

The Spirit

of Atonement

NOVEMBER 2024

—Pastor's Note

Life as Sacrament...

This month, people all over the country will sit down for feasts of all kinds. Many tables will be laden with turkeys, pies, stuffing and yams, while others overflow with samosas and tandoori turkey. We will feast on fufu and fish, while tables are laden with rice and beans and tamales. This time of year is a season of feasting and gratitude. And I, for one, love it. As we prepare for Thanksgiving here at church, we are getting ready for our first pie social following Thanksgiving Eve worship. We will get together to praise Jesus, responding to God's grace and love with gratitude, and then we will share the pies that we and our neighbors bring to share. I can't wait to try all the tasty treats and share a time of fellowship with all of you!

This time of year centers around sharing, eating, and an embodied experience of thankfulness and praise. As my family prepares to celebrate the holiday, I have found myself thinking about the other feast we get to experience weekly here at church: the Lord's Supper, Holy Communion. Each week when the Holy Spirit gathers us around God's table, we are drawn together with the body of Christ and sustained with a meal of Jesus' body and blood—a meal that offers forgiveness and sustenance for the moments that lie ahead. Communion is one of the sacraments we Lutherans celebrate—an embodied experience of God's love and grace for us. Through the wine and bread, the blood and body of Christ, we become what we eat—the body of Christ for the sake of the world.

Have you ever thought about the connection between feasting with your family and feasting at God's table? Have you ever considered the idea that life is also an embodied experience of God's love, brought to life in the daily experience of breathing, communing, living in relationship with others and the world God made? This season, as we come to the table of mercy and prepare our tables at home, take a moment and consider the way God's *real presence* shows up around your family's feast, and take a moment to give thanks to God for the gift of love poured out in all of life.

-Pastor Delaney



Seniors Alive

(subject to change or cancellation)

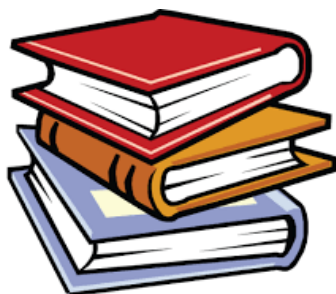
Monthly Meetings

Seniors (age 50 and over) are invited to monthly meetings in Fellowship Hall. The next meeting will be on

Monday, Nov. 24, 28, at 1:30 p.m. Come listen to speaker.

Tours

Nov. 22, Telephone Museum/Space Museum & Grissom Center. Tour the Telephone Museum at Jefferson Barracks. Lunch at Kettlehut's Smokehouse in Crystal City. Tour the Space Museum and Grissom Center in Bonne Terre. Bus leave at 8:45 a.m. and returns at 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$110 per person.



Atonement Book Club

We meet on the second Sunday of the month—in the Family Room beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, Nov. 10, and we will discuss *Lessons in Chemistry*, the debut novel by Bonnie Garmus. The Barnes and Nobel 2022 Book of the Year, set in the early

1960's, *Lessons in Chemistry* introduces Elizabeth Zott, a driven and passionate young woman who finds herself caught between her dreams.

Please join us! For more information or questions, please contact Jan Koch at njkoch@aol.com.

Election Season in the Body of Christ

As we embark on another season of casting our votes in a national election, there are many opinions and feelings across the spectrum of American citizens. Here at church, we are blessed with a congregation comprised of diverse opinions. During this season of polarization and either/or thinking in our country, we have the opportunity to follow Jesus' example of loving and welcoming all people—especially those we may perceive as "enemies." As we wade through another season of partisan conversation, let's remember the identity we share: beloved children of God.



**From the Parish Nurse
“Change”
Taffy Perryman, R.N.**

I wrote a newsletter article about “Change” a few months ago and now that topic has affected me personally. By the time this is posted, I will no longer be serving as your parish nurse. My path is moving in a different direction and I felt the need to change. I have enjoyed being involved in the work of Atonement Church for the past three years and will remember my co-workers, parishioners, and “Home Friends” with great fondness. Everyone has enriched my life and I hope I have enriched theirs a little bit as well. I offer continued prayers for the health of the church and its community outreach. Let’s all hope for a “Less Hectic” 2025!

—*Sincerely, Taffy Perryman R.N.*



Ladies, you are invited to a special opportunity to relax, refresh, and re-focus before the rush of the Christmas season at Advent by Candlelight, Sunday, Dec. 8, at 6:00 p.m.

In a beautiful atmosphere, lit only by candlelight in Fellowship Hall, guests are served dessert by a table host and treated to a program that includes Advent reflections, Scripture readings, music, and fellowship. Attend as our guest or host a table of up to eight. Sign up on the attendance form soon or watch for our table in the narthex. For more information, contact Betty Luebke (314) 630-1682 or Jane Meyerkord at (314) 731-2658.



MEN’S CLUB CHRISTMAS TREE LOT

Christmas trees are being delivered this month. Watch for times and dates for the operating hours.



Creation Care Tip

It's time to mother Earth.

