

March 2010

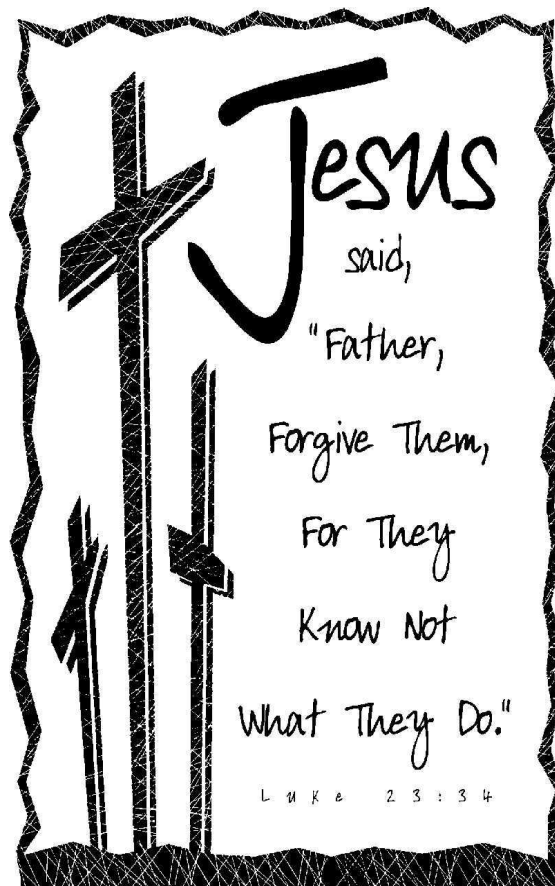
Celebration of ATONEMENT †

Newsletter of Atonement Lutheran Church,
Rev. Tina Koenig Ray, BCC, Pastor

"Called by God to serve and witness to all in response to God's grace."

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From the Pastor...

I haven't seen it yet, but I've heard that the movie *The Bucket List* is a good movie. The premise is based on the fact that you have been given a 6 months prognosis and you make a list of the things you would like to do before you die. Jack Nicolas and Morgan Freeman travel all over doing all the things they want to do before they die.

Kelly Fryer asked those of us, at a recent continuing education event that I went to, what would be on our bucket lists. I put traveling to Spain and para-sailing on my list. Then Kelly had us read Genesis 12:1-4 and Isaiah 2:2-4.

Genesis 12:1-4

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you.²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

Isaiah 2:2-4

²In days to come
the mountain of the LORD's house

shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

Using these two passages from the Hebrew Scriptures Kelly had us create God's Bucket List. Yes, you read right, God's Bucket List; God's wish list for creation.

Lent is a great time to contemplate the love that God has for creation; for us. Why don't ya'll read those passages and take a minute to decide for yourselves what's on God's wish list for us. If you want to see what was decided at the table I was at there'll be a poster in the Klingberg Chapel.

Pastor Tina 

December/January Worship

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Maint.</u>	<u>Cans</u>
<u>January</u>	adults/youth			
24	66/6	\$ 1013.00	\$ 6500	\$35.83
31	63/6	\$ 1359.00	\$ 8.00	\$37.72
<u>February</u>				
7	46/4	\$2257.00	\$18.00	\$36.67
14	69/3	\$1958.00	\$38.00	\$34.74

Due to the new privacy laws regarding health information, the hospital will not release the names of patients. So if you are going into the hospital, or know someone who is hospitalized, please call the church office or let Pastor Tina know.

L.E.A.D. 2010

L.E.A.D. will be held March 13, 2010 from 8:30 AM-3:15 PM at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Middleton, WI. Registration fee is \$20 per person, and is due with the registration form to the the Synod by March 6.

The day includes a keynote speech, worship, a variety of workshops offered in 3 different sessions, refreshments & lunch, display booths from Lutheran affiliated organizations, Madison Church Supply bookstore, and open time for collegiality and networking. Please see the LEAD 2010 Workshop Descriptions hanging in the hallway for complete descriptions of all the workshops offered, or visit the website: www.scsw-elca.org.

MARCH FOR MEALS!

