

November 2012

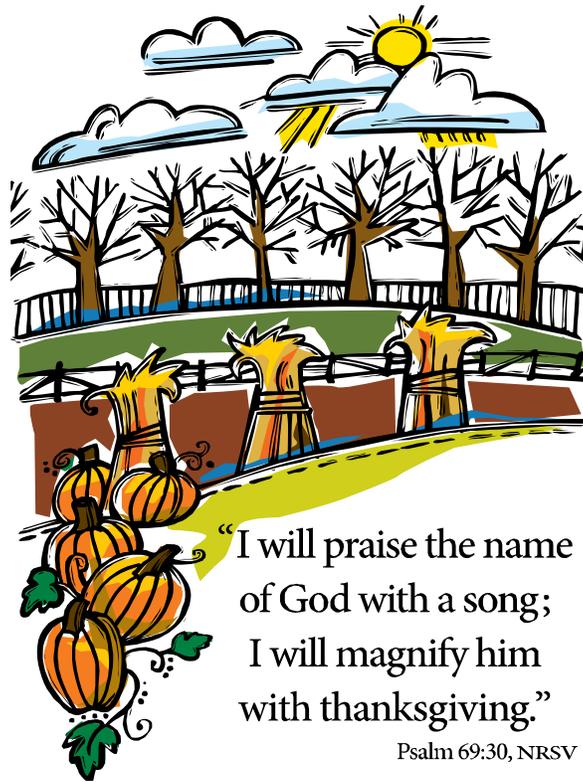
Celebration of ATONEMENT

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.”

Inside:

From Your Pastor	2
Attendance, Giving & Financial Update	5
The Way of Prayer Schedule	6
Pledge Sheets	6
Caritas Thanksgiving Fundraiser	7
Flower & Fellowship Schedule	8
Important Dates & People News	9
Thank You	9
Announcements & Upcoming Events	10



“I will praise the name
of God with a song;
I will magnify him
with thanksgiving.”

Psalm 69:30, NRSV



From the Pastor...

This past Sunday we heard the story of Hannah whose prayer for a son was answered with the birth of Samuel. After Samuel was weaned, Hannah kept her promise to God and gave her son to Eli the High Priest to be raised at the temple and she went on to have other children. Hannah didn't try to back out of her promise or re-negotiate with God. Hannah knew that she had to give this child to God.

The most important relationship a child can have is not with her mother or with his father; the most important relationship is the one a child has with God. Our job as parents and adults is to facilitate our children's relationship with the God who formed them in the womb.

My Mom was indeed the conduit for stimulating and empowering my relationship with God. She took me to church with her and made sure I also went to church with my Dad. She taught me the gracefulness of loving my neighbor in a good chat; and the blessings of a coffee klatch and the importance of sitting and waiting and praying and watching.

I've been sitting with Mom watching and waiting and praying; watching and waiting and praying for I guess a couple of weeks now. Offering to her what I can: my presence, my love and my care, even as she offered all of this to me and more when I was young and in need of a lot of TLC.

It's been awhile since I've done this, so I've forgotten how it can be. The occasional bouts of boredom, the breathing with and the watching the breath, the wondering why other folks aren't at her bedside with me; being glad other folks aren't there with me; the temptation to eat comfort foods and to ignore scheduled workouts; the desire to be with her all the time; the up and down roller coaster emotions, the balancing act of life at home and life at work and life with a mother who is dying, slowly.

And what does one pray for? Do you pray for an easy death, a quick one? Do pray for yourself and for strength to prevail in your vigil? Do I pray that my Mom would rediscover

her will to live? She hasn't really been happy since she sold her house. She's had moments of happiness, but she's way to independent and adventurous to be depending upon someone else and living in someone else's house, even mine.

How does one do this for one's mother? As Hannah prayed for a son to dedicate to the Lord, so I pray to dedicate my mother to the Lord. As I praise God for the wonderful blessing she has been in the lives of my brothers and I and all who know her, I commend her into God's hands. I sing with Hannah and the psalmist and Mary, "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord who lifts up the lowly and the down hearted; who provides good things." Because the Lord does lead me beside still waters and restores my soul and causes my cup to overflow, even in the midst of dying and death. This I believe for my mother because I know my mother believes it. It is she who taught me the path in which I would ultimately go.

Hannah's song becomes the anthem for everyone who finds themselves in despair and hopelessness. She sings on behalf of the following kinds of people: "feeble" (1 Samuel 2:4) "hungry" (verse 5) "barren" (verse 5) "poor" (verses 7-8) "low" (verse 7) "needy" (verse 8) Her song reaches a culmination with the bold proclamation in 1 Samuel 2:8: "God raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor. For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and on them he has set the world."

The poor, barren, and desperate can hope exclusively in the power of God. For Hannah, divine sovereignty triumphs over the social circumstances that marginalize the barren woman.

Hannah saw hope in God through a prayer, which would inspire following generations. Not only does God reach out to the powerless, but God elevates them under God's great strength. This is God's business since God is the creator. Barrenness turns to fruitfulness. Hopelessness transforms into hopefulness. Regret from the past moves to joy over the future. By singing this prayer, we join a community of people throughout history who have seen despair, only to be lifted by God. *

In whatever situation we can find hope and confidence in our God and so should offer our praise.

Psalm 113

Praise the LORD!

Praise, O servants of the LORD;
praise the name of the LORD.

²Blessed be the name of the LORD
from this time on and forevermore.

³From the rising of the sun to its setting
the name of the LORD is to be praised.

⁴The LORD is high above all nations,
and his glory above the heavens.

⁵Who is like the LORD our God,
who is seated on high,

⁶who looks far down
on the heavens and the earth?

⁷He raises the poor from the dust,
and lifts the needy from the ash heap,

⁸to make them sit with princes,
with the princes of his people.

⁹He gives the barren woman a home,
making her the joyous mother of children.

Praise the LORD!

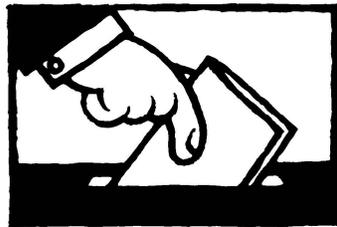
May we all be as bold and prayerful as our sister Hannah.

Praise the LORD!

**Some information is taken directly from the Narrative Lec-
tionary Website*

Pastor Tina 

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012



**DON'T
FORGET
TO VOTE**

September & October Worship

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Maint.</u>	<u>Cans</u>
<u>September</u> adults/youth				
30	40/3	\$ 877.00	\$15.00	\$19.56
<u>October</u>				
7	42/5	\$2352.00	\$10.00	\$22.00
14	35/1	\$1997.00	\$10.00	\$13.58

Financial update as of 9/30/12

Total income Jan-Sept 2012	\$xx,xxx.xx
<u>Total expenses Jan-Sept 2012</u>	<u>-\$xx,xxx.xx</u>
Net income Jan-Sept 2012	\$ x,xxx.xx

Net income as of 9/30/11: \$-10,164.10
September 2012 final figures not available at this time

So far this year we have received \$78.00 from Thrivent Choice Dollars. Thank you to Thrivent Financial and all of you who have directed your Choice Dollars to the church. If you have questions on how you can get Choice Dollars call Matt Mabie at 314-3084.

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 Monday & Tuesday 9AM-Noon,
Wednesday thru Friday 9AM-1PM**

* * * *

Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower.

~ Albert Camus



The Way of Prayer
October 4-Dec 13th, 2012

5:15-5:45 pm (following Choir)
Book study and Time of Prayer
(Participant's guide \$12)

October 25 th	Praying with Music
November 1 st	Praying by Gaze
November 8 th	Praying with our Bodies
November 15 th	Scriptural Prayer
November 29 th	Contemplative Prayer
December 6 th	Praying with and for others
December 13 th	Prayer and Social Transformation

Please pick up your Pledge Sheet
(Church Contribution form) and
return it to
the Sanctuary trays or to
Norbert Larson.

Time is of the essence;
please turn in your Pledges
as soon as possible
so we can begin working on
the 2013 budget.

CARITAS ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FUNDRAISER

Thanksgiving will soon be upon us. For some of us, this day marks the beginning of the Holiday season-a joyful time filled with friends, family, food and festivities. For others, this day marks the beginning of a time wrought with anxiety, sadness and uncertainty. Families who come to Caritas for help often share stories with us about the struggles they encounter just trying to make it month to month. Sadly, for them, the Holidays are just another thing they cannot afford.

Preparations are now underway to provide hundreds of Thanksgiving dinners for families in our community. We are asking you to consider supporting our mission of providing Holiday meals in any way you can. This year, we are suggesting a gift of \$40. This amount will help finance the cost of a Thanksgiving dinner and provide families with a “green” bag they can reuse when they visit the pantry. Regardless of the amount you can comfortably afford, any monetary gift is greatly appreciated!

Here are some thoughts to consider:

Get creative! Join forces with family members and friends, or any organizations to which you may belong, to cover the cost of a Thanksgiving meal.

Sponsor a meal by writing a check to Caritas for \$40 and designate in the memo “Thanksgiving”

Encourage those in need of help to sign up at Caritas Nov 1-2.

Help us reduce our cost on postage. Receipts will be sent upon request only.

Please call Executive Director Donna Ambrose with any questions you may have and thank you again for considering Caritas as they continue to help the families of our community.

November Flower & Fellowship Schedule

Eternal Candle: The Eternal Candle for November is in memory of Phyllis Hoefler Richter from the Hoefers' and Jackie Holmbeck

Altar Guild: Maggie Janke

Weekly Beloit Daily News ad: Norbert Larson

November 4

Flowers: Jeanne Cole for Mary's birthday

Bread of Heaven: no sponsor

Fellowship: Eric Ottow

November 11

Flowers: Duane & Bonnie Ottow

Bread of Heaven: Diana Schneider

Fellowship: Vi Pankonien

November 18

Flowers: no sponsor

Bread of Heaven: no sponsor

Fellowship: Lydia group Pie Day

November 25

Flowers: Vi & Gary Pankonien for their wedding anniversary

Bread of Heaven: no sponsor

Fellowship: no sponsor



November Birthdays

11/7 Ben Griswold	11/20 Michael Janke
11/7 Sue Engebretson	11/20 Freda Leeder
11/9 Morris Hansen	11/23 Barb Anderson
11/10 Jeanne Cole	11/26 Betsy Anderson
11/13 Avery Mitchell	11/27 Lloyd Jero
11/14 Gary Pankonien	11/28 Kim Davies
11/14 David Schneider	11/30 Nancy Clickner

November Baptism Anniversaries

11/4 Erica Reedy	11/27 Cheryl Ramczyk
11/19 Marcy Reedy	

THANK YOU!

Thank you for all the cards, phone calls, and prayers I received through the death of my daughter Sheryl. -Isabel Crowley

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

Sunday School is back in session!

Sunday School will occur twice a month (we need volunteers to teach!) during the worship service, following the children's sermon and concluding by the offertory, approximately 9:15 - 9:45 a.m. We will be following the Narrative Lectionary, beginning with Genesis.

There is a need for volunteers to help count the offering each week. If you're interested, there is a sign-up sheet in the Klingberg Chapel.

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.

Norbert Larson made the announcement on December 11th that the matching fund is back. This year up to \$15,000.00 will be matched. So please give what you are able, in addition to your pledge. It takes money to make the wheels turn at Atonement and we are running short of funds. Prayerfully consider what you can give. Please write 'matching funds' on the memo line of your check or on an envelope if you are giving cash. Please note "In Kind" giving does not qualify for the matching fund. Thank you.

Orfordville Lutheran is holding a Norwegian dinner Saturday, October 27 from 11 AM—3 PM. Price is \$15 for adults, \$5 for kids 5-12 and under 5 admitted free. For more information, call 879-2575 or see the flyer in the hallway.

The annual Halloween parking lot outreach will be Wednesday, October 31. Set up is at 4:30 PM, and we'll be serving hot chocolate and apple cider to the trick or treaters from 5 til 7 PM. Sign up sheets will be out later this month.

Lydia will meet Tuesday, November 6th at one o'clock in the Klingberg Chapel. Pastor Tina will lead the Bible study 'Potipher's Wife', chapter 5, in Bad Girls of the Bible. Jan Mitchell will be hostess. All women are welcome.

The W.O.W'S are meeting the 2nd Thursday of each month. The next lunch meeting will be 12:30 PM, November 8 at Sophia's Restaurant, 5467 Bridge St, Roscoe. If you wish to attend, please call Joan Guetschow at 365-4685 no later than November 6. Final reservations will be called in on 11/7. Any-

body and everyone is welcome!

The Sons of Norway will be holding its Annual Lutefisk Dinner on Saturday, November 10, from 11 AM to 6 PM at their location, 418 W. Milwaukee St, Janesville. Tickets are \$15 at the door, \$5 for children 6 to 12. Kids under 12 admitted free. Advance tickets are \$14. Call Bonnie Forslund at 752-6566 or Pat Mahlum at 365-1369 for advance tickets and information.

The Badger Chordhawks Chorus presents "A Salute to America in Song" Saturday, November 10 with 2 shows at 2 PM and 7 PM, at the Janesville Performing Arts Center, 408 Main St. Featured are award winning groups GQ and By Request. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$17 day of show. \$2 discount for 62 and over and 16 and under. You can call 758-0297 for more information or to place ticket orders.



O P E N H E A R T S		O P E N H E A R T S
Atonement www.atonementbeloit.org		
<i>service and witness to all</i>		

Celebration is published by Atonement Lutheran Church

901 Harrison Avenue, Beloit, WI 53511 (608) 362-8216
 Office hours: Mon & Tues 9 AM -noon, Wed, Thurs & Fri 9 AM-1 PM
 Email: atonement@atonementbeloit.org Website: atonementbeloit.org

Rev. Tina Koenig Ray, BCC, Pastor	368-1041	(608) 449-6759 cell
Nate Anderson, Council President	362-6553	(608) 290-2113 cell
Pattye Gilmour, Church Secretary	362-3488	(608) 201-8834 cell
Alonzo Young, Custodian		

