



2024

Atonement Lutheran Church

WEEKLY WORSHIP:

Wednesdays: 6:30pm

Sundays: 9am

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday: 8am-4:30pm

Welcome, Worship, and Serve in the name of Christ

PRAYER LIST AT ATONEMENT

Loren Kruger
Irene Oberman
Angie Faundeen
Pat & Brian Robinson
Family of Lillian Walby
John Anderson
Bob Salmonson

Lainey Matuska
Sunbeam Boys
Donna Simmons
Gregg
Liz Krause
Annette
Gary and wife Jeni

Tracy N
Mark Allen
Patsy Mader
Gina Prose
Jodi
Bettye
Christopher



NEW PART TIME STAFF

Atonement has hired Angie Janni for 5 hours per week in a temporary position to support volunteers in our congregation, to increase our communication between committees and on social media, and will be the newsletter editor. Her email address is newsletter@atonementlutheran.org.

"My name is Angie Janni and I am excited to join the staff at Atonement! My husband, Kyle, and I have been members of Atonement since 2010. We have two kids, Owen and Elsa. For the past 25 years, I have worked in Property Management and manage two apartment communities in St. Cloud. I am very active in the community and enjoy volunteering. I am currently the President of the Parents Association for The St. John's Boys' Choir, Self Help Group Leader for the National MS Society, and belong to the Evangelism Committee at Atonement. I am excited to use my skills to benefit Atonement and work with members of the congregation."

ADVENT TEA CELEBRATION – DECEMBER 7

Our Advent Tea Celebration will be held on Saturday, December 7, 2024 from 10am-12 noon. Please plan to come and **invite your neighbors, friends, and family**. We will serve coffee, punch and Christmas goodies in the Fellowship Hall as our gift to the community. There will be Crafts and Homemade goodies, White Elephant items and our delicious Atonement Lefse for sale. **Please mark your calendars!**

Note: We have a limited amount of space for the White Elephant sale items. Items that have not sold well in the past are books, glassware such as vases and mugs. We ask that you do not donate these items.

Sign-ups will start in November for bringing baked goods that can be served or packaged for sale. We will also be requesting help with set up, coffee hostesses and kitchen help.

** YOUTH HAPPENINGS **

Pizza is served at 5:15 every Wednesday; cost \$1.00 per slice. All ages are invited to have this meal together.



Retreat for junior high students (grades 6-9th) is November 22-23, sponsored by the Southwest MN Synod Lutheran Youth Organization at the Willmar Convention Center. Ten youth will be attending: Arlo and Hanne Gabrielson, Elsa and Owen Janni, Kenzie Scott, Mason Weah, Liam Wills; Logan, Melanie and Aurora Boeckermann.

NOVEMBER PACKING PROJECT

For the November Community Packing Project will be 100 Blizzard Bags, containing a can of soup, tuna salad, juice, fruit cup, crackers and a cookie. These bags will be given to people who receive Home Delivered Meals and to McKinley School food shelf so that if there's bad weather and meals can't be delivered, people will have food on hand. Join us in assembling the bags at 7:15pm on November 13th in the Fellowship Hall.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Children and Youth (grades K-12) Retreats at Luther Crest will be held January 17-19 and February 7-9, 2025. Watch for more information.

REGISTER NOW

- **Gingerbread Bash** is Saturday, December 14, 9-11am. Register on Atonement's website.
- **Luther Crest** will start taking reservations for 2025 summer camp starting November 1, 2024.



NOVEMBER FORMATION CONTENT:

Grades 1-5:

Topics covered will be David and Goliath, King David, and Thanksgiving.

Confirmation Class:

November 6 – Exodus Part 2

November 13 - Packing: Blizzard Bags

November 20 - Judges

November 27- No class

CONGRATULATIONS

- Addison Grzybowski also received a Bible. She was not mentioned in the October newsletter.
- Congratulations to Aiden Abrahamson and Connor Frederiksen who were confirmed on October 27th, Reformation Sunday.

CARD MINISTRY

PLEASE HELP! Join us at **11am, November 21st** to send cards to Youth of Atonement and at **1pm**, we will be sending cards to members who will have birthdays in November.

