



Atonement Tidings

Jan 2020

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Annual Reports

Please submit 2019 Annual Reports to the church office by January 14th.

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, February 2nd at 10:45 a.m.

A NEW TAKE ON MORNING PRAYER!



MORNING PRAYER FOR PEACE & HEALING

First Wednesday of the Month, Beginning in February
9:00 AM in the Prayer Room

Welcome the New Year as we pray for peace and healing in a whole new way.

*Let us bow to each other and say
that we will be the peace for which we long.*



Our 2019 Christmas Pageant

ASBURY DINING AND CARING CENTER

Our next date is **Sunday, January 26th**, from about **11:30 to 1:00**. Please sign up in the Narthex, rides available.

We are collecting chapstick and lip balm to put together a winter care package to be given out to diners at the Asbury Dining Center on Jan 26th.

Monetary donations will also be collected to buy lotion or Vaseline and we already have a donation of washcloths. The Sunday School children will assemble the bags and add a note to each!

Children, Youth, and Family

ANGEL TREE

A Note of Thanks!

The four weeks of Advent Giving, and the Mitten Tree, provided opportunities for us to think of others and bring items to be used in each of the ministries we chose to highlight. Your donations were delivered to local ministries and received with grateful hearts.

Over 150 items (socks, gloves, hats, etc) were delivered to Saint’s Place; containers of coffee, creamer and sugar were taken to Asbury Dining Center; diapers and clothing were delivered to Bethany House; and hygiene products and calendars were taken to St. Joseph’s Neighborhood Center. A collection for Lutheran Disaster Response raised \$190 - how absolutely wonderful!

Thank you all for opening your hearts and giving so generously this season!

FAMILY, CHILDREN, AND YOUTH MYSTERY SLEUTHING EVENT

Sunday, January 12th, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

All youth and their families are invited to join in an evening of Sleuthing and fun as we come together for our first Who-Done-It Mystery. Our theme is Cracking the Mystery at the Annual Superhero Assembly. Families and their youth will have an opportunity to choose their Super Hero from a list (Ms. Janeen will email it to you). Dinner and dessert will be provided.. There will be fun family games and a little bit of Sleuthing to solve the Mystery. *Sign-up is on the narthex bulletin board.* Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

Looking Forward, February 7th and 8th we invite the youth of Atonement to join together with the youth of Our Saviour Lutheran Church in a Lock-In as we walk together through a 30 hour Famine. More details to come.

Church Notes

BRIGHTON FOOD DEPOT

For the month of January, we will be collecting cereal and pasta sauce. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry!

LUNCH & LAUGHTER

Wednesday, January 8th at Noon

Come out of the winter cold and join us for our pot luck lunch. Bring a dish to pass...we’ll provide beverages, hot and cold. Sign-up sheet in the narthex, but if you forget to sign up, come anyway. There is always room for YOU at our table.

Set-up or clean-up help is always appreciated. Call the office at 442-1018 if you are in need of transportation.

ADULT FORUM

Sundays at 10:45 AM

Jan. 5 No Class

Jan. 12 **Our Neighbors at St. Joseph’s Neighborhood Center** (presented by Joel Elliot)

Jan. 19 **Downsizing? Selling Your Home? Buying a Home?** Come and find out what you need to think about in advance. Join Kevin Herrick from Re/Max Realty Group for a fun and interesting conversation (Some of you already know Kevin as the volunteer kitchen co-manager at our International Potluck Dinner for Refugees.)

Jan. 26 **What Do Our Neighbor’s Believe? Questions and Answers on Judaism** (presented by Joel Elliot)

A CONGREGATIONAL LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Join us in preparing our own congregational devotional for the season of Lent. Each page will offer a Bible reading, a prayer and a brief reflection written by a member of Atonement. It is our hope that this devotional booklet will provide opportunities for reflection and prayer, meditation and holy awe for our church family. Can you help us? (40 days in Lent = 40 pages = 40 reflections!) Look for upcoming details beginning January 26.

ATONEMENT WISH LIST

With the new year beginning, we are looking forward to serving our congregation in all their needs! We can always use your support, and here is our new Wish List of needed items, both small and large, that will help keep our church home humming. If you can help to make our wishes come true, please contact Becky in the office. Thank you for your continued support!

OFFICE SUPPLIES

Colored copy paper- 8½" x 11"
White copy paper- 8½" x 11" and 8½" x 14"
Forever Postage stamps

KITCHEN SUPPLIES

Ground coffee- regular and decaffeinated
White sugar
Powdered coffee creamer
Tea bags- regular, decaffeinated, and herbal
Paper towels
Heavyweight paper plates (no plastic, please)
Paper cups for hot beverages

NURSERY & YOUTH

Child-safe disinfectant wipes
Family-friendly board games or card games

PRAYER MINISTRY

Packages of tea light candles

The Outsiders

The sky is packed with stars.

What eyes the wise men had, to see a new one among so many!
The Lion in Winter, by James Goldman

What eyes indeed! Not everyone saw the star; certainly not the church folks - those elders, scribes and pharisees - who knew Old Testament prophecy. Yet those strange men from the East *did* see it (and with the shepherds) were the only ones, according to the Gospel story, to come to the manger and worship, betting their lives that the child in a stable was indeed the fulfillment of the promise.

Who were they, these wise men? Not part of the crowd but rather "From the East" or "From a long way off": Astronomers, soothsayers, visionaries, magi, gentiles, outsiders. Strange and foreign and mysterious. And yet it was to them that the star appeared, and it was they who responded in faith to it. Somehow they saw in the star a promise, and out of the darkness of their own lives they braved the desert to come searching for the one who could fill their need. What gifts did they bring? Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh...but also need, threat and fear?

