

The Commentator

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HOW you can HELP

- ❖ Billings Food Pantry Needs—
***See list posted in the
Commons at the Food Bank
shelf.
- ❖ Worship, ushers, assisting
ministers, lectors.
- ❖ Sunday School, helpers, and
teachers.

MENU



Wonderful Wednesday
October 11th
Bull Mountain 6PM

Marvelous Monday
October 23
Montana Jack's 6PM

Come and join the conversation.

(Any questions call Debbie
406-248-5313 or 406-696-7029.)

ADOPT-A-PLOT FALL 2023

It is time to complete the Fall Adopt-a-Plot assignments over the next 3-4 weeks in preparation for winter. Many Adopt-a-Plot areas were cleaned up during the Spring. The Adopt-a-Plot posters are updated, and the Property Committee would like to thank all those who signed up for the open areas and to those who continue to clean-up their assigned areas. Weeding and trimming bushes/plants are typically all that needs to be accomplished this fall. The south side of the entryway has been trimmed as an example of how to trim your plants and bushes this Fall. Grasses are left long, but day lilies need to be cut down to ground level. If you are unable to manage your assigned area or have questions, please contact *Todd Koepp* at 256-1569. Thank you all for your commitment to this Atonement Ministry.

THANK YOU-YOUR GENEROSITY IS AMAZING

Our heartfelt thanks for all the generous donations for the baskets going to our fire stations on GWOH Sunday. These wonderful and dedicated firefighters were so grateful. Again, our thanks, *The Evangelism Committee*

ATONEMENT'S FALL BAZAAR



Atonement's Fall Bazaar will be Saturday, November 4, 2023, 9:00am-3:00pm. Please help with the Bazaar when you can! Set up will be Thursday, November 2nd starting at 8:30 a.m. and continuing Friday, November 3rd at noon. Take down will be Saturday, November 4th at 3pm and Sunday, November 5th at noon. We will need the following items to sell: Craft Items, Canned Goods (we have jars if you need some), Garden Produce, Baked Goods (especially pies), Garage Sale Items (PLEASE NO CLOTHES OR ELECTRONICS). Items can be brought to the church starting Monday, October 30th. Please designate if your items are for the bazaar or the garage sale. If you have any questions please contact: the church office, *Eleanor Andersen* @ 406-855-1401, or *Julie Leno* @ 406-248-5359.



MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

If anyone or any committee has a need for funds, please fill out an application from the Memorial Committee. Application deadline is October 5th. The committee will meet in October to go over the applications and reply to any requests.

Penny Morse-Memorial Committee



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

New member installation will be on October 15th at the 9:15 am service.



ATONEMENT'S BUILDING IS TURNING 10 YEARS OLD

Ten-year anniversary is "Tin" we would like to invite you to donate can goods for the food pantry in commemorate of our tenth year in our building. If you have any questions, please call *Rane Paulson* 670-0672.

ATONEMENT YOUTH



October 29th from 5:30 to 7:30 PM

Atonement Youth will be hosting a Chili Cook-Off and Dessert Auction plus Trivia Night. Come enjoy dinner, dessert and fun while supporting the Atonement Youth in fundraising for the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans. If you are interested in entering your chili into the cook-off or donating a full-sized dessert into the auction, please reach out to Nikki or look for sign-up sheets in the commons area. We cannot wait to see who wins Best Chili this year!

Trunk or Treat

Will be taking place from **6:00 to 7:00 pm** on Halloween Night. If you are interested in participating by decorating a trunk or handing out candy, please reach out to *Nikki* or look for sign-up sheet announcement during service. A candy donation bin will be in the entrance of the church if you would like to participate in that way.



STITCHES & SCRIPTURES

Welcome to Fall! Stitches and Scriptures are meeting on Sunday's at 10:45am in the sanctuary.

Everyone is welcome! Young or old, learn how to knit or crochet a prayer shawl, or work on the stitching project of your choice. We would love to have you! For any information, please contact Jane Hansen at 406-861-2953 or jhansen0359@gmail.com.

LWR SCHOOL KITS UPDATE

Thanks to a grant from Thrivent Financial and everyone who donated we were able to complete 170 school kits for Lutheran World Relief! Atonement you are awesome! *Julie Leno*

J.O.Y BIBLE STUDY

Has disbanded and is no longer meeting.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Join us Wednesday mornings at 10am in the Jerusalem room as we engage in a Bible study exploring the stories in the Narrative Lectionary.

QR Code for easy giving!



Scan with device camera

ATONEMENT LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

Fall Greetings from Atonement Lutheran Preschool!

Atonement Lutheran Preschool is up and going with our first month of school under our wings! Fall is always such a fun time with our students. They are learning and playing with new friends and discovering lots of new things!

In October, our students will have picture day on the 4th, no school on the 20th, Atonement's Pumpkin Patch on the 27th, and a Halloween Party and trick or treating at Wyndstone on the 30th! Plus, we will be learning about the Letters: C,D,E,F,G; along with the color Orange, and the triangle shape!

We could use your help with some of the supplies we will be working with in the coming month. If you can find and donate these items below are some other items, we are looking for to help during the school year...

- ♥ Pumpkins
- ♥ Straw bales
- ♥ Jingle bells
- ♥ Goldfish Crackers
- ♥ Jellybeans
- ♥ Ice Cream Cones (both cake cups and sugar cones)
- ♥ Walmart/Target/Albertsons Gift Card

Thank you to those that were able to help and thank you for your support and please keep us all in your prayers as we are on break for the summer!

Blessings, Sara Westrope, Atonement Lutheran Preschool Director



CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT AUGUST 2023

General Fund August 2023			
August Budget Expense	\$40,664	August Actual Expenses	\$33,397
August Budget Income	\$24,483	August Actual Income	\$25,408
August Net Income	(\$7,989)	Net Income YTD	(\$4,028)
Building Fund August 2023			
August Mortgage	\$5,800.00	August Actual Income	\$6,025
August Net Income	\$225	Net. Income YTD	\$4,899

Tom Danielsen – Treasurer, Atonement Lutheran Church Council



GREETINGS FROM THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TEAM

Dear members of Atonement Lutheran Church,

We, the members of the Growing the Seeds of Faith Capital Campaign team are beyond grateful for your support of the campaign effort and your generous giving to support the goals that we established at the outset of this process. We have made wonderful progress toward retiring our mortgage. Maybe more importantly, we have made our presence felt in the greater Billings Community by the generous support of our community tithe recipients and we have grown our own ministry team by funding of our Youth and Family Minister with Capital Campaign giving.

Throughout the duration of this campaign, the outstanding mortgage balance has been reduced from \$1.193 million to \$695,424 as of August 31, 2023 – certainly more reduction to come in these closing months. In addition, Atonement has donated a total of \$30,900 to Family Promise, Christikon, and Friendship House – more to come here in the closing months of the campaign as well. Finally, as stated above, this capital campaign has funded the YFM position for four years; a “savings” of approximately \$100,000 from the General Fund. These are amazing accomplishments of which everyone should be proud.

As discussed at the last Annual Meeting, this capital campaign will close at the end of this year. You have shared your generosity for the duration of this campaign even when we struggled with change and uncertainty as we worked our way through a pandemic and an extended interim time without a pastor. In a few months when the campaign closes, we hope that you can continue to share this generosity and help our church continue to grow its ministries. The council, finance and stewardship teams will be sharing information about transitioning the funding of our Youth and Family Minister to the general fund. Please keep this in mind as you consider your stewardship pledges and how you might distribute your financial contributions to our general fund and mortgage reduction/building fund.

And again, thank you, thank you, thank you!!

Growing the Seeds of Faith Capital Campaign Team

Co-chairs; Mark Halvorson and Tyler Westrope



FROM THE PASTOR

I think the installation service confirmed a belief I have — an Installation Service for a pastor in a congregation is more than just about a pastor. The service and gathering is about the church community. The synod was impressed with our attendance and party. My dad and his wife were blown away by your excitement and hospitality. And I just felt grateful to be part of a community that is excited about our shared future, that cares to throw good parties, and that cares to celebrate people and ourselves. Between the worship and tech team making the sounds and logistics of two services happen, the Evangelism team and others from the Call Committee, the extra efforts of multiple staff members, and just everyone showing up...I'm just beyond grateful to be part of this community with you all.

You are a blessing.

Thanks again for the call.

And thanks for being you.

To quote Walt Disney himself, "We're just getting started."

Pastor Ryan

Atonement Lutheran Church – October 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:15 am Worship Service Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal Stitches & Scriptures New Member Class 3:00-5:00 pm Lutheran Collective	1 6:30 pm WELCA Board 7:00 pm Al-Anon/Alateen 7:00 pm Property Committee	2 1:00 pm Quilters	3 10:00 am Wed. Bible Study 6:00 pm Youth/Confirmation Deadline for Memorial Committee Applications	4 11:00 Memorial Committee	5 6:30 AM Mem's Square Breakfast Fellowship 2:30 pm Confirmation Leaves for retreat	6
8 9:15 am Worship Service Stitches & Scriptures Family Promise Week 8-14 Confirmation returns from retreat	9 7:00 pm Youth, Family & Ed 7:00 pm Property Committee 7:00 pm Al-Anon/Alateen	10 1:00 pm Quilters 4:30 pm Altar Guild Meeting 6:30 pm Finance/Exec 6:30 pm Evangelism	11 10:00 am Wed. Bible Study 6:00 pm WW Meal-Bull Mountain 6:00 pm Youth/Confirmation 9-12 grade Com-maze	12	13	14
15 9:15 am Worship Service Coffee Fellowship Pre-K Milestone 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal Stitches & Scriptures Lefsa Prep Second Sunday Sandwich's 12:00 pm Worship Committee McKenzie Pizza	16 5:00 pm Lefsa 7:00 pm Al-Anon/Alateen	17 1:00 pm Quilters 5:00 pm Lefsa 6:30 pm Church Council	18 10:00 am Wed. Bible Study 6:00 pm No Youth Confirmation	19 9:30 am Hope Circle Ladies Bible Study	20 No Preschool	21
22 9:15 am Worship Service Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal Stitches & Scriptures J.A.M. 3 rd – 6 th gr	23 6:00 pm MM Meal— <i>Montana Jack's</i> 7:00 pm Al-Anon/Alateen	24 1:00 pm Quilters	25 10:00 am Wed. Bible Study 6:00 pm Youth/Confirmation	26	27 7:30 pm Youth Group Lock In	28
29 9:15 am Worship Service Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal Stitches & Scriptures 5:00 pm Youth Chili	30 7:00 pm Al-Anon/Alateen	31 1:00 pm Quilters 6:00 pm Trunk or Treat				

We Bring The Hope We Share In Christ To All!



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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED



ATONEMENT FALL BAZAAR 11.04.2023!!!

October 2023

- ☞ Oct 6 Men's Square
- ☞ Oct 6 Confirmation Retreat
- ☞ Oct 8 Family Promise week
- ☞ Oct 11 WW Meal Bull Mountain
- ☞ Oct 15 Chapel Choir Rehearsal
- ☞ Oct 15 2nd Sunday Sandwiches
(moved to 3rd Sunday)
- ☞ Oct 15 Milestone Ministry
- ☞ Oct 15 Pre-K Bedtime Prayers
- ☞ Oct 15 Lefsa Prep
- ☞ Oct 16 Lefsa Rolling/Frying
- ☞ Oct 17 Lefsa Rolling/Frying
- ☞ Oct 17 Church Council Meeting
- ☞ Oct 19 Hope Circle
- ☞ Oct 23 MM Meal Montana Jack's
- ☞ Oct 27 Youth Lock-In
- ☞ Oct 29 Youth Chili Cookoff
- ☞ Oct 29 JAM (Jesus and Me)
- ☞ Oct 31 Trunk or Treat

SOCTOBER – EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

SOCTOBER 2023-Atonement Evangelism Committee is collecting "Winter Socks" now through the 31st of October. All socks must be new and unused and can be any size. A collection bin will be in the Commons for your donations. The committee will distribute the donated socks to a barite of the Billings Homeless Shelters early November. *Erin Koepp*-Atonement Lutheran Evangelism Committee