NOV 1, FRIDAY

8am Lefse Making
6pm Bible Study (Casa de O.)

NOV 2, SATURDAY

10am NA Anonymos
6:30pm NA Anonymos

NOV 3, SUNDAY**9am Worship**

10am Coffee & Conversation
10am Adult Ed: Election
10am Unity Spiritual Center
10:30am Lefse Making
3:30pm Casa de Oracion Wrshp
5pm NA Anonymos
5pm Gamblers Anonymos

NOV 4, MONDAY

4pm Lefse Making

NOV 5, TUESDAY

9am Bible Study with Pastors
10am Men's Group
11:30am TOPS
6:30pm Bell Choir Practice
6:30pm NA Anonymos
6:30pm Stamp Club

NOV 6, WEDNESDAY

8am Bible Online-Men
9am Quilters
Noon Al Anon
2pm Knitters, etc
5:15pm Pizza
5:45pm 3 yr old-5th grade

6:30pm Worship

7pm Confirmation Class
7:15pm Choir Rehearsal

NOV 7, THURSDAY

9:45am Bible Online-Men
12pm Bible Study-Women
1pm Pieces of Love Quilters

NOV 8, FRIDAY

1pm Prayer Beads
6pm Bible Study (Casa de O.)

NOV 9, SATURDAY

10am NA Anonymos
6:30pm NA Anonymos

NOV 10, SUNDAY**9am Worship**

10am Coffee & Conversation
10am Adult Ed: SHY Program
10am Unity Spiritual Center
10:30am Lefse Making
3:30pm Casa de Oracion Wrshp
5pm NA Anonymos
5pm Gamblers Anonymos

NOV 11, MONDAY

4pm Lefse Making

NOV 12, TUESDAY

9am Bible Study with Pastors
9:30am Men's Group
11:30am TOPS
6:30pm Bell Choir Practice
6:30pm NA Anonymos

NOV 13, WEDNESDAY

8am Bible Online-Men
9am Quilters
9:30am Elizabeth Circle
Noon Al Anon
5:15pm Pizza
5:45pm 3 yr old-5th grade
6:30pm Worship
7pm Packing Project
7:15pm Choir Rehearsal

NOV 14, THURSDAY

9:45am Bible Online-Men
12pm Bible Study-Women
1pm Pieces of Love Quilters
2pm Worship Committee
7pm Council Committees

NOV 15, FRIDAY

6pm Bible Study (Casa de O.)

NOV 16, SATURDAY

10am NA Anonymos
6:30pm NA Anonymos
7pm Itinerant Pitcher

NOV 17, SUNDAY**9am Worship with St John's Boys Choir**

10am Coffee & Conversation
10am Unity Spiritual Center
3:30pm Casa de Oracion Wrshp
5pm NA Anonymos
5pm Gamblers Anonymos

NOV 18, MONDAY

5:30pm Book Club

NOV 19, TUESDAY

9am Bible Study with Pastors
9:30am Naomi Circle
10am Men's Group
11:30am TOPS
1-2:30pm Frozen Meals
6:30pm Bell Choir Practice
6:30pm NA Anonymos
6:30pm Stamp Club

NOV 20, WEDNESDAY

8am Bible Online-Men
9am Quilters
Noon Al Anon
2pm Knitters, etc
5:15pm Pizza
5:45pm 3 yr old-5th grade
6:30pm Worship
7pm Confirmation Class
7:15pm Choir Rehearsal

NOV 21, THURSDAY

9:45am Bible Online-Men
11am Youth Card Ministry
12pm Bible Study-Women
1pm Birthday Card Ministry
1pm Pieces of Love Quilters
6:30pm Executive Committee
7pm Council Meeting

NOV 22, FRIDAY

6pm Bible Study (Casa de O.)

