

# ATONEMENT IN ACTION

Volume 11, Issue 6

June, 2011

## Worship Service times

Sundays

8:15 and 10:00 a.m.

Atonement Cafe  
9:45 a.m.

Summer schedule  
continues through  
September 18



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## From Pastor Summy: Flower Boxes of Love

*"I [Paul] planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth."*

1 Corinthians 3:6

People of Atonement: we are being given the opportunity to plant and to water, trusting God to give the growth. Here's the scoop. With the support of the City of Reading and the Reading Berks Council of Churches, flower boxes, complete with soil and seed, are being installed in the blocks that surround the Goggleworks in Reading. The idea is to beautify and build relationships.

And Atonement is the first suburban congregation being asked to participate.

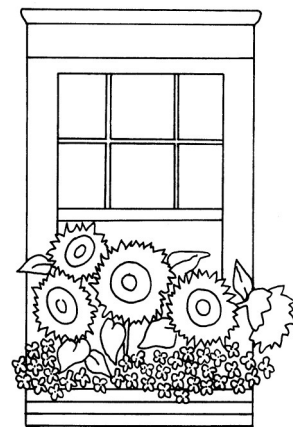
The goal of the project is "to transform streets, one block at a time, by building relationships with neighbors through inspirational flower boxes and prayer." It seems simple enough, but sometimes simple is the best way to start.

There will be a couple of ways you can participate. *First*, we will need to purchase the custom-made flower boxes, installation hardware, and the soil and flowers (mums, given the time of year) for each box. We estimate that this will cost about \$75 per box. You can buy one or more boxes or even part of one. Look for the display in the narthex. *Second*, you can agree to be a person/couple/family who, along with others from the congregation, will go to our appointed block to install the boxes and meet those who live there. The city will do the initial calling, so the family will have already agreed to participate in the project. No surprises!

In order for us to learn more about the whole project and a bit about what the mayor's office has in mind for the area around the Goggleworks ("Ricktown"), the office is hosting a presentation, exclusively for members of Atonement, on *Sunday, August 7 at 12:30 p.m. in the Goggleworks theater*. Come to worship that Sunday and then head down to the Goggleworks for a bite to eat prior to the presentation.

If you are not sure you want to participate, and even if you are, please respond to the generosity of the mayor's office to make this presentation for us. Sign up for attending the presentation by 1) signing the form in the narthex, 2) signing up on the web site.

God has blessed us abundantly. Let's respond by planting some seeds, providing some water, and seeing what else God might grow!



**Atonement Lutheran Church**

5 Wyomissing Blvd., Wyomissing, PA 19610

Phone: 610-375-3512; Fax 610-375-3511; [www.atonementwyo.org](http://www.atonementwyo.org)



## Hosts Needed! For History Tour

Atonement Lutheran Church has been selected to be a part of the 2011 Historic Property Tour sponsored by the Historical Society of Berks County. This event will be Saturday, October 1 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. during the Celebration of the Arts weekend. This will be a great weekend to showcase not only the history of Atonement, but also the skills of local artists.

The task force committee, consisting of Pastor Summy, Pastor Lee, Dorothy DeLong, Betty Shirk, Bob Eisenbrown, Ellen Bryan, Dave and Barbara Reeser, Barb Homsher, Dottie Hill, and I began meeting in March in preparation. The day will feature tours of Atonement with music provided by our own Atonement musicians. There will also be food, including sandwiches and “whoopee pies,” provided by our Youth and Hospitality Committees.

We are looking for hosts to lead tours for this event. Tour hosts will lead small groups through the building, pointing out interesting facets of Atonement’s history. No experience is needed; training will be provided. If you are interested in being a host or serving in another capacity, please contact Pastor Summy, Pastor Lee, or me.

The committee also is looking for pieces of Atonement’s history, such as old bulletins, dedication booklets, or old photographs. If you have items that you are willing to share, please contact me or another committee member. All items received will be kept safe and returned after the event..

Please mark your calendars for an exciting and enjoyable weekend at Atonement starting September 30 through October 2. You will not want to miss this weekend.

Tom Endy

## Celebration of the Arts Volunteer Opportunities

Following a two-year hiatus, Atonement will be holding our Celebration of the Arts weekend: Friday, September 30- Sunday, October 2, 2011. This art exhibit and concert weekend is only possible with the help of many volunteers.

