

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
THE ATONEMENT LUTHERAN CHURCH



Messenger

THE ATONEMENT
LUTHERAN CHURCH
116 W. Glen Avenue
Syracuse, NY 13205

CHURCH OFFICE
Phone: 315-492-9065
Fax: 315-492-1206

DAY CARE
492-7407
ACClovekids@earthlink.net

APPLESEED PRODUCTIONS
492-9766
info@appleseedproductions.org

PASTORS
Nelson W. Gaetz
468-5335
PrGaetz@earthlink.net

Dawn E. Rodgers
430-8190
PrRodgers@earthlink.net

Peter R. Suarez
463-5389
pbsuarez@hotmail.com

Laura Aase, Vicar
492-9065
laura.aase@gmail.com

ASSOCIATES IN MINISTRY
Carol N. Perry
446-0291

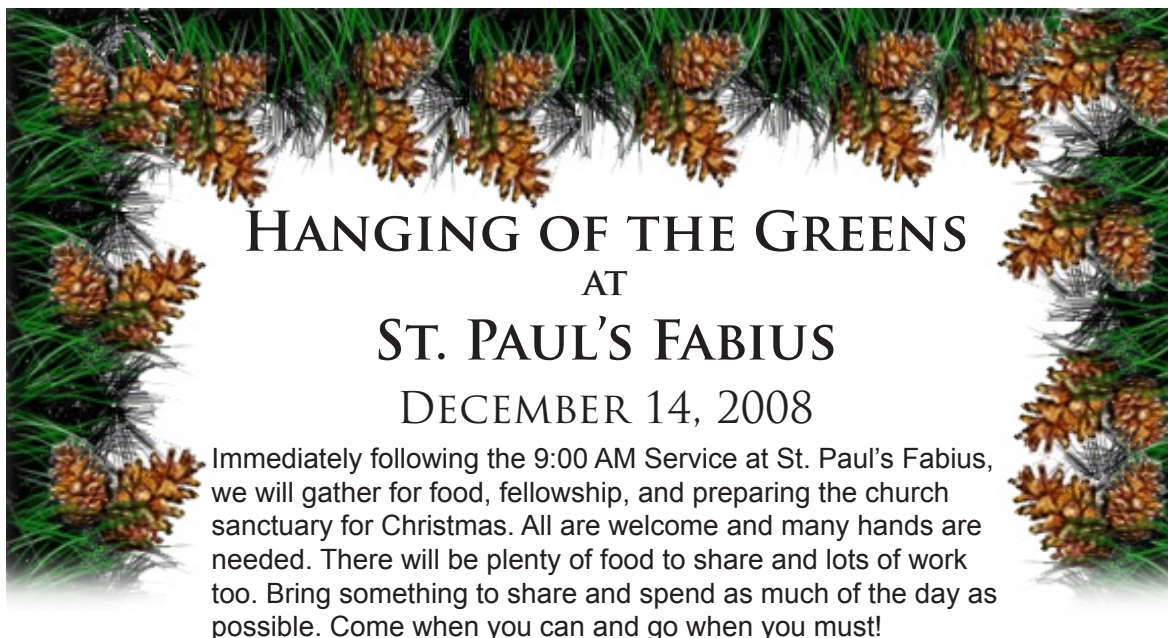
Jon Wilson
425-9982
JonWilsonAiM@earthlink.net

MUSIC COORDINATOR
Kathy Woods
492-9065

BUSINESS MANAGER
Beth Ann Arthur
492-9065
alcBusMgr@earthlink.net

SECRETARY
Laura Light
alcSecretary@earthlink.net

MESSANGER SUBMISSIONS
june@alcsyracuse.org -or-
graphic arts mailbox in church
office by noon on Friday



HANGING OF THE GREENS AT ST. PAUL'S FABIUS DECEMBER 14, 2008

Immediately following the 9:00 AM Service at St. Paul's Fabius, we will gather for food, fellowship, and preparing the church sanctuary for Christmas. All are welcome and many hands are needed. There will be plenty of food to share and lots of work too. Bring something to share and spend as much of the day as possible. Come when you can and go when you must!