NOV 23, SATURDAY

10am NA Anonymos
6:30pm NA Anonymos

NOV 24, SUNDAY**9am Worship**

10am Coffee & Conversation
10am Unity Spiritual Center
3:30pm Casa de Oracion Wrshp
5pm NA Anonymos
5pm Gamblers Anonymos

NOV 25, MONDAY**NOV 26, TUESDAY**

9am Bible Study with Pastors
10am Men's Group
11:30am TOPS
6:30pm Bell Choir Practice
6:30pm NA Anonymos

NOV 27, WEDNESDAY

8am Bread Makers
8am Bible Online-Men
9am Quilters
Noon Al Anon

6:30pm Worship**7pm Pie Social****NOV 28, THURSDAY**

Happy Thanksgiving
Office Closed

NOV 29, FRIDAY

Office Closed
6pm Bible Study (Casa de O.)

NOV 30, SATURDAY

10am NA Anonymos
6:30pm NA Anonymos

A NOTE FROM THE PASTORS

This month your pastors have chosen to share wisdom from a colleague who is the editor of the **Forum Letter** a publication of *The American Lutheran Publicity Bureau*. The American Lutheran Publicity Bureau (ALPB), established in 1914, is a non-profit organization independent of official church control, linked by faith and confession to the Church it serves. Committed to an understanding of the Lutheran tradition as evangelical and catholic, the ALPB affirms the Church's scriptural and confessional foundations to foster renewal within the Lutheran bodies of North America, Lutheran churches abroad, and the wider ecumenical community. The ALPB holds that all those under Christ who hold fast the Scriptures and Lutheran Confessions have a common life, with a distinctive role to play in conveying the Gospel message. In an era in which the Church in North America must address an increasingly post-Christian and secular culture, the ALPB makes the theological, liturgical and devotional resources of our confessional heritage accessible and relevant to all Lutherans as well as to friends in other communions. This article is shared with the full permission of its author.

“My Grandfather’s Watch”

A few weeks ago, the Homeowner’s Association where we live had its annual community garage sale. After our moving sale three years ago, we had sworn we would never do a “sale” thing again. But we have finally unpacked and settled in completely enough to know what things we really don’t need anymore, so we signed up and set things out.

Early in the day, a man came by who was looking for gold jewelry. We didn’t have much to offer, but I asked him if he was interested in a gold pocket watch. He said yes, so I went and found the watch. It belonged to my grandfather who died when I was thirteen. I used the watch all through high school and college, maybe even in seminary, but when I got out into the real world, I decided a gold pocket watch was a little quirky and I should probably just get a wristwatch like everyone else.



What’s it worth?

The gold buyer examined it. “Well,” he said, “it’s just gold plated, so it really isn’t worth much monetarily.” He did make me an offer on a bunch of old coins, and I sold them. I was pretty sure there was nothing of extraordinary value, and while I might have gotten more had I gotten other bids, I knew I’d probably never actually do that, and I was tired of moving them around after sixty years of it. A bird in the hand, you know.

After he left, I didn’t put the watch away. A couple of people looked at it with interest and asked how much I wanted. I picked a number out of the air, refused to barter on it, and most of them decided against it. Near the end of the day, a woman decided she wanted it, even at the price I quoted. She paid her money and walked off with the watch.

I immediately regretted having sold it. My face must have reflected my regret, as my wife put her hand on my shoulder. “That was hard, wasn’t it?” I nodded. I lay awake that night, wishing I had not sold it. I didn’t give a second thought to the coins, but selling the watch bothered me greatly.

Letting Go

In the weeks since, I've spent a lot of time wondering why I had so many regrets. The watch has been in a box for decades. Occasionally, I would come upon it, usually when looking for something else. In truth I knew nothing about the watch. I have no memories of my grandfather wearing it - indeed, I have very few memories of my grandfather at all, and I suspect most of what I think are memories in fact come from photographs. I've always fantasized that the watch was given to him at his retirement, but there was no inscription or other evidence of that. The only undeniably true story I can tell about it is that once, around 1971, I was mugged on a street corner in San Francisco, and the thieves took all my cash but missed the watch.

Had I not sold it, it would have sat in its box until my death. My children would have no idea about its history, and I doubt any of them, or any of my grandchildren, would want it. It would be just one more thing to put in the estate sale. There's no rational reason for such regret about selling it.