Assistance is needed in many ways, including: setting up Lundin Hall with display boards and lighting, intake of artwork and hanging of exhibit, sales and monitoring of art, reception volunteers for both Friday and Sunday evenings, taking artwork down and supervision of pick-up. No experience is necessary, just enthusiasm and your willingness to give a little time to this event. Contact Sarah Smith at 610 378-9820 or sjs0716@comcast.net if you would like to help in any way, or have any questions about ways to volunteer.

Also, if you are an artist and a relatively new Atonement member and would like to be included in the exhibit, just let us know. If you were in the last show (2008), you will automatically be invited to the 2011 show.



## WOA Sponsors New Pictorial Directory



Women of Atonement have a very busy summer scheduled. Save the dates for the new Atonement pictorial directory: Monday, September 10 through Saturday, September 17, and Monday, October 10 at the Highlands, Tuesday, October 11 through Saturday, October 15 at Atonement. Sign up sheets will be posted. We look forward to this much-needed update. Please look in the newsletter and bulletin for more details about this project along with our usual WOA fall schedule.

## Confirmation Teachers & Equipment Needed

For many years, the confirmation program has been taught by three very dedicated individuals: Jeff Brock, Dana Lee, and Susan Mehos. For various reasons, these teachers are not able to maintain their posts as they have in the past. If you enjoy working with middle school students, have a desire yourself to learn and grow in faith, and are available on Sunday mornings during the Sunday school hour, please contact Pastor Jason Lee (even if you are only available to help one or two Sundays a month).

The confirmation program is making a change this year and is going to be including more audio/visual pieces. Unfortunately, the Parish Center classrooms are not equipped with the tools we need. If you would be willing to donate toward this cause, please contact Pastor Jason Lee. We are looking to raise \$1,000 before classes start at the end of September.

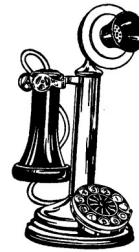


**DON'T MISS IT!**

## Confirmation Information Meeting

The confirmation program here at Atonement is geared for those young people in the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grades. If you are interested in being part of or already are part of the confirmation program, there will an informational meeting on **Wednesday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m.** Many things have changed from previous years, so all participants should be in attendance. Contact Pastor Lee with questions.

## Call Us!



Should you or someone you know be in need of pastoral care for any reason, please call the church office during regular business hours or, if it is urgent, call either Pastor Summy or Pastor Lee on their cell phones (Summy: 610.927.7729, Lee: 610.927.7849).

Also, it is very important, particularly in this day of privacy rules, to call us if you or someone you know is in any hospital. We check with St. Joseph's and Reading Hospitals daily, but sometimes folks are not listed as members of Atonement when they are admitted, particularly when they are admitted through the emergency room. We would rather find out something we already know rather than not finding out at all.

Thanks for helping us do what we are called to do!

## National Youth Gathering Meeting

There will be an informational meeting for those interested in attending the National Youth Gathering, July 18-22, 2012 and is intended for anyone who is in the 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Our information meeting will be on **Wednesday, September 28 at 7:15 p.m.** We will discuss many things about the trip, including but not limited to transportation, food, housing, activities, and cost. Contact Pastor Lee for more information.



Our church picnic will be held on Sunday, September 18. Save the date for an afternoon of fellowship, food, and fun. More details to come. If you're interested in helping with this event, please contact Bryan Wang at 610-743-3982 or [Bryan\\_s\\_wang@yahoo.com](mailto:Bryan_s_wang@yahoo.com).

