



Start Your Christmas Shopping at ALC!

By: Julie Leno

Atonement's Famous Fall Bazaar is coming Saturday, **Nov. 7**, from **9am-3pm** with all your **favorites!** Please help with the bazaar when and where you can! Setup takes place Thursday, Nov. 5. and Friday, Nov. 6 at 8:30am. Teardown is Saturday, Nov. 7 at 3pm and Sunday, Nov. 8 at noon.

We can also use any of the following sale items: crafts, canned goods (*fabric & jars available*), garden produce, baked goods (*especially **pies***) and garage sale items (*please **NO clothes OR electronics***). You can bring items to the church nursery starting Monday, Nov. 7. Please designate as "bazaar" or "garage sale." Contact the church office or Julie Leno @ 406-248-5359 with questions.



SATURDAY
Nov. 7, 2026
9AM-3PM

FREE
admission!

WORSHIP
WITH US
SUNDAYS 9:15am



Atonement Lutheran Church

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Billings, MT 59105

406-245-7004

office@atonementbillings.org

www.atonementbillings.org



Fall Greetings from Atonement Lutheran Preschool!

By: Sara Westrope, ALC Preschool Director

Our first month of preschool was full of fun! Students arrived for their first day with a mix of excitement and nerves as they began the new school year. We practiced important classroom skills, including writing, cutting with scissors, gluing, sorting, and recognizing names. We also established classroom rules and routines—and new friendships are already forming!

Our theme for the 2026–2027 preschool year is “Adventure Awaits!” We will be exploring new areas to have adventures. In September, we explored the Forest and Adventure Awaits us in October in the desert!

In October, students will explore letters and enjoy Halloween crafts. Please note these important dates:

- October 8 & 9: Show & Share
- October 15–16: No preschool
- October 21–22: Preschool pumpkin patch for students
- October 29: Halloween party for the TTH class
- October 30: K-Prep & MWF classes will visit WyndStone for trick-or-treating

We still have openings in the K-Prep and MWF classes for this school year. If you know a family looking for a preschool, please help us spread the word!

We launched a Sponsor a Student campaign, allowing you to choose from several amounts based on the cost of K-Prep tuition.

We would appreciate your help gathering supplies for next month’s activities. If you are able, please donate any of the following items:

Mini Pumpkins	Sugar Cones
Aluminum Pie Tins	Craft Twine
Aluminum Foil	White Card Stock
Small Pinecones	Sponsor A Student Donation
Walmart/Target/Albertson Gift Card	Orange & Green Pipe Cleaners

Thank you for your support and prayers as we begin another preschool year! Blessings!



By: Deacon Kristin La Ve'

In chaplaincy, we often talk about self-care to help balance our work and rest. Deacons are called to meet people in the world and show up with God’s mercy, grace, and love. Chaplaincy is where many of our ELCA deacons meet the world: in hospitals, care communities, prisons, church camps, and street ministries. In those encounters, there are often heavy situations and stories that we carry with us. It’s important for chaplains, deacons, and all of us to practice self-care so we can avoid burnout, let go of

those heavy encounters and be able to be fully present for those in our lives outside of our work and ministry.

Self-care is a term we hear regularly sometimes connected to phrases like, “spa day” or “getaway vacations”. However, self-care for most of us looks like small practices and rituals to help restore our souls and bodies when we’ve poured out energy and emotion into our work, even as volunteers. Simple self-care (which means you’re caring for yourself, not cooking dinner for your family, that doesn’t count) can be reading from a favorite book or magazine for 15 minutes, a bath, going for a walk, going to the gym, a hobby, meditation, prayer, breathing exercises, enjoying a favorite food, laughing at a funny show, and snuggling with pets.

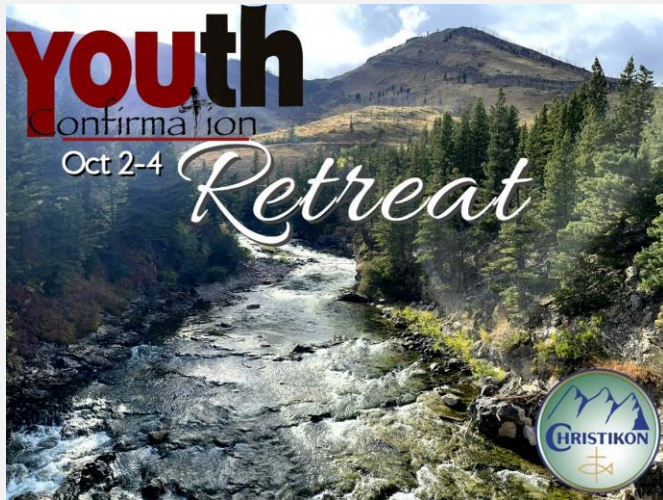
A simple self-care prayer that I lift up with those I work with goes like this: Lord, I release all I’m carrying to you knowing that you will continue this work even as I rest. Renew and refresh my spirit and soul in this space where I seek peace, restoration, and wholeness. Amen.