...and, looking ahead...

HANGING OF THE GREENS AT ATONEMENT DECEMBER 21, 2008

Please join friends and family for a great pasta dinner, hosted by our youth group, followed by the hanging of the greens!

Dinner follows the 10:45 service (about noon). Reservations are appreciated and can be made by calling the church office at 492-9065.

After dinner, everyone is invited (and bring friends!) to decorate the church for Christmas. There are both heavy- and light-duty decorating chores, so there is something for everyone!



Christmas Plants – Don't forget to order a beautiful Christmas Poinsettia that will grace our sanctuary for Christmas. Plants are \$11 each. Donations are being

taken at worship on Sunday December 14 - or may be mailed to church. Be sure to include your desired memorial inscription.

We'll print an order form in next week's Messenger or you can get a special envelope between services on Sunday.



Youth Group! Your help is needed for the Hanging of the Greens Pasta Dinner, a fundraiser for youth group activities (see Mrs. Holmgren for your setup/serving/cleaning assignments).

*...and remember...*LCLC Senior High Reunion Retreat will be the first weekend in January. Details are pending. Please let Judy Holmes know if you are interested in attending this year's weekend event.

Can you help? – We need people to help deliver those poinsettias to members of the congregation who can't make it to services. If you can help, please call the church office and let Laura know. Plants can be picked up after the 9am service on Christmas Day or after the services on Sunday, December 29. Thanks!

HOLIDAY BASKET NEEDS

We are gathering the necessary items for Christmas baskets and need your help. Our food pantry, like so many others, is running low, as are our donations. Please help where you can.

Contributions are always welcome. Last year, filling out the baskets, after sorting through the donations, cost almost \$900.

Many of our families have children who are off from school and need to be fed the two meals that they usually get at school. At Thanksgiving and Easter we feed at least 20 families and at Christmas we do about 20 baskets plus meat to an additional 30 families. Any help is appreciated. Most needed items include:

- Peanut butter and Jelly
- Mac and cheese – boxed
- Hi C or other fruit juice drink
- Cereal
- Jell-O and pudding mix
- Coffee/Tea
- Canned beans and corn
- Canned cranberry sauce
- Quick bread mixes
- Canned fruit – peaches, pears or mixed fruit
- Holiday candy
- Spaghetti and spaghetti sauce
- Soups – especially chunky type
- Cans of stew, spam, tuna
- Raman noodles
- Boxed Scalloped/AuGratin potatoes
- Seasonal funfetti cakes and icing

WORD [WURD] OF THE WEEK - contemplating the language of faith



wait --[weyt] Not now. Later.

Is this a word from our language of faith? Wait?

Just think how long Sarah waited to have a child.

Just think how long Israel waited to be freed from slavery.

In Lent, we wait for Jesus to rise from the dead.

In Advent, we wait for Jesus to be born in us again.

The dictionary gives a few definitions that I think go well together.

1. to remain inactive or in a state of repose, as until something expected happens: to wait for the bus to arrive.
2. to be available or in readiness: A letter is waiting for you.

As difficult as it can be to wait, waiting in expectation of what is to come helps us to prepare, helps us to be awake to what it is that is coming. Are we sometimes impatient, cranky wait-ers? Indeed. If you've ever been a kid or have kids, or still act like a kid, this feeling is familiar. Sometimes it is hard to wait for what we know is so good, what will not let us down. Ever.

We wait in expectation of the Christ child. And as we wait, we ready ourselves for this miracle that we can hardly fathom in our minds and our hearts.

Wait.

Have any suggestions of words your curious about? Contact Laura at 492-9065 or laura.aase@gmail.com.

BIBLE, BAKED GOODS, & BEVERAGE



The group will meet on Saturday, December 20th at 9am in the Coffee-Shop. We are starting a new discussion on Nathaniel. For those of you

have wanted to attend but missed it this is a good opportunity to join the group on a new theme.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

The December meeting will be held on Dec 18th beginning at 6pm in the Conference Room. Karen Douglass will be leading a Christmas program



ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS ...IS JESUS!