## Memorials

### Thanksgiving and Memorial Fund

We are grateful to acknowledge the following gifts to the glory of God and:

in loving memory of Maribelle Kauffman by  
Tomy and Mary Ruth Mikes

in loving memory of Ginger Geissler by  
Thomas and Amy Reinsel  
Raymond and Betsy Hawman Sprow  
Fred and Judith Hawman Smith  
Alan M. Hawman III  
Isabel Hawman Geier  
Robert and Barbara Hawman

in loving memory of Janice Wolfe by  
Barbara Fish Diaz  
Frances H. Whitehall  
Janet and Ken Kaiser  
Robert and Anita Chaney  
Peter Wolfe

in loving memory of Neil C. Hill by  
Betty and Roy Koppenhofer  
Robert and Anita Chaney

in loving memory of John Wenrich by  
Charles R. Moyer

in loving memory of Alfred Weitkunat by  
David and Jane Rohrbach  
Helene B. Shumate  
Suzanne and Joseph Freney  
Joan and Erwin Notter  
Julia K. Braun  
Vincent H. Kahler  
Diane Gaul  
Mark and Marcia Reed  
Jack and Mary Mancuso  
Debbie Goodman  
John Moyer  
David and Sandie Rick  
Dr. & Mrs. Vincent J. Moffitt  
Kathy Donahue  
Philip and Maureen Brumbach  
Glenn Golden and family  
Nhon and Sarah Trang  
J. Gail Freymoyer

Martha L. Hafer  
Marty and Eric Jaxheimer  
Susan J. Harenza  
Nancy M. Hemmerich  
David and Donna Trang  
Janet Schwab  
Lois H. Marquardt  
Elizabeth B. Rothermel  
Elizabeth B. Gaul  
Gemma and Thomas Welsh  
James and Tiffany Shaffer  
John and Kathryn Anderson  
Margaret A. Esterly  
Barbara and William Schwab  
Albert & Mary Schwab and family  
Kent and Barbara Davis  
Marian E. Pounder  
Jean A. Dietrich  
Rosemary E. Bestwick  
William F. Price Foundation  
Edna C. Pollak  
Susan K. Ziemer  
Frank M. Kauffman  
Waltraud Ehrmann

### Arts Fund

We are grateful to acknowledge the following gifts to the glory of God and in loving memory of John Wenrich by

Anna Guldin  
Marian E. Pounder

### Endowment Fund

We are grateful to acknowledge a gift to the glory of God and in loving memory of Alfred Weitkunat by  
Mr. & Mrs. Lee W. Hummel

### Music Fund

We are grateful to acknowledge a gift to the glory of God and in loving memory of James L. Umstead by  
Phyllis Peters



## Looking Back on VBS 2011

Atonement was a hub of excitement June 20-24, as 74 children and 44 adult and preteen/teen leaders traveled back in time to visit Hometown Nazareth: Where Jesus Was a Kid. The focus each day was:

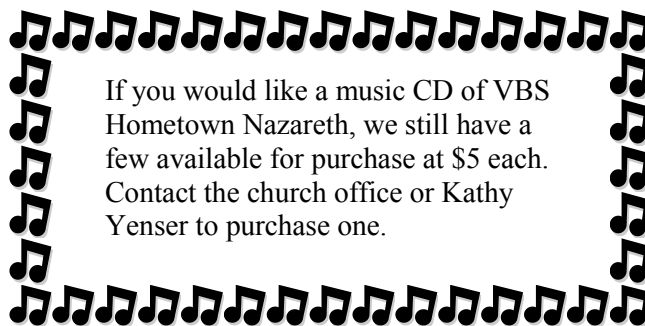
- Monday – Jesus had a family, and we do too. Bible story: Mary is chosen to be Jesus' mother. (Luke 1:26-38)
- Tuesday – Jesus had a name, and we do too. Bible story: Jesus is born and gets his name. (Luke 2:1-40)
- Wednesday – Jesus had a home, and we do too. Bible story: Jesus' family escapes to Egypt. (Matthew 2:13-14, 19-23)
- Thursday – Jesus went to church, and we do too. Bible story: Jesus goes to the Temple. (Luke 2:41-52)
- Friday – Jesus served others, and we do too. Bible story: Jesus does a miracle in Cana. (John 2:1-12)

The fun began each day at 8:45 a.m. with games such as parachute play, bubble making, and hula hoop dancing on the front lawn. In the narthex, children had an opportunity to express their creativity by decorating picture frames and then dressing as shepherds to have their photos taken. At 9:00, children entered the nave for our opening to introduce the theme for the day, sing, learn some sign language, and pray. The children then spent the rest of the morning traveling with their tribe through a variety of stations to experience life in Nazareth. They:

- Visited Mary's house to hear stories about Jesus as told by Mary and her nosy neighbor Eunice
- Visited the marketplace where shopkeepers helped the children make items that connected with life in Nazareth
- Tasted food that was popular in Jesus' time
- Made a joyful noise through singing and playing rhythm instruments
- Joined in fun and games that related to the daily theme
- Spent tribe time together in a hometown huddle to further develop relationships with each other and reinforce key concepts

Thank you to all of the volunteers who generously gave of their time during the week of VBS as well as beforehand in preparation. Without your help, we could not reach out to our children through this

important ministry, creating a week of learning, relationship building and fun! The people of Atonement are blessed by your willingness to serve.