YOUTH

By: Nikki Groshens, Director of Youth & Family Ministry

Youth Retreat – October 2-4

The annual fall youth retreat is October 2-4 for all Atonement youth grades 7-12. We will be staying at Christikon Bible camp and have a fun, faith filled weekend planned. If you would like to find out more or register a youth for this retreat, contact Nikki.



Milestone Ministry – October 11 @ 9:15am

During the Children's Chat, children will hear about the importance of prayer and all second-year preschool children participating in this milestone will receive a keepsake bedtime prayers book.



Confirmation Sunday – October 25 @ 9:15am

The youth being confirmed will be recognized and celebrated and there will be cake following service to further celebrate and acknowledge this faith milestone.

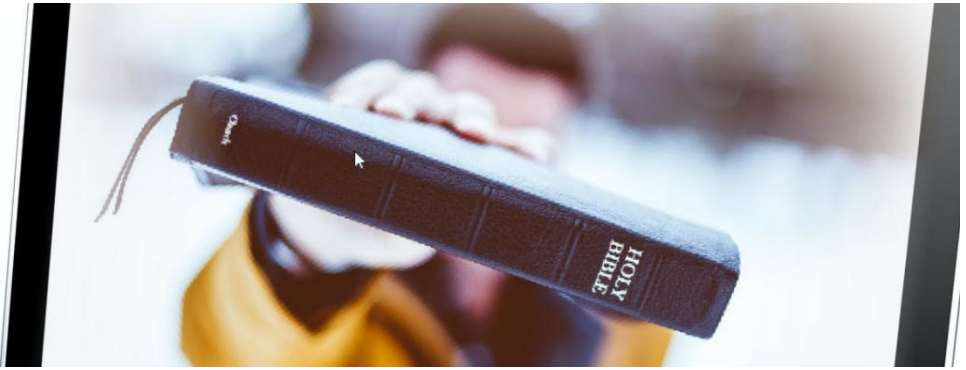


Fall Festival – October 25, 4:00-6:00 PM

Join us for our indoor Fall Festival, open to the whole community! Enjoy a chili cook-off, s'mores, games, Boo Booth trick-or-treat tables, costume, table-decorating contests, and lots of fall fun! Want to decorate a Boo Booth or help with the festivities? Set-up begins at 2:30pm. Contact Nikki with questions or how you can join the fun. Signups will be available in the commons. Invite your friends and neighbors—all are welcome!



From the Pastor



I've Been Meaning to Ask...

By: Ryan Chaddick, ALC Pastor

I had a plan. A fall sermon series after the moving interpersonal focus of "I've Been Meaning to Ask..." we'd move into a deeper dive in familiar Bible stories and see what new lessons the stories we learned in Sunday School could teach us. One day.

But then there were several weekends in our city rocked by violence far too close to home and to our hearts. Families. Students. Elderly. All affected. I began to feel the Spirit whispering, take notice.

So I did. And I noticed that I've been talking with people more and more conflict in their personal lives. I noticed a lot more pastoral conversations lately about family conflict.

I noticed that we just commemorated 9/11's 25th anniversary (is that even the right word?). Does it feel like we've ever recovered from that?

And I couldn't help but notice that there are multiple global conflicts that are profoundly painful and profoundly complicated.

It's kind of hard actually not to notice: Conflict wages all around us.

"Blessed are the peacemakers," Jesus says.
Jesus calls us to be peacemakers.

Not peacekeepers.

Not hippies.

Not let's just all sing kumbaya.

But peaceMAKERS.

Essentially, while all kinds of forces wage conflict, Jesus invites us into a militant call to wage peace.

In our daily lives. In our families. At home. At work. At school. And around our communities and world.

But what does peacemaking and waging peace even look like? What does it mean to wage peace? Where do we even begin to follow this Jesus?

These questions are what we hope to explore for several weeks this fall. We're not looking for easy answers. Or political talking points. We're looking to our Lord and Savior to guide us into waging a kind of peace that affects everything from our lives, our relationships, our communities and world.

This is about a peace that transforms our hearts.