It's Christmas Eve and baby Jesus is still missing from Ms. Holly Berry's life-sized nativity set. Will Atonement's children and teens be able to help her find the baby Jesus and discover the true Christmas spirit? Join us for this delightful, inter-generational Christmas play performed by Atonement children, teens and adults during the 7 p.m. service on Christmas Eve and help us celebrate Jesus' birthday in this very special way.

NOTE: Rehearsals will be held during the

Sunday School hour on December 14 and 21 and from 9:30 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 20. All children, teens and adults who have roles in the play are encouraged to attend these rehearsals. Questions: Call Judy Holmes at 673-9393 (after 6 p.m.) or e-mail EWHolmes@att.net.

CHRISTMAS EVE MUSIC

Our Musicians and the Worship and Music Committee have made slight adjustments to the Christmas Eve schedule. These adjustments do not affect the announced starting time for the services—just might encourage you to arrive early to hear some beautiful music.

Two musical offerings will be added:

- 6:45pm: A Choral Prelude has been added for those who come early while their children are preparing for their presentation. The Family Service, with the Church School Children and Teen's presentation will begin at 7pm.
- 10:20pm: The Clinton Strings will perform Christmas Music as they always have, just a little earlier. The Festival Candlelight Eucharist Service will begin promptly at 10:30pm.

END OF THE YEAR IS NEAR - TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

As the hectic holidays approach, please find time for some of the business of our church:

- Please catch up with your stewardship pledge for 2008
- Renovations continue, and expenses mount, have you made your pledge? Please give generously to help us get the work done.
- Can't find your Stewardship Pledge card for 2009? Please call the church office at 492-9065 and Laura will send you a new packet or tear off the one below and return it to church as soon as possible—Council needs your help to get the 2009 Budget completed before the annual meeting in January!



THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT - DECEMBER 14, 2008

8:30am Traditional Service of Holy Communion, Pastor Gaetz, Preaching

9:00am Traditional Service of Holy Communion, Vicar Laura Aase, Preaching at Fabius

10:45am Service of Holy Communion, Pastor Gaetz, Preaching

WEEK'S CALENDAR

SUNDAY (12/14)

- 8:30 AM Traditional Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
- 9:00 AM Traditional Service of Holy Communion (Fabius)
- 9:30 AM Sunday Church School (Classrooms)
- 9:50 AM Sunday Adult Class with Pastor Suarez (Conference Room)
- 10:00 AM "Second Sunday - for Teens" (Chapel)
- 10:45 AM Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
- 12:00 PM Drum Instruction (Sanctuary)
- 2:00 PM Communicating Doors Performance (Fellowship Hall)

MONDAY (12/15)

- 11:00 AM Pastoral Staff (Conference Room)
- 12:30 PM The Heart of Christianity (Chapel)
- 6:00 PM ACC Staff Training (Chapel)
- 7:00 PM Cuckoo's Nest Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

TUESDAY (12/16)

- 8:00 AM Messenger Volunteers (Coffee Shop)
- 6:00 PM Childhood Asthma Program (Chapel)
- 7:00 PM Appleseed Steering Committee (Coffee Shop)

WEDNESDAY (12/17)

- 10:00 AM Crafty Ladies (Coffee Shop)
- 5:30 PM Wednesday Dinner (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 PM CDA Classes (Chapel)
- 6:15 PM Worship (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 PM Wednesday Church Night Activities (see box)
- 7:30 PM Cuckoo's Nest Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY (12/18)

- 12:00 PM ALAS (Coffee Shop)
- 5:30 PM Head Start Cooking Class (Coffee Shop)
- 6:00 PM WELCA (Conference Room)
- 7:00 PM Cuckoo's Nest Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

FRIDAY (12/19)

- 10:30 AM ACC Christmas Concert (Gym)
- 6:30 PM Appleseed Set-up (Fellowship Hall)

SATURDAY (12/20)