If you would like a music CD of VBS Hometown Nazareth, we still have a few available for purchase at \$5 each. Contact the church office or Kathy Yenser to purchase one.

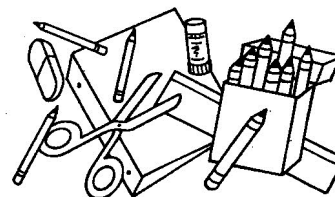
## Operation Book Bag

Atonement will again participate in the West Berks Mission District drive to collect school supplies for the elementary and middle schools in the Reading School District. Please consider donating items for this year's drive. All donations must be brought to the narthex by Sunday, August 7.

**For elementary students:** Backpack/book-bag, primer tablets, construction paper, rulers, crayons, pencil box or bag, pencils, erasers, safety scissors, glue sticks, small packs of tissues.

**For middle school students:** Backpack/book-bag, 3 or 5 subject notebooks, notebook paper, assignment books, pens (blue or black), colored pencils, pencils, erasers, highlighters, calculators, small packs of tissues.

**Monetary donations** are also appreciated and will be used to purchase additional backpacks and school supplies. Please make checks payable to: West Berks Mission District – Memo: Operation Book Bag.



## Our VBS Service Project Was a Success

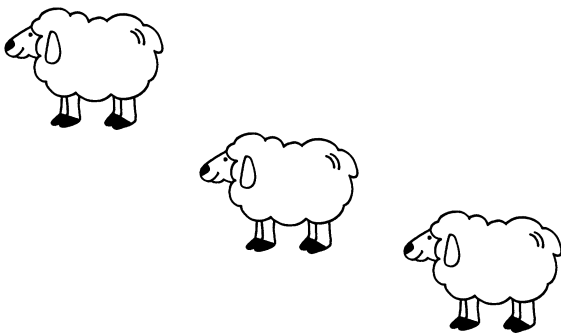
Thanks to the generous monetary donations for our VBS service project, Heifer International will receive a check of \$770 from the people of Atonement and their friends. The money will be designated to purchase six sheep for families in need. Sheep were very important to the people of Nazareth in Jesus' time and still are critical today for people around the world.

Entire communities depend on wool and meat from sheep. Struggling families use sheep's wool to make clothes, or sell it for extra income. Sheep often give birth to twins or triplets and can graze even the hilliest, rockiest pastures unsuitable for other livestock.

Some Heifer families use managed grazing techniques or zero-grazing pens to protect the environment and collect manure for fertilizer, which improves soil and pasture land.

All over the world, Heifer partners are raising sheep to advance the cause against hunger and poverty. And, through the program "Pass on the Gift," they are also sharing training and animals with other families in need. (from <http://www.heifer.org>)

Thank you again for your generosity as we reach out to serve those in need.



**COMMON GROUND RECOVERY WORSHIP  
ALL ARE WELCOME!  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3  
7:30 P.M.  
LUNDIN HALL**



## 23 Campers Enjoyed All-Day Camp at Atonement

For twenty-three children, the fun of VBS was not limited to mornings, but extended throughout the day to a summer-camp experience. Registration was open to children who just completed Kindergarten through grade 6 and whose families are members of Atonement or our preschool. During early morning drop-off (7:00 – 8:45 a.m.) and afternoon pick-up (4:00 – 5:30 p.m.), children enjoyed ping-pong, board games, and time to be with friends. Lunch was held in Lundin Hall with time in the gym after eating. Each afternoon the children enjoyed an offsite group activity from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.:

Monday – A show at the planetarium.

Tuesday – A trip to the Hands On House in Lancaster and a stop for ice cream.

Wednesday – A visit to Crystal Cave and time to dig for gemstones .