And yet, I do regret it. Perhaps it's for me emblematic of the ongoing challenge of letting go, a challenge that seems to confront one more and more often as one ages - God's way, I suppose, of leading us gently to that day when we will let go of this mortal life itself. It isn't always easy. I don't enjoy it.

Always Ash Wednesday

We've had to do it a lot in recent years. Leaving our home of nearly four decades was a challenge. We loved our community and our home. I finally was able to say, mostly with acceptance, *"We've enjoyed this home for all these years, and now it is time for someone else to enjoy it."*

Leaving behind hundreds and hundreds of books was hard. I still go looking for something and then think, *"Oh, I don't have that one anymore."* At least books are replaceable, though it never seems to be quite the same when you buy a new copy.



Letting go of physical strength is another kind of challenge. Every ache, every twitch, every memory slip, is a reminder of mortality. Almost every day becomes Ash Wednesday: *"Remember that you are dust!"* Some years ago, I heard about a phone app that would remind you, at random times, *"Remember you are going to die."* I don't really need that one anymore; my own body does the trick.

Saying goodbye

And, of course, as one ages, one increasingly must learn to let go of the people one has loved. A few days ago, we made a quick trip back to our old town for the funeral of one of our dearest friends in our previous parish. I reluctantly agreed to conduct the funeral; this was the only weekend our friend's family could all be there, and the current pastor was going to be on vacation, so he kindly invited me to do so. It was not an easy day - made harder by seeing so many dear people who have aged so much since we saw them last.

The next afternoon we stopped to see another very dear friend who is nearing the end. We had seen her in June and suspected then that we would not see her again. She went on hospice care not long after that. This time it was a good visit, but a very sad farewell.

"I'll see you on the other side," she said as we left – said, I must tell you, with a radiant smile. She died four days later. These are experiences that every pastor has, to be sure, but when you are no longer the pastor, when it is just your beloved friend whom you must let go, somehow it is a different dynamic.

A few days after letting go of my grandfather's watch, I happened upon a slip of scrap paper on which I had scribbled a quote from Epictetus, the Stoic philosopher: "Do not say of anything, 'I have lost it,' but rather 'I have given it back.'" I have no idea where or under what circumstances I jotted this down, but it resurfaced at the right moment. "Given it back." That's an idea that can be understood in a profoundly Christian way, is it not? All that we have belongs to God – home, family, daily work, all we need, life itself, all given to us by God. These things aren't ours to keep, but only to enjoy and then let go.

I would like to think that the woman who bought my grandfather's watch will cherish it, but I must let go even of that hope. It does not matter. I am learning, slowly and with resistance, that letting go is among the most profound lessons in this life. It is exceeded only by the knowledge, in the words of the Heidelberg Catechism, "that I am not my own, but belong, body and soul, in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ." And he will never let me go.

-by Richard O. Johnson, editor American Lutheran Publicity Bureau, Forum Letter: Volume 53 Number 9 - September 2024



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We feel so grateful for the congregation's show of love and generosity this past week - collectively and to those individuals who have gone out of their way to share words of encouragement and other signs of appreciation and love. God has truly blessed us by calling us to serve in this place, alongside this group of sisters and brothers in Christ. We pray that the Holy Spirit will give us the tools we need to continue serving well and faithfully among you for many more years.

Thank you again,
Your Pastors

OFFICE TELEPHONE VOLUNTEERS

Anyone interested in volunteering to answer phones in the church office and do light office work, please let Kay Defries know. With snowbirds leaving, we would appreciate additional help. The usual schedule includes Tuesdays from noon – 3pm and Thursdays 9am to 3pm. Volunteers are scheduled only one time per month.

THANK YOU!

To the members of our Atonement family who accepted the challenge of supplying volunteers for the month of September...please realize you were very much appreciated. Approximately 60 shifts were covered by the generosity of 27 people from our Atonement family. So in the following words of gratitude: thank you, tusen takk, gracias, merci.
...from Karen Vollen, Atonement Recruiter

ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Education continues in November with sessions to make you think and opportunities to learn more about our community. We meet in the southeast corner of the Fellowship Hall after worship. Coffee and treats will be waiting for you. Please join us!