- 9:00 AM Bibles, Baked Goods, & Beverages (Coffee Shop)
- 12:00 PM Tree Setup (Sanctuary)
- 8:00 PM Communicating Doors Performance (Fellowship Hall)

ASSISTING AT WORSHIP

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------|-------------------------------|
| ASSISTING | 8:30am | Linda Owens |
| MINISTER | 10:45am | Vicar Laura Aase |
| COMMUNION | 8:30am | Carolyn Schramm |
| ASSISTANTS | 10:45am | Jon Wilson |
| USHERS | 8:30am | Joann & Paul* Claeys |
| Elevator Op* | 10:45am | Stacie Draper & Missy Wilber* |
| ACOLYTES/ | 8:30am | Eion Holmes |
| ALTAR SERVERS | 10:45am | James Stanford |
| ALTAR CARE | 8:30am | Linda & John Owens |
| | 10:45am | Arlene Tyo |
| GIFT BEARERS | 8:30am | Lynn & Steve Strumluk |
| | 10:45am | Jon Wilson & Casey Draper |
| READERS | 8:30am | Jeanette Greig |
| | 10:45am | Jay Stone |
| GREETERS | 8:30am | Gayle Wentworth |
| FLOWER DELIVERY | | Jeanette & Ken Greig |

WEDNESDAY CHURCH NIGHT

- 5:30 Dinner in the Fellowship Hall
- 6:15 Worship in the Sanctuary
- 7:00 Wednesday Night Activities
 - "Kid's worship" in Coffee Shop (about 6pm)
 - Adult Class with Pr Peter: "The Three Faces of Christmas" or trip to "Lights on the Lake"
- 6:00-7:30 nursery is available for children under 6 years*

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please remember the following Atonement members & friends in your prayers.

St. Mary's Hospital MN

Jean Graumentz

University Hospital

Mary Hyde

Hospital in GA

Josie Billingsley (Lynn Strumluk's mother)

At home or in a nursing home

Beth Arthur, Ella Baker (Marty Shay's mother), Mary Bennett (Joslyn Court I resident), Richard Boynton, Rose Camerata (Eleanora Ott's neighbor), Rebeca Kench (daughter of the Suarez'), Bet-terae Kennedy, June Kennedy (Dick Kennedy's sister-in-law), Tanya (Gebman) McGinn (Bill Kemp's daughter-in-law's sister), Beverly Oliver (friend of Beth Arthur), Barbara Ortell Compa (Bax Simmons' niece), Harriet Walters, Nancy Welch (Bax Simmons' daughter)

Those in the armed services

Mike Breedlove (Great Lakes, IL), Scot Carpenter (Ft. Eustis, VA), Travis Carpenter (Florida Reserve Unit), Jack Fields (Ft. Bliss, TX), Trevor Martineau (29 Palms, CA), Kevin Monds (Ft. Benning, GA), Chris Millhouse (Korea), Justin Randall (Quantico, VA), Jeff Rodgers (Iraq), Daniel Strumluk (Quantico, VA), Melissa Young (Phoenix, AZ)

Correction: Congratulations to Donald Brown, Sr. on his retirement from St. Joseph's Hospital after 27 years of service

BIBLE

READINGS

12/11-12/18

	Su	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
		Psalms 126 or Luke 1:46b-55
		1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
		John 1:6-8, 19-28
Th	Psalm 126	M Psalm 125
	Habakkuk 2:1-5	1 Kings 18:1-18
	Philippians 3:7-11	Ephesians 6:10-17
F	Psalm 126	Tu Psalm 125
	Habakkuk 3:2-6	2 Kings 2:9-22
	Philippians 3:12-16	Acts 3:17—4:4
Sa	Psalm 126	W Psalm 125
	Habakkuk 3:13-19	Malachi 3:16—4:6
	Matthew 21:28-32	Mark 9:9-13

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP TO GET THE MESSENGER ONLINE?

The Messenger is now available online at:
http://www.alcsyracuse.org/alc_messenger.php

To sign up for electronic "delivery" complete the online form at:
<http://www.alcsyracuse.org/maillinglist.php>