Thursday – Fun at Manderach Park in Pottstown.

Friday – Swimming at Jack and Carol Lusch's pool.

We extend a huge thank you to Hope and St. Luke's Lutheran Churches, both of Reading, for loaning us their vans to transport the children and leaders for our group activities. Pastor Summy, Pastor Jason, and our seminarian Tom Scornavacchi were the van drivers!

Once again, thank you to all of the members of Atonement who volunteered their time this week so we could reach out to children with working parents as well as others who wanted a church camp experience. Your help allowed us to offer the camp again this year, enabling the children to develop deeper relationships with each other as well as the leaders.



## September Schedule

Our summer worship schedule will extend into September a bit farther this year, so we thought it would be a good idea to provide you with this schedule:

**Sunday, September 4**  
8:15 and 10:00 a.m.

**Wednesday, September 7**  
Common Ground Recovery Worship  
7:30 p.m.  
(Lundin Hall)  
All are welcome!

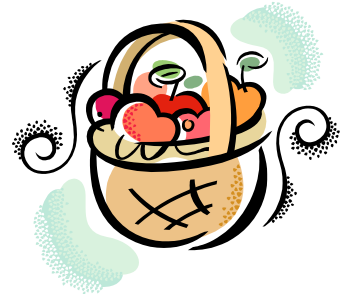
**Sunday, September 11**  
8:15 and 10:00 a.m.  
Anniversary of 9/11/01

**Sunday, September 18**  
8:15 a.m. - worship  
10:00 a.m. - Rally Day worship, followed by church picnic at Happy Hollow

**Sunday, September 25**  
Resume regular worship schedule  
8:30 a.m. - worship  
9:45 a.m. - first day of Sunday School for children and adults  
11:00 a.m. - worship

## Family Promise Fund Raiser includes Pastor Routt 

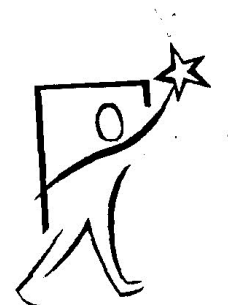
Family Promise invites you to their fourth annual fund raising event: A Taste of Hope - A Night of Promise, on Monday, September 19 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the VF Designer Outlet building.



The major sponsor is VF Outlet. Hors d'oeuvres and desserts will be provided by local restaurants. New this year will be a coffee bar! There will be a basket raffle and silent auction. (The silent auction will close and raffle drawing begins at 7:30 p.m.)

The event speaker will be the Rev. Luther Routt , recipient of the 2010 Rabbi Weitzman Award. Associate Pastor of Robeson Lutheran Church (and former associate pastor of Atonement), Pastor Routt  has dedicated his life to fighting injustice. Though he continues to address issues facing our community as host of the monthly BCTV show "Generation Gap," he is best known for wading into any situation to deal with a problem directly—be it racial discrimination, religious intolerance or gang violence.

\$25 donation per person. Tickets will be available at the door, and silent auction numbers and raffle tickets will be available at the registration table. Family Promise suggests you register in advance at their website, [www.familypromiseofberks.com](http://www.familypromiseofberks.com), or call 610-373-3323.



## ATONEMENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

5 Wyomissing Blvd.  
Wyomissing, PA 19610-2081

### CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
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Reading, PA  
Permit # 191

#### Atonement Staff

Richard H. Summy, *Senior Pastor*  
Jason M. Lee, *Associate Pastor*  
Arthur B. Wyse, *Visitation Pastor*  
Tom Yenser, *Director of Music*  
Cynthia A. Bickley, *Preschool Director*  
Kathy Yenser, *Director of Children's Ministries*  
Jo Eileen Sturgis, *Parish Secretary*  
Scott Gruver, *Financial Secretary*  
Tom Gresh, *Property Manager*  
Mick Bryan, *Sexton*  
Lois Hein, *Congregational Health Advocate*  
Tom Scornavacchi, *Seminarian*

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tscornavacchi@atonementwyo.org

Our website: [www.atonementwyo.org](http://www.atonementwyo.org)  
Church office phone number is 610-375-3512

#### Our Mission

By God's grace, we strengthen one another in faith and share the good news of Jesus through worshiping, learning, and serving.