

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY  
THE ATONEMENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Messenger



**THE ATONEMENT  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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office by noon on Friday

## CELEBRATING 96 YEARS OF GIRL SCOUTING!