One again, Pastor Tina is revving up the Barbie Mobile to make its annual run around the pews to gather contributions for the Beloit Meals On Wheels, Inc. March For Meals campaign.

This year's effort will have an added feature that all contributions will be eligible for matching funds though Thrivent Financial!



As always, the March For Meals campaign is designed to draw attention to the nutritional insecurity of seniors in our community due to lack of funds or volunteers. Atonement Lutheran Church has been benefitted from these efforts when members have received meals, as well as proud to have church members actively involved in the delivery process!

Please consider making a donation during the March For Meals campaign. If interested in volunteering, please contact Marcia Stenberg, Volunteer Coordinator, 362-3683.

New Council Appointments:

President: Bruce Johnson
Vice President: David Schneider
Secretary: Carole Doubleday
Financial Secretary: Cheryl Ramczyk

All members of the congregation have an invitation to attend the Church Council meetings to see and hear how the business of Atonement is conducted. The Council meets the second Monday of each month at 6:30 PM in the Klingberg Chapel. Please join us.

March Flower & Fellowship Schedule

Eternal Candle: The Eternal Candle for March is from Rollyn & Char Affeldt in memory of parents

Altar Guild: Maggie Janke & Andrea Garvey

Weekly Beloit Daily News ad: Deb & Bob Rowald in honor of Sam and Cole's 4th birthday

March 7

Flowers: no sponsor

Bread of Heaven: Cheryl Ramczyk

Fellowship: Cheryl Ramczyk

March 14

Flowers: no sponsor

Bread of Heaven: Diana Schneider

Fellowship: no sponsor

March 21

Flowers: Bob Kristianson in memory of his son

Bread of Heaven: Judy Gundry

Fellowship: no sponsor

March 28

Flowers: Carole Doubleday in memory of Melvin Doubleday

Bread of Heaven: Irene Baker & Phyllis Steele

Fellowship: no sponsor



LENTEN SERVICE SCHEDULE

- Feb. 17 St. Paul's Episcopal Church - 7:00 Service
212 W. Grand Ave.
Preacher: Pastor Forest Clark
- Feb. 24 Atonement Church - 7:00 Service
901 Harrison Ave.
Preacher: Pastor Dave Ewing
- March 3 First Presbyterian Church - 7:00 Service
501 Prospect
Preacher: Pastor Ian Stirrat
- March 10 St. Jude Catholic Church - 7:00 Service
747 Hackett St.
Preacher: Pastor Carol Taylor
- March 17 Second Congregational Church - 7:00 Service
657 Bluff St.
Preacher: Pastor Kendell Nordstrom
- March 24 Sun Valley Presbyterian Church - 7:00 Service
1650 Sun Valley Dr.
Preacher: Pastor Tina Koenig-Ray
- April 2 River of Life Church - 12:00 Service
511 Public Ave
Preacher: ???

Don't forget that we have a Maundy Thursday Service of Holy Communion and Foot Washing during Holy Week, April 1st at 7 PM here at Atonement. You don't have to get your feet washed, but you are welcome to receive this offering of love.

FEINSTEIN CHALLENGE

From March 1 through April 30, 2010, Caritas will be working to end hunger in America by ending hunger in our Stateline community. This is the season when Alan Feinstein offers his \$1 Million Challenge to hunger fighting agencies across our nation. When you make a donation to Caritas during this time, Mr. Feinstein will help us with a portion of his \$1 Million. Your gift can be food or money. Food receives a \$1 value per item when donated through Caritas.

We are aware that our economy is hard hit by this recession and that not everyone is able to make a financial donation, but for those of the community who are in a position to make a gift, we express gratitude. For those who cannot give money, perhaps one could provide a food item or collection of their choosing.

In the past year, 9946 service visits were made to Caritas. In the food pantry alone, 50% of households only made one visit, but the other 50% came from two to twelve times last year. There is great need and great struggle going on in this community and we are thankful to be a resource to those who have no way to secure food for their family. Caritas continues to distribute a 4 day food supply. As the cost of food continues to rise, it is vital to have resources to keep the food pantry supplied with nutritional food.