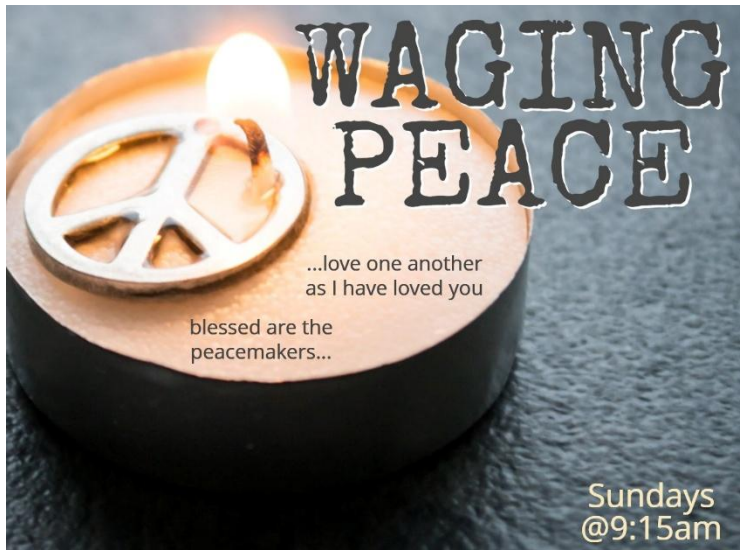
A peace we all need.

A peace Billings needs.

A peace our world needs.

And a peace Jesus came to give.

Waging Peace.



HOW you can HELP

TEEN PANTRY

WORSHIP

usher/asst. minister/read/driver

SUNDAY SCHOOL

helpers & teachers

Marvelous
Monday



Wonderful
Wednesday



WW – October 14 Guadalajara 6pm

Planning to Attend? To ensure we have enough seating, please call (406-248-5313) or text Debbie (406-696-7029) at least two days in advance if you plan to attend. Thank you for helping us plan!



Easy Ways to Give!

In-person, Online, Mobile or Scan QR



ALC Financial Report August 2026

Ministry Budget

Income	\$41,405.05	Expenses	\$39,113.32
Profit/Loss	\$2,291.73	Net Income YTD	\$2,291.73

Mortgage Fund

Income	\$4,832.33	Mortgage	\$5,163.00
Profit/Loss	\$(330.67)	Net Income YTD	\$(330.67)

Even though our General Net Income was in a positive position this month our membership giving was off \$3,199.27 from what we had budgeted. It's too early to see if there is a trend. – Clint Westrope, ALC Treasurer

**SHARE YOUR
FAITH**



Grow and share your Faith through one of the many opportunities for study and fellowship that fits your schedule!

- Hope Circle - Third Thurs/month @ 9:30am – ALC
- Men's Square - First Fri/month @ 6:30am – ALC
- J.O.Y. Bible Study - Wed @ 6:30am - Montana Jack's
- Wednesday Bible Study – Wed @ 10:00am – ALC



The Peace Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to condole;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love;

for it is in giving that we receive,

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

and it is in dying

that we are born to eternal life.

Restoring Faith

By: Jack Beals

I do believe this is exactly what happened 20 years ago when we relocated the Little White Church to what our new church campus would be like several years later. Time flies and it is hard to believe this was 20 years ago.

The physical move of the building was an awesome venture, but the most amazing this is the way Atonement dove headfirst into this project to make it a total success. Atonement is a wonderful church, loaded with people who are willing to help in any way they can. We had people who worked on the restoration of the building and many who worked on events to raise funds to help finance the project. In any capacity you served you need to know your efforts are greatly appreciated.

We, the people of Atonement, are the Church!! It is amazing when you realize we are all ministers "Bringing The Hope We Share in Christ To All". WE should be proud as we look at what we have accomplished in 20 years. Our campus looks amazing and it gives us a place to gather,

reignite our energy with worship, and we go out in the world and do the Lord's work.

May the Peace of the Lord be with us as we move forward with commitment, excitement and joy for what our future holds for us. Peace



SOCKTOBER 2026

By: Atonement Evangelism Committee

Is collecting "Winter Socks" now through the end 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.



WELCA Collecting for Kids this Winter

By: June Canfield

Snow & cold are coming! WELCA wants to help keep kids warm by collecting new hats, gloves & mittens again this year for our local elementary schools. The schools are especially in need of gloves, as they are lost so easily. Please drop off your donations at the school pantry cabinet in the Commons.

Lutheran World Relief School Kits

By: Julie Leno

Because of the generosity of Atonement members and a grant from Thrivent, we are able to fill 244 school kits for Lutheran World Relief.

A huge thank you to everyone who has donated to this project!

Lefse, Lefse, Lefse

CALLING all Scandinavian & non-Scandinavian bakers - experienced or first time! Join us in turning 200lbs of potatoes (**UFF DA**) into that favorite food group, **LEFSE**!

Sun, Oct. 18 @ 10:30am-peeling/chopping/cooking/ricing

M & T Oct. 19-20 @ 5:00pm - rolling/frying/cleaning up

Bring anything lefse if you are able (pans, rolling pins, boards, turners, scrapers, etc.) More hands make lighter work. Please call Rane Paulson or Judy Belden with questions or concerns. See you there!





1290 Sierra Granda Blvd.
Billings, MT 59105

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Ellie Picchioni (Youth Rep Alt.)

Office Closed Oct. 12, 2026



Bringing the Hope We Share in Christ to All!