Surely there is a similar darkness in our lives too, in our homes, our churches and communities. Surely there are outsiders to be considered in our lives too – the ones "from a long way off", the ones who just don't seem to fit in. Strange and foreign and mysterious. What gifts do they bring? Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh? Need, threat and fear? Strange gifts.

That God would come to outsiders, even unbelievers, on his own, with no conditions or strings attached – what a gospel! And yet God does this over and over, inviting us to see his star and bet our lives on his promise. God sets us in the midst of other outsiders who bring their gifts, perhaps presenting them as need, or threat, or fear to our vulnerability, our humanness, while giving us a model of unbounded love and acceptance of others.

The gift of the star still lights up the desert and darkness before us today; a star pointing to the promise. It's everyone's gift – and our gift too. A gift to bet our lives on.

Epiphany Blessings,
Pastor Gail

Congregational Care

Looking Forward

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|----|-----------------------------|
| 4 | Dan Westervelt, John Tokoli |
| 6 | Kathy Heinig |
| 12 | Andrew Spillane |
| 18 | Sarah Darder |
| 22 | Madison Hauck |
| 24 | Andrea Fleishman |
| 30 | Judy Lazenby |

PRAYER CONCERNS

Members: Charlie Terhune, Carl Foucht, Betty Browne, Karen Grover.

Friends and Family: Tom Upson, Aimee, Sean and Harry Parmalee, Judy and David Ballerstein, Kathy Doherty, Jeff, Richard Kress, Judy Price, Mark, Erika, Jeffery Auer.

A NOTE FROM SUZANNE TERHUNE

After three weeks at Albany Medical Center due to a stroke, Charlie was transferred to rehab but is now back in Stoney Brook Hospital awaiting specialized microsurgery. The hope is this surgery will stabilize him enough to return to rehab. I am very confident that he will do everything in his power to recover as much as possible. Together, with the prayers and support of friends and family, and trusting in God's ever present grace and guidance, we are hopeful for continued healing. Our thanks to you and to the congregation for continuing to remember us in your prayers. We need all of them so much. Wishing you and the Atonement congregation a very blessed and joyous Christmas.

With much love and gratitude,
Suzie

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|------------|--|--------------------------------|
| January 5 | Worship <i>No Sunday School or Adult Forum</i> | 9:30 AM |
| January 8 | Lunch & Laughter | 12:00 Noon |
| January 12 | Worship Sunday School & Adult Forum Family Mystery Sleuthing Night | 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 5:00 PM |
| January 19 | Worship Sunday School & Adult Forum | 9:30 AM 10:30 AM |
| January 21 | Board of Ministries | 6:00 PM |
| January 26 | Worship Sunday School & Adult Forum | 9:30 AM 10:30 AM |



SAVE THE DATE!
Sunday, February 9
10:45 AM after worship

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER BRUNCH ***Food....Fun....Fellowship***

In gratitude for the many ways you are good stewards of our church by sharing your Time, Talent and Treasure.

Watch for details in the February Tidings and in the Sunday bulletin.

January 2020 Worship Assistant Schedule

| | <i>January 5 9:30 AM</i> | <i>January 12 9:30 AM</i> | <i>January 19 9:30 AM</i> | <i>January 26 9:30 AM</i> | <i>February 2 9:30 AM</i> |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Assisting Minister | Lindsay Lazenby | Russell Miller | Matt McGill | Joanne Scanlon | Eric Domroes |
| Communion Assistant | Sue Hauck | Betty Middlebrook | Jim Krapf | Wally Short | Judy Lazenby |
| Reader | Jean Seager | Susan Touhsaent | Jess McGill | Kathy Heinig | Madison Hauck |
| Children's Moment | Elizabeth Hanks | Karan Thompson | Pastor Gail Swanson | Jess McGill | Karan Thompson |
| Acolyte | Samantha Hauck | Madison Hauck | Sarah Darder | Eva Condemi | Faye Domroes |
| Greeter | Karen Goodyear | Diane Christianson | Regina Short | Ann Patterson | Carol Pearson |
| Usher | Norm Karsten | Jack Teter | Wally Short | J. Tokoli | Bob Heinig |
| Coffee Host | ~~~~ | Judy Lazenby | Bob Heinig | Margy Peet | Barb Sanko |
| Assistant Financial Sec. | Richard Phelps | John Kruidenier | Bob Touhsaent | Bob Touhsaent | John Krudenier |
| Counter | Stew Stover | Tom Thompson | Stew Stover | Amy Irish | Adam Darder |
| Altar Care | Judy Karsten | | | | |



MISSION STATEMENT

Atonement Lutheran Church is a gathering of God's people in Christ called to:

Invite all people into the presence of the living God,

Prepare for ministry in daily life,

Go into the world as disciples.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
Dated Material
JANUARY 2020

19191 1418
1900 Westfall Road
Rochester, NY 14618



ATONEMENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

1900 Westfall Road
Rochester, NY 14618

Pastor: The Rev. Gail Swanson
Director of Music Ministry: David McCarthy
Administrative Assistant: Becky Wiesmore

Telephone: 585-442-1018

Email: office@atonementrochester.org

Website: www.atonementrochester.org

Facebook: fb.com/atonementlutheranchurch/

Sunday Worship and Holy Communion: 9:30 AM
Christian Education: 10:45 - 11:30 AM Sundays
Office Hours: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM Tues/ Wed/ Thurs
Pastor's Day Off: Monday