Donations can be brought to Caritas at our new address, 2840 Prairie Avenue, or monetary donations may be sent to Caritas, 2840 Prairie Ave, Beloit, WI. Please write "Feinstein" in the memo section and we will know your intent. Thank you for sharing with us in any way you can, even if it is being a voice in our community to direct those in need to Caritas food pantry. We continue to share with others the necessities of life.

March Birthdays

3/10 Bonnie Ottow
3/24 Fern Miller

3/27 Cole & Samuel Rowald

March Baptism Anniversaries

3/2 Justin Reedy
3/17 Gene Sanda
3/17 Ron Guaginte
3/17 Richard Mitchell
3/20 Nancy Clickner

3/21 William Rowald
3/22 Candy Hoefler
3/25 Dru Dummer
3/29 Morris Hansen

Just Baptized

Noah Riley Dummer February 14, 2010

LENTEN MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Our Wednesday 11:00 AM Lenten Bible Study will focus on a variety of topics. We will meet in the Klingberg Chapel. Those who are able are welcome to go to lunch following the Bible Study (Dutch Treat).

- February 24th - Looking into a Mirror, A Lenten Reflection
- March 3rd - Called to be Political, Martin Luther on the role of Christians in politics
- March 10th - Called to be Political, Martin Luther on the role of Christians in politics
- March 17th - A Bold Life of Faith, Katharina von Bora Luther
- March 24th - God Colors Outside the Lines, on Diversity and God's Church

SIGN UP FOR OUR E-NEWSLETTER

In the interest of being good stewards of Atonement's resources, we have created an PDF (compatible with both Windows and Macs) edition of the monthly newsletter. Please contact the Church Office with your email address if you would like to sign up.

The Secretary's hours are currently 9 AM -Noon on Monday & Tuesday, 1-4 PM on Wednesday, and 9 AM - 1 PM on Thursday & Friday.

The sign-up sheet for the Easter Garden will be in the Klingberg Chapel on February 28th. Prices are still \$15 per plant, and can be taken home after the Easter Sunday service. Plant choices are: daisy mums, begonias, easter lilies, hyacinths, cinerarias, tulips and jonquils.

The Lydia group would like donations of cookies or bars for the fellowship after the Lenten service that will be held here at 7 PM, February 24th. Please contact Arlene Ruegger or Jan Mitchell if you have any questions.

On February 28th we will be honoring and celebrating the ministry of Bob Kristianson. Bob is retiring after many years of service to our shut-ins. We give thanks for him.

Lydia group will meet Tuesday, March 2nd at 1 PM in the Klingberg Chapel. Pastor Tina will lead the Bible study and Pat Devins will be hostess. Please bring completed health kits for LWR or any items you have for them. All women are welcome to attend.

First Baptist Church, 617 Public Avenue, is sponsoring the 22nd Annual Sharing of the Bread on Wednesday, March 17 at 9:30 AM. It will be held in the Fellowship Hall on the second floor. Please RSVP to them by Monday, March 8 at 365-8455.

LAW OF THE GARBAGE TRUCK

One day I hopped in a taxi and we took off for the airport. We were driving in the right lane when suddenly a black car jumped out of a parking space right in front of us. My taxi driver slammed on his brakes, skidded, and missed the other car by just inches!



The driver of the other car whipped his head around and started yelling at us. My taxi driver just smiled and waved at the guy. And I mean, he was really friendly. So I asked, 'Why did you just do that? This guy almost ruined your car and sent us to the hospital!'

This is when my taxi driver taught me what I now call, 'The Law of the Garbage Truck.'

He explained that many people are like garbage trucks. They run around full of garbage, full of frustration, full of anger, and full of disappointment. As their garbage piles up, they need a place to dump it and sometimes they'll dump it on you. Don't take it personally. Just smile, wave, wish them well, and move on. Don't take their garbage and spread it to other people at work, at home, or on the streets.

The bottom line is that successful people do not let garbage trucks take over their day. Life's too short to wake up in the morning with regrets, so ... Love the people who treat you right. Pray for the ones who don't.

Have a blessed, garbage-free day!

Celebration is published by Atonement Lutheran Church

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