudget by \$8,000. Year-to-date net loss is \$6,300, compared to a budgeted net loss of \$2,000. Some expenses may be higher than budget (such as paper and postage), but many expenses will end up lower than expected (such as utilities or youth activity costs).

Do you want to join the prayer chain? You will be contacted by email when someone requests prayer and then pray for the request. If you would like to be listed on the prayer list please contact Janet Jacobson at 920-217-3938 or email—jjanim@aol.com

New Community Shelter Meal

On July 6th we prepared 120 meals, but we served 145 individuals and ran short of food. Next month we need to prepare for 225 meals. The Martin family is heading up the September meal, but we will need everyone's help and generosity to make this possible.

Watch for the virtual signup sheet.

Have you found us on “Zoom Into Fellowship” yet? Every Sunday at 9:45AM we gather from the comfort of our homes to join each other on Zoom! The Zoom link is sent to you Thursday afternoon in your emailed “A Moment of Atonement.” The mission of “Zoom into Fellowship” is to keep our connectedness a high priority! Be sure to ask if you have any questions about how to get connected!

We are happy to help!

In the Hospital?

If you want us to know you are going to be and/or are hospitalized, please be sure to contact the church office, at 468-0713. When admitted to the hospital, tell them to contact Atonement. Even when you tell this to the hospital, sometimes we are called and sometimes we are not. The only way to be sure we know about your hospitalization is for you or a family member to contact us directly. Without your assistance, it is very possible your hospitalization will not be known to us.

The PPP loan received is listed at the bottom of the Actual to Budget report so it doesn't skew the financials. MPS originally thought we would have to return some funds based on our staffing. However, there have been changes in the guidance on the PPP loans, so we should be able to use up the funds. Denise made a motion to approve Julie's report. Jarred seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business

Atonement's Bounce Back Plan: Next Steps. The task force is now referring to them as stages, not phases, so there's no confusion with the state's original phased-in Badger Bounce Back Plan. The task force will meet as needed to discuss the status and move back/forward in the stages when they feel the situation calls for it.

Paycheck Protection Plan (PPP) loan – see Treasurer's report for information

Update on office staffing – The mail is no longer being held because the office is back open. Volunteers are doing the mailings. Newsletter for June was prepared by Cate; Sharon has offered to take July. Pastor Brenda is doing the Moment of Atonement for now. Personnel committee doesn't plan to hire a new office manager at this time.

New Business

Feedback on June 14th in-person service – Had 27 attendees. Most attendees were just happy to be back in church, worshipping in the sanctuary and seeing other members again. Task force has received some negative feedback about restarting services, but it's a matter of personal preference and risk level.

Review Constitution and Bylaws – council decided to table this until September.

July meeting – We usually take the month of July off, but we might need to meet during this busy time.

Denise will send an email near July 10th to find out if there are topics that require our attention.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lora Vandevorode, Church Council Secretary

YTD	Ending	6/30/2020	
Budgeted General Offering YTD	\$111,820.40	Actual Expenses YTD	\$100,679.51
Simply Giving to May 31st	\$29,620.00	Net Income YTD	(\$887.82)
Choice Dollars to May 31st	\$1356.00	Simply Giving %	29.68%
		PPP Loan Proceeds	\$28,000.00
Offering to June 31st	\$68,815.69	U2S General YTD	\$952.75
Total General Giving YTD	\$99,791.69	Chicken dinner	\$0.00

Council Members

Corey Kirch	<i>President</i>
Jarred Kopkey	<i>Vice-President</i>
Julie Geyer	<i>Treasurer</i>
Lora Vandevoorde	<i>Secretary</i>

Patricia Perez
Marilyn Rabideau
Jolyn Helgeson
Leah Bergstrom
Al Gajeski
Denise Martin
Dane Bergstrom

Cate Kopkey
Director of
Music Ministry

Ken Storzer
Tom Holschuh
Custodians

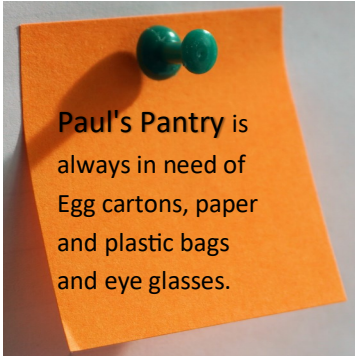
Linda Grzeca
Organist/Pianist

Kathy Huebner
Director of
Youth and Family

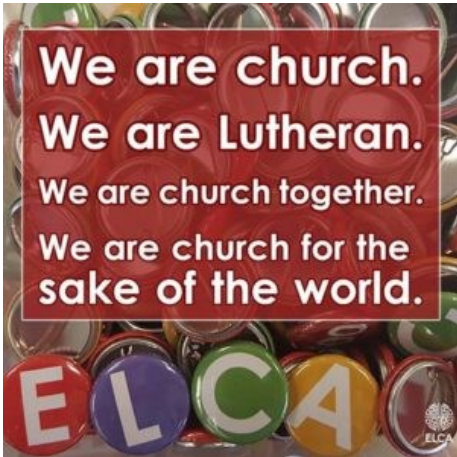
Corina Gerczak
Director of
Sunday School

Happy Birthday!

Cole G.	8/3
Robert G	8/9
Lynn R.	8/9
Mary Y	8/11
Gene V.	8/12
Robin L.	8/15
Cathi K.	8/18
Jarred K.	8/20
Grace B	8/22
Diane R	8/22
Kim N.	8/26
Pauline S	8/26
Bobbie B	8/28
Maryl N.	8/28
Gene O.	8/28



Paul's Pantry is still running as normal at this time, and experiencing a high demand from our community in need! Please keep them in your prayers, and remember that often times monetary donations, however small, are best during this time to avoid unnecessary trips to stores!



GOLDEN HOUSE Your donation today gives victims of domestic abuse the basic necessities to rebuild their lives. Thank you for providing a new beginning.

24 hour Help Line:920-432-4244

IMMEDIATE NEEDS

Hand soap	cooking oil
Deodorant	pillows
Disinfecting wipes	garbage bags
Toilet bowl cleaner	sugar
Toilet bowl brushes	coffee
Laundry soap	body wash
Towels	paper towels
Bath Washcloths	dishwasher soap
Twin bedding-sheets etc.	women's underwear
Coffee creamer	disposable silverware
Toilet paper	baby monitors
Dry food items	new HD vacuums

!!!Youth and Family!!!

National Youth Gathering 2021 has been postponed until 2022!

We will be looking at another option for a summer mission trip next year.

Items Collected for Preble

Please hold onto any items you may have already collected for Preble and please don't shop for any new items until early Fall.





Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

ATONEMENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Brenda Crossfield
Home phone 920-770-3985
Worship: Sundays: 9:00 am
And recorded and on the website
Church Office: 920-468-0713
Website: atonementlutheran.church
Email: office@atonementlutheran.church

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2132 Deckner Avenue
Green Bay, WI 54302

PLEASE
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