When someone mentions holidays, I think “dinner”. The time, work, and money that go into those dinners is amazing. And would we have it any other way?? But the average person generates \$1,300/year in food waste. So how can we keep up the tradition and save time and money.

Shop carefully.

- Make a list and stick to it.
- Try to plan the menu enough in advance to take advantage of sales.
- If you must buy more than you need (packaging can be a problem), try to separate the items and freeze what you won't use immediately. (Determine which items can be frozen, more than you might have thought.)

Carefully plan the menu. If more than one household will be present at the feast, be sure to communicate - a lot.

- Encourage everyone to express his/her wish for menu items; consider which traditional ‘delicacies’ have become less popular in recent years; and suggest quantities that are appropriate.
- We know that some quantity-control suggestions will be ignored. (My mother had to make a full casserole of jellied pigs’ feet.) We know that there will be someone (maybe even 2 or 3 someones) that will have to bring an extra dish so that no one will go hungry. Sooo invite every family to bring storage containers, and send home a bit of everything with each family so that one family isn't eating the same thing for a week. (Determine which items can be frozen, and remember to date the containers.) If your family won't eat something, don't take any. (Those jellied pigs’ feet never had too many takers.)

Anticipate left-overs and plan meals for the next week that will use up what you have. (At my house that's called Operation-Locust).

- Make soup out of bones. A cup of broth on a cold day is wonderful comfort food.
- Put leftovers with something fresh-cooked to make a “new meal”



Protect your traditions while you protect the Earth.

Information was taken from “Too Good to Waste,” www.earthday-365.org; Stick a Fork in Food Waste, a Webinar from the Missouri Botanical Garden, <https://youtu.be/IaLezskKfak>; and the Waste-Free Kitchen Handbook: a guide to eating well and saving money by wasting less food, Dana Gunders, 2015.

Look for information about recycling Christmas trees, lights, and decorations in December's “News ‘n Notes” and the Tuesday e-mail Blasts as the information doesn't come out soon enough to make the December “Spirit”.

If you have any questions or suggestions about how we can *mother Earth*, contact Jaimy Suydam at jaimy19@hotmail.com or 314-497-9110.



**News from
Atonement
Lutheran School,
Principal
Becca Gardner**

“Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light!” Romans 13:12

Hello Atonement family,

We have finished the first quarter of school and have had our first parent/teacher conferences. We are so excited to be heading into second quarter strong. October was full of fun as well. Our students have had their first Fall parties in their classrooms, a costume parade, APTO's Trunk or Treat, and they are looking forward to Thanksgiving break. This month, we look forward to having Thanksgiving break and more Dining Night Outs from APTO. Please continue to join us in prayer for our students, teachers, and families. *In Christ, Principal G*

Save the Dates !!

****Nov. 10** Atonement welcomes new member, Gail Waisanen at the 1045 a.m. service

Sunday, Nov, 24, Pledge Sunday

**Thanksgiving Eve Worship and Pie Social,
Nov. 27, 6:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday Night Advent Services,
Dec. 4, 11, 18, 7:00 p.m.**

Advent By Candlelight, Sunday, Dec. 8

Christmas Eve Worship, Dec. 24, 6 & 10 p.m.

Christmas Day Worship, Dec. 25, 10:00 am

Watch for details on all these events in future N&N and weekly emails.

November 16, 2024 **Doors open at 6 PM**



**\$20
entry fee
2 cards**

**Food and
drinks
available
for purchase**

**Scan for
more info.
& to signup!**



**Sunday, Nov. 17
Congregation Meeting
9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary**



**All proceeds will be donated to
Atonement Lutheran School**

SERVICE SUNDAY, OCT. 6, 2024



Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Pie Social

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 27
COME FOR WORSHIP. STAY FOR
PIE

PIE SOCIAL
BRING A PIE TO SHARE!



Step Up For Atonement!



Step up to support our congregation!
Please examine where your pledge falls on
this chart.

Be as generous as you can and consider
moving up a step in your monthly offerings.

With God's help, our generosity supports our
congregation in loving and serving Jesus and
our neighbors!



*Lutheran Church of the Atonement
1285 North New Florissant Road
Florissant, MO 63031*

Return Service Requested

November 2024

Newsletter

Deadline for the

Dec/Jan. issue

12:00 Noon

Tuesday, Nov. 5



Giving back . . . to the Lord.

Your continued regular offering is essential to Atonement's mission of serving God's people in the future. You may mail it to the church office or use the donate button below or on our website to use your credit card. You can also scan the QR code and you will be connected to Tithe.ly, our online giving program.

Thank you!
www.alcs-web.com/donate

Lutheran Church of the Atonement
1285 North New Florissant Road
Florissant, MO 63031
314-837-1224
church.office@alcs-web.com

We are currently projecting a **significant budget deficit** for the fiscal year ending in June 2025. Making a special gift to Atonement before December 31, 2024 can help prevent that shortfall.

Give back to keep Atonement's ministry alive! THANK YOU!