

July 2010

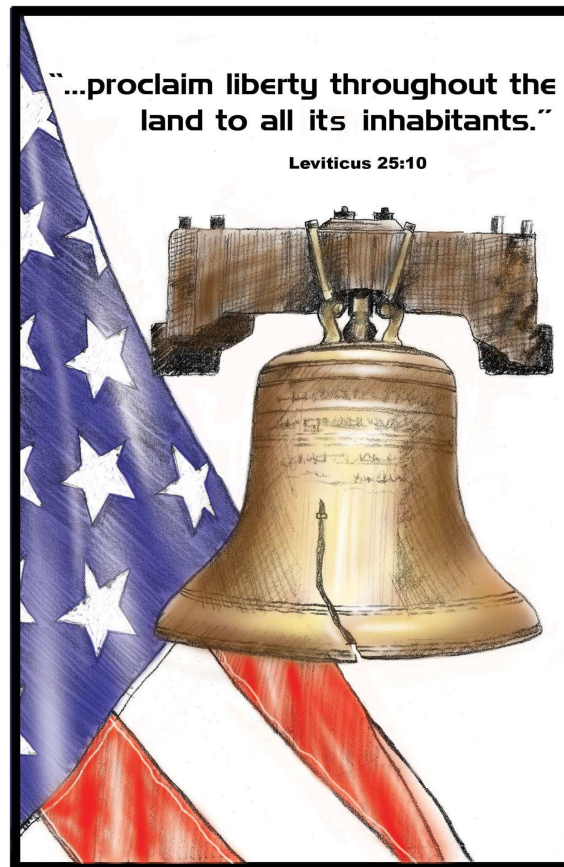
Celebration of ATONEMENT †

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've reverted back to list making to accomplish what needs to be done. Especially since I'm on staycation the first 2 ½ weeks of June. There's always so much to do before one can go on vacation. I need a vacation from my vacation preparation! Hence I am writing the July newsletter lead at the end of May.

My thoughts wander to the sacredness and fragileness of life. How wonderful babies are and even though we can peer into the womb and we can create test tube babies there is still a sense of mystery and wonder at the birth. It's beautiful to watch the faces of Atonement folks change into smiles when "our" babies are in worship.

My friends and colleagues Eric and Karen have been learning more about this delicate dance between life and death; wellness and illness. Eric is undergoing treatment for cancer and Karen has been struggling with the affects of an unknown infection for months.

On a much less dire level I have been walking through the hills and valleys of grief, love and hope. This process of shaving my head and raising money for the American Cancer Society in honor of Billy, Dad, Monte, Pa and Bobby has been a roller coaster ride of emotions. I've been surprised and saddened by some of the negative feedback I've received; I've been humbled by some of the stories others have felt open share with me about their loved ones; I've laughed with folks at the names of 'baldy'; one woman told me my part was crooked. I've received a lot of grace and love on this journey. I've raised over \$2,000.00. Yippy!!

Some of you may have noticed that "this little light of

mine” has dimmed a bit. I wish that I could say that I will regain my lost vim and vigor soon. But that may come later rather than sooner. This August 11th will be the 5th anniversary of Billy’s death and the 23rd we would have been married 10 years. I find it amazing how fast the time has gone by, it all seems like yesterday. Just another one of life’s twists and turns, and still we persevere.

What all this rambling is headed towards is this: in the excitement of pregnancy and the joy of birth; in the uncertainty of health and wellness; in the grief and remembering; in the midst of the passion of life and death there is one constant - YHWH - God - the Great Three in One - the Great Mystery - holding us in the palm of God’s hand. The Creator of the Universe does not leave us stranded in this world. We know the love of Jesus who has redeemed us and who calls us to walk the good red road of loving our neighbors as we love God and ourselves. We have the Advocate - the Holy Spirit infused within us and around us like the smoke of sacred sweetgrass.

So as you proceed into the dog days of summer, - going on vacation or staycations; working, loving, living and playing, know that you are not alone - God is with you. God rides this rollercoaster of life with you. Thanks Be to God.

Pastor Tina 

The Annual Church Picnic will be held after the outdoor church service NEXT WEEK at the Harry Moore Pavilion at Riverside Park.

The sign up sheet for foods is in the Klingberg Chapel.

May & June Worship

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Maint.</u>	<u>Cans</u>
<u>May</u>	adults/youth			
23	56/5	\$ 1105.00	\$ 9.00	\$30.57
30	50/4	\$ 901.00	\$ 8.00	\$27.56
<u>June</u>				
6	50/2	\$ 1723.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 35.83
13	60/3	\$ 2346.00	\$ 39.00	\$ 28.33

Financial update as of 5/31/10

Total income Jan-May 2010	\$42,927.39
Total expenses Jan-May 2010	- \$49,028.13
Net income (Jan-May 2010)	\$ -6,100.74

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.

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

***Don't forget to send in your pledge or offering even if you're on vacation.
Have you caught up?***

July Flower & Fellowship Schedule



Eternal Candle: The Eternal Candle for July is from Arlene Ruegger in honor of grandchildren

Altar Guild: Pat Devins

Weekly Beloit Daily News ad: Judy Gundry

July 4

Flowers: Deb Rowald in honor of Carolyn Kalk's birthday

Bread of Heaven: Cheryl Ramczyk

Fellowship: Cheryl Ramczyk

July 11

Flowers: Doris Betz in memory of her parents

Bread of Heaven: no sponsor

Fellowship: no sponsor

July 18

Flowers: Betty Lou Archie Pearson in memory of Pastor David E. Archie and David A. Archie by their family circle

Bread of Heaven: no sponsor

Fellowship: no sponsor

July 25

Flowers: Joan Guetschow in honor of husband Harold, parents and grandchildren

Bread of Heaven: no sponsor

Fellowship: no sponsor

July Birthdays

7/4 Gary Cole	7/19 Marcy Reedy
7/4 Janice Mitchell	7/21 Richard Wallace
7/7 Susan Anderson	7/22 Marjorie Reynolds
7/16 Don Reedy	7/27 LaVaughn Kunny

July Baptism Anniversaries

7/6 Susan Anderson	7/17 Duane Ottow
7/8 Richard Mitchell	7/21 David Schneider
7/13 Florence Buchholz	

Newly Baptized

David Dylan Van Fleet June 20, 2010

Graduated this Year

Alexis Anderson will be going to the University of Dubuque
in Dubuque, IA this fall.

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ALLERGY SEASON IN SAMSON'S HOUSE

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.

We're updating the list of keyholders to the church. Please contact Char Affeldt with the number on your key so we know where they're all at.

Adopt-a-Road season is here again. Dates will be the 3rd Sunday of the month, except June which will be the 2nd Sunday. Bring comfortable clothes and sensible shoes to change into or just wear them to church. Gloves and safety vests will be provided. For more information, contact Bruce Johnson.

"Kindness is the language the blind can see
and the deaf can hear." - Mark Twain

Lydia Group will NOT meet in July. The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 3rd, in the Klingberg Chapel.

The W.O.W.'s will be lunching at the Lakeside Grille in the Interlaken Resort in Lake Geneva at 12:30 PM, Thursday, July 8. Meet at the church for shared rides, and leave no later than 11 AM. Contact Joan Guetshow at 365-4685 for more information.

Celebration is published by Atonement Lutheran Church

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