November 3rd Loving Your Neighbor Even After the Election

As we come hard upon the 2024 election, it can seem that fear, anger, resentment, and distrust are fraying the bonds that hold us together as a republic. Well-meaning, honest people can disagree about the best way to build and maintain a city, state, and national government, but some of our neighbors, friends, and relatives (to say nothing of professional propagandists operating inside and outside of our country) are not, in fact, well-meaning or honest. How do we balance our duties to both 1) interpret people's words and deeds in the best possible light *and* 2) seek and speak the truth, even if doing so is costly or dangerous? How do we live with our neighbors and relatives who want and seek different political outcomes than we do in the aftermath of this year's election?

Join your pastors and fellow Christians on November 3 to talk this through.



November 10th Services for Homeless Youth (SHY), A Catholic Charities Program

Suzie Rice, Program Manager, Transitional Housing with Catholic Charities, will tell us about the SHY program, share challenges the program has encountered, and the successes she has witnessed. SHY is for homeless youth ages 16-24. It offers opportunities for participants to learn basic life skills that enhance independence and self-sufficiency. SHY also assists youth with housing, completing education, employment, and other resources. Come join us and bring your questions!

November 17th and November 25th

Adult Education will not meet.

BIBLE STUDY

The Tuesday 9am Bible Study is a great way to learn about the Bible and what its relevance is for you today. You will also get to know your pastors and make new friends!

CHOIRS

Atonement's vocal choir practices on Wednesday evenings at 7:15pm.

The Bell Choir have their weekly practices on Tuesdays at 6:30pm.

New members are welcomed!



The choir invites you to their annual pie social on Wednesday, November 27th, following 6:30pm worship.

JOIN IN SERVING

All committees will welcome new people. Consider joining one based on your interest. This month they meet on November 14th. Most meet at 7pm; Worship and Property will meet at 2pm.

ITINERANT PITCHER IS BACK

Join Pastors Tim and John and others on **November 16th**, 7-8:30pm at Pantown Brewing.



ATONEMENT KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS



The Hooks and Needles Prayer Shawl Group has been busy working on prayer shawls and a few other projects. Some of the shawls are now available for giving and will be available in the Book Nook during coffee time on Sunday, November 3rd. If you know of someone who is going through a difficult time, celebrating a milestone or someone who just needs the warmth and comfort that a shawl could provide, please stop by. If you knit or crochet, we would love to have you join us. This is a new group at Atonement that creates shawls, lap robes, chemo hats, etc or individuals' own projects while enjoying fellowship. They will meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, at 2pm in the church library.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

At the beginning of 2024, our mortgage balance exceeded \$360,000. You have already pledged \$326,890 towards this campaign. Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity! And because many of you have already met your pledges in part or in full, our mortgage balance stood at \$181,136.93 as of October 15, 2024!

The church council and capital campaign committee plan to pay down the mortgage principal first, as quickly as gifts to the campaign allow. Once the mortgage is paid in full, all further gifts toward the capital campaign will be escrowed for the coming assessment from the City of St Cloud. We have not received an official estimate of this project's costs, but would like to be prepared for an assessment of \$250,000.

Thank you for your investment in the future financial stability of Atonement Lutheran Church.

A LETTER FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Dear Members of Atonement Lutheran Church,

We are now coming to the end of the 2024 Stewardship Campaign. Consecration Sunday is on November 24, 2024. Please plan to attend worship on that date to present your Estimate of Giving card. There will be a brunch following the worship service. We may have a preliminary estimate of 2025 pledges at that time.

Please take time between now and November 24 to look at the growing line of posters running along the wall from the main entrance to the narthex. You will see the important services at our church that are made possible by your gifts.

Very truly yours,
Stewardship Team



WHAT IS THE LEGACY FUND?

The Atonement Legacy Fund was created to provide support for three purposes:

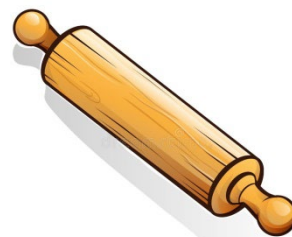
1. Education and Scholarships, 2. Ministry Outreach and, 3. Capital Improvements. Since this is an endowment, only up to 8% can be used each year.

