

April 2013

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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“He
IS risen;
he is not here.”

MARK 16:6



From the Pastor...

Martha welcomed him into her home.

³⁹She had a sister named Mary,
who sat at the Lord's feet and
listened to what he was saying.

⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks;
so she came to Jesus and asked,
"Lord, do you not care that my sister
has left me to do all the work by myself?
Tell her then to help me."

⁴¹But the Lord answered her,
"Martha, Martha, you are worried and
distracted by many things;

⁴²there is need of only one thing.
Mary has chosen the better part,
which will not be taken away from her."

Luke 10: 38-42

Thanks be to God, I had a restful and much needed month off in February. I was so blessed to be able to step away when I felt myself getting irritable and short with folk (not exactly a good pastoral attitude). What a wonderful thing to be able to do - a staycation. I was able to go and see my dying Aunt Charlotte several times without worrying about other obligations; I watched some kooky movies on TV; closed down my 'blues' venues; got into a workout routine, read some books and did some serious grieving for my mother.



I realized when I didn't have work to do that I had kept my mind busy with work, as Jesus's friend Martha often did. So during my month off I learned to be Mary, Martha's more contemplative sister. The house went to pieces in a hand basket, but I was being Mary, not Martha.

Our minds can be amazing works of art - creating awe-

some powerful widgets and doodads. They also know how to distract us with 'many things' from what our hearts and spirits need to know and to do. It was marvelous to just simply 'be' with myself and allow my spirit and body to dictate my day to day activities - whether it was grieving, meditating or resting.

Over my years here at Atonement we've had a significant number of deaths of members and personal & familial deaths. I wonder how many of those of us left behind have taken time to be Mary in our busy Martha lives. It did not dawn on me - and I'm a grief professional - that I might need to schedule or allow some contemplation time, some grief work time after my Mom died in October.

Yes, I said schedule. Nowadays it seems that we have to schedule date night with our husbands, band practice for the kids, workout time at the gym. Why not schedule time to grieve? If we don't schedule it, we often forget, as we rush around hither and yon, to take time to grieve our losses and to feed our spirit and nurture our souls.

As we continue to be busy as a spring bee, may we make the time to nurture our souls; to meditate on God's holy word; to contemplate the beauty of nature, perhaps in silence, perhaps with loud joyous music; to listen to what our bodies and souls and minds tell us.

Perhaps we can learn just a little bit to balance the Mary and Martha inside each of us.

Pastor Tina 

*WE COULD LEARN A LOT FROM CRAYONS...SOME ARE SHARP,
SOME ARE PRETTY, SOME ARE DULL, AND SOME HAVE WEIRD
NAMES. THEY'RE ALL DIFFERENT COLORS, AND THEY ALL LIVE
TOGETHER IN THE SAME BOX.*

February & March Worship

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Maint.</u>	<u>Cans</u>
<u>February</u> adults/youth				
17	34/1	\$1220.00	\$11.00	\$18.00
24	30/1	\$2062.00	\$11.00	\$15.25
<u>March</u>				
3	29/3	\$1819.00	\$11.00	\$18.71*
3	65/0	\$ 500.00**	(Blues Service)	
10	35/9	\$ 935.00	\$11.00	\$14.00*
17	29/3	\$1740.00	\$11.00	\$77.09*

*March can collections earmarked for Beloit Meals on Wheels

** Proceeds of Blues service donated to the Domestic Violence Shelter

Financial update as of 2/28/13

Total income Jan-Feb 2013	\$17,078.90
Total expenses Jan-Feb 2013	-\$21,055.38
Net income Jan-Feb 2013	\$ -3,976.48

So far this year we have received \$44.00 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 Karl Miller 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 usual hours are:
Monday & Tuesday 9AM-Noon, Wednesday - Friday 9AM-1PM.
Hours are subject to change**

April Flower & Fellowship Schedule

Eternal Candle: The Eternal Candle for April is from
Arlene Ruegger

Altar Guild: Barb Anderson & Norbert Larson

Weekly Beloit Daily News ad: no sponsor

April 7

Flowers: Dick & Jan Mitchell for the 55th anniversary

Bread of Heaven: no sponsor

Fellowship: no sponsor

April 14

Flowers: Doris Betz in memory of Dick

Bread of Heaven: Jan Mitchell

Fellowship: no sponsor

April 21

Flowers: Jeanne Cole in memory of parents

Bread of Heaven: no sponsor

Fellowship: no sponsor

April 28

Flowers: Donna Luety in memory of Paul

Bread of Heaven: no sponsor

Fellowship: no sponsor



April Birthdays

4/10 Pat Guaginte	4/23 Todd Anderson
4/13 McKenna Davies	4/23 Russ Engebretson
4/13 Florence Buchholz	4/25 Nicole Johnson Boylan
4/16 Irene Baker	4/26 Candy Hoefler
4/16 Dylan Van Fleet	4/29 Paul Bolender
4/19 Joan Guetschow	

April Baptism Anniversaries

4/2 Fern Miller	4/13 Barb Anderson
4/5 Bonnie Ottow	4/18 Kyle Hoefler
4/6 Sally Luety	4/20 Austin Anderson
4/7 Freda Leeder	4/25 Michael Janke
4/12 Ross Johnson	4/29 Charleta Affeldt
4/13 Jackie Holmbeck	

A Loss to the Atonement Family

Duane Ottow

March 10, 2013

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.

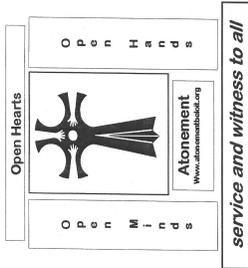
MATCHING FUNDS UPDATE: Norbert will match your donations to the Matching Funds dollar for dollar. The congregation's donations of roughly \$8,000 has been matched by Norbert's ~\$8,000 and the total of both is now at approximately \$16,000. Matching Funds will continue until donations of \$15,000 from *both* the congregation *and* Norbert reach a total of \$30,000. 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.

Caritas Adopt a Shelf: An opportunity for giving A need that has been identified for Caritas neighbors for personal care products. We at Atonement are responsible for the HAIR CARE shelf. We are collecting hair care items such as: shampoo, conditioner, ethnic products, combs & brushes. There is a basket in the hallway outside the chapel, just drop the items in there and they will be delivered to Caritas when needed by Candy Hoefer. If you have any questions, see Candy Hoefer.

Lydia Group will April 2 at one o'clock in the Klingberg Chapel. We will continue with the Bible study, "Bad Girls of the Bible". All women are welcome.





Celebration is published by Atonement Lutheran Church
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