

Atonement Newsletter

August 2018

CHURCH



Worship in Wilson Park/ Blessing of the Backpacks

On **Sunday, Aug. 26**, at our outdoor worship, all ages who are attending school or who work at a school are invited to bring their backpacks to be blessed. Each person whose backpack is blessed will receive an article to hang on their backpacks as a reminder of God's continual presence with them. There is a potluck following the service. We ask that you bring your own beverages.



Blessing
of the Backpacks

FALL TEASER

THE STORY

Ufda. It's only July as I type this, but the crush of planning and preparing for our Program Year Launch is already upon us. This is going to be a great year and I am excited to enter into it with you. All of us together—children, youth and adults—will be deeply immersed in the ages-long (eternal and never-ending!) story of God's love for us in worship and education.

I wrote a bit about this campaign, **The Story**, in last month's newsletter, but for those of you who missed it or simply dozed off in the middle of my pile of words, here's the Reader's Digest version:

- **The Story** is a 31 chapter abridged and condensed summary of the whole bible, which will serve as the backbone of our **worship and education** throughout the **2018/19 program year**.
- Each ALC member household will get a free copy of **The Story**. These will be **distributed before and after worship beginning September 8th**. (Additional copies will be available for purchase or a small donation.)
- Children and youth will also get **age-appropriate versions** of **The Story** as part of their faith formation. Children and youth resources will be **distributed through Sunday/Wednesday School and Youth Ministry/Confirmation**. (Youth and parents: Look for letters home with dates and schedules for Sunday/Wednesday School and Spirit Trek in the next few weeks.)

All of this is exciting, but what I am most excited for is our **Rally Day Celebration on September 16**, when we will begin our journey through **The Story** with an introduction during worship and a **"Meet the Characters"** showcase during learning time. Our adult, youth, and children's ministry teams will meet in August to plan this event, so if you are interested in helping to bring the story of God's love to life by portraying a favorite person from the bible, please let me (pr john), Sheila, or Julie Eck know asap and join us on committee night, August 12th to share the fun.



Call Process Update

Thank you to everyone who attended the meetings with Pr John and Pr Tim Lindhorst to hear and ask questions about our proposed shift to a coequal pastor-pastor ministry model. The church council discussed the results of those meetings at the June council meeting and concluded that, in keeping with our constitution, any further action by the church council in this call process —up to and including calling a congregational meeting to vote on whether to extend a call to Pr Lindhorst —must wait upon the recommendation of a duly selected call committee. As the call committee installed for the lead pastor search does not dissolve until Pr John's installation, and most of that committee is willing and able to remain in their roles, it is appropriate (as well as timely) for them to continue. Our next update will follow the call committee's report to council. We hope that this will come in August, but cannot commit to a date at this time.



Recent Pastoral Acts: Baptisms: Gavin Schleicher—June 3rd, 2018, Brady Tamm—July 1st, 2018
Funerals: Joan Thorson— May 12th, 2018, Shirlee Haraldson—July 21st, 2018

Weekly Event

Monday

Praise Team Rehearsal - 7 pm

Tuesday

Bible Study - 8:15 am

TOPS Group - 11:30 am

Singing Saints - 7 pm

Wednesday

Men's Bible Study @ Caribou - 7 am

Quilting - 9 am

Spanish - 5pm (begins again August 15th)

Ice Cream- 5:30 pm

Worship - 6:30 pm

Thursday

Pieces of Love - 9:30 am

Men's Bible Study- 10 am

Bible Study- 12 pm

Saturday

Worship - 5:30 pm

Sunday

Worship - 9:30 am

Laotian Bible Study - 2:20 pm

Looking for Blood Donors



This is a BIG request for Atonement members to donate blood to the Red Cross Bloodmobile on **August 7th from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm** at Atonement. Just one generous gift of blood can help save several lives. Call *LouAnn Garner* at 320-252-1555 for an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome.

August Special Events

1st

Day Camp—9:00 am

2nd

Day Camp—9:00 am

4th

Saturday Eve Fellowship—6:30 pm

7th

Bloodmobile—1:00 pm

9th

Committee Meetings—7:00 pm

18th

Itinerant Pitcher—7:30 pm

19th

Back Door Bakery—9:00 am

23rd

Executive Committee Meeting—6:00 pm

Council Meeting—7:00 pm

26th

Worship in Wilson Park—9:30 am

Potluck at Wilson Park—11:00 am

ITINERANT PITCHER—SATURDAY AUGUST 18TH AT 7:30PM

Come join the Itinerant Pitcher regulars at **Olde Brick House** for fellowship after worship. It goes from 7:30pm. Stay until you feel like going home.

VALLEY FAIR

**MONDAY, AUGUST 20th
8:30a.m.-6:00p.m.**

If you are interested in joining us please R.S.V.P: by AUGUST 13th (sign up sheet is on youth board at church). The cost is \$25 (drop off in church office by Aug. 13). Feel free to bring a friend. Any questions contact Julie Eck at 320-291-1839.

FOOD SHELF

Volunteers needed for Catholic Charities food shelf! Atonement is one of the local parishes that provide volunteers for this battle against hunger in our area during September. Volunteers are needed Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Onsite training is provided and there are a variety of time slots of approximately 3 hours. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. If you have any questions please contact Shelley Meyer—320-267-5609 (after 3pm) or Karen Vollen—320-252-6230

Food Shelf



Ministry of the Month August

Madison Elementary and North Junior High



Madison and North are a part of a pilot project called Feeding Area Children Together (FACT Packs). FACT is a volunteer run organization dedicated to reducing childhood hunger in the Central Minnesota. The program is funded by individuals and community donations. The monetary gifts will be divided between the two school. The cost for a student is \$15 a month or \$180 per year.



Another way you can support this program is if you purchase Country Heart or Village Hearth bread, on the bottom of the wrapper is a proof of purchase label, cut it out and bring it into the donation center where there will be a box to put the labels in. The labels will also be divided between the two schools. The proof of purchase labels we will be collecting all year for the schools.

If you would also like to help the schools in other way, you can bring in school supplies and put them in the large wooden box at the donation center. Here is where we will collect them and divide the supplies between the two school. If you are looking for what kind of supplies are needed, the lists are located by the school supplies in the area stores. Thank you for helping the kids in these schools.

PRESCHOOL NEWS

We offer classes 2 days a week for 3 year olds (first year of preschool) and 3 days a week for 4/5 year olds (children entering kindergarten the following year). **If you have questions about openings, please feel free to give me a call @ 224-6366 or email atonementpreschool@gmail.com** Check out the church website @ www.atonementlutheran.org for more information and to access registration forms. Thanks for considering our preschool for your child!
Kathy Young, Preschool Director