If there are questions regarding the Atonement Legacy Fund (how to donate to it or how it is used), please feel free to reach out to any one of the following members – Pat Buttweiler, Ralph Carpenter, Kay Josephs, Patrick Mastin, Debbie Niemeyer, Karen Vollen or Nancy Wilson-Hagen.

HELP US MAKE LOTSA LEFSE!

It's lefse time, everybody! Join us in October and November and help us make lefse to sell at the Advent Celebration. Whether it's your first or one hundredth time making lefse, we hope you'll join us in carrying on this Scandinavian and Atonement tradition. Sign up for one shift or several! Questions? Call Eric Vollen at 651-272-9132 or Jon Ness at 651-472-4628 or email nessvollen@gmail.com.

- Friday, November 1, 8am: Rolling
- Sunday, November 3, 10:30am : Cooking and Mixing
- Monday, November 4, 4pm: Rolling
- Sunday, November 10, 10:30am: Cooking and Mixing
- Monday, November 11, 4pm: Rolling



A REVIEW OF THE LUTHER CREST ANNUAL MEETING



On Saturday, October 12, 2024, four representatives from Atonement, Marcus and Marilyn Anderson and Talleiv and Karen Vollen, attended the Luther Crest Bible Camp's Annual Meeting. Also attending were Jana Johnson, a past Luther Crest board member, and Nancy Johnson, an interested Atonement member. The Annual Meeting was held in the Luther Crest Chapel on Lake Carlos in Alexandria, MN. Our collective understanding is that Luther Crest Bible Camp is thriving and in the words of Pastor Maddie Elliott, Executive Director, her involvement early on as a young camper led to her belief that: "Camp leads to faith for life."

The following excerpts were taken from Luther Crest's annual report:

- There were 17 different programs offered, up from 9 programs last year.
- The programs benefited from having a partial seasonal staff to becoming a year-round staff.
- There was just under \$500,000 raised for the 2023-2024 Annual Fund drive.
- Luther Crest served 29 different congregations via day camps.
- The Green Lake Bible Camp was helped by Luther Crest supplying a short-term staff person to meet their needs.

Yet to come:

- The Christmas bake sale is returning!! The "pickup" dates are December 13 and 14. Stay tuned and check out the web site: www.luthercrest.org
- Camp registration for 2025 opens on November 1, 2024: www.luthercrest.org
- In 2025, Luther Crest will celebrate 80 years of ministry. The land for the camp was purchased for \$25,000 in 1945 by the Milaca-Glenwood-Fergus Falls Bible Camp Association. (Annual Report, page 11)

Submitted by Karen and Talleiv Vollen

LENT 2025 LUNCHESES

During the Wednesdays in Lent we offer soups at noon following the service. Soups are provided by individuals or groups. Usually there are a variety of soups offered each week. Below are the groups that have already committed to a week.

March 5: Property Committee

March 12: Elizabeth Circle

March 19: Choir

March 26:

April 2: Pieces of Love Quilters

April 9: Book Club

Please let me know if you or a group is willing to do the last week still open.

ATONEMENT'S



OF THE MONTH

November Mission of the Month: Catholic Charities Services for Homeless Youth (SHY)

This specialized program helps homeless youth build stability in their lives, as well as find and maintain affordable housing. SHY offers housing counseling and financial assistance for young people, ages 16 to 24, who are experiencing homelessness, near-homelessness, or aging-out of foster care. There is no cost to youth in the program and no referral needed. Many homeless youth find out about this program through their Street Outreach Worker who meets with them out in the community where they're at, which can be homeless shelters, drop-in centers, libraries, parks, etc.

This program provides:

Education

Referrals

Supplies to youth who are homeless or are at risk of homelessness

Community resources

Basic needs

Their Supportive Housing for Youth Program is a scattered site housing model that offers supportive housing services and independent living skills through one-to-one case management for up to 24 months. Youth learn independence as well as basic life skills. Youth are assisted in finding and maintaining permanent housing, finding employment, completing education, obtaining their vital documents, obtaining health insurance as well as connections to local resources.

Suzie Rice will share more information with us on November 10th at the adult ed session.

FOOD SHELF

The peanut butter supply is sufficient at this time. After Atonement worked there in September, we know can use jelly. For those of you who regularly volunteer, let Mission know if there is a particular need we can address.

Keep in mind when donating canned food, the pull tab opening works best. Many do not have can openers.

LINCOLN CENTER

Clean out your old jeans and hoodies. They can especially use sizes 34s and 36s. Clothing donations can be left in the donation center, but please bag and label them for Lincoln Center. High efficiency liquid soap is always needed as they do mountains of laundry daily and go through it quickly.

FROZEN MEALS AVAILABLE

Catholic Charities distributes frozen meals as part of their senior dining program from our parking lot from 1-2:30pm on the 4th Tuesday of every month. For eligibility requirements we encourage people to reach out to Catholic Charities at <https://www.ccstcloud.org/> or call (320) 229-4584.

FACT: FEED AMERICAS KIDS TOGETHER!!

Another opportunity for us to feed our community kids! Tim Eck, a young man who grew up at Atonement has designed and built food collection boxes to be placed in churches in our community. Look for his box in our narthex area. As you are able, please bring food products that are appropriate to distribute to students to support their weekend nutrition needs when not at school. Food we collect will be going to North Junior High School Pantry.

MCKINLEY AREA LEARNING CENTER

We will again support students through the school year, so please donate food items in the shopping cart just inside the Donation Center. Ideas: Cereal, fruit bars, cereal bars, fruit cups, pop top cans with soups, pastas, etc. Can openers are needed. Shelf safe milk, individual fruit juices, crackers, chips, and cookies are also welcomed. Thanks!

SUNBEAM NEWS

On Monday, October 7th we were visited by Randy Finnikin, Chairman of the Sunbeam Board and Executive Director of the Spring Village Foundation. Since 1992, Atonement has had a 32-year relationship with Sunbeam. The last Atonement team was February 2020. Recently, Covid has prevented mission teams from going to Sunbeam.

The primary reason for Randy's visit was to meet with a group of former mission team members who have served the Spring Village Development Center which has been in existence for 27 years. It has been addressing the poor socioeconomic and sociocultural issues as well as providing post-secondary education to develop job skills. They have expanded their current offerings in hospitality, construction, automotive, agriculture, health, computing and driving. The Foundation also has programs in sports, performing arts, medical and dental support for the community. Their goal for the visit was to develop a new 25-year plan.

While Randy was here, he also addressed the current situation at Sunbeam Children's Home. They are committed to their original mandate to work with families who have challenges raising their boys and to work with entities committed to supporting boys. In the future, they will improve their production capabilities in poultry production, the piggery, the greenhouse, and the orchard and open field. They will use the facilities to train older boys to produce food for the market and the home. They will engage 7-10 boys in a Christ centered educational and character-building program.

Even though there are no teams scheduled to go to Sunbeam or Spring Village at this time, after damage from two hurricanes, there is a greater need than ever for teams to do hands-on mission projects. For more information, email marcusanderson698@gmail.com.



ATONEMENT MEMBERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

September Mission of the Month, HELP International: \$3,057.85.

October Mission of the Month, Anna Marie's Alliance: Totals will be forthcoming.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Catholic Charities Emergency Services is in need of volunteers in our Food Shelf, Basic Everyday Essentials Clothing Program, at the Intake desk and as drivers. We would love for you to share your time and talent with us in any way you can. Please scan the QR code to fill out an application, email volunteer@ccstcloud.org or call 320-229-4568 for more information!



SUNDAY, NOV. 17: St. John's Boys' Choir here for Worship!

The St. John's Boys' Choir will join our choirs at Atonement on Sunday, November 17th, 9am. Free will donations will be graciously accepted to help support this season's programming and tours. Find out more about the SJBC – www.sjbchoir.org

Atonement Lutheran Church
1144 29th Avenue North
St. Cloud, MN 56303

Non-Profit Organization
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Atonement Lutheran Church Executive Committee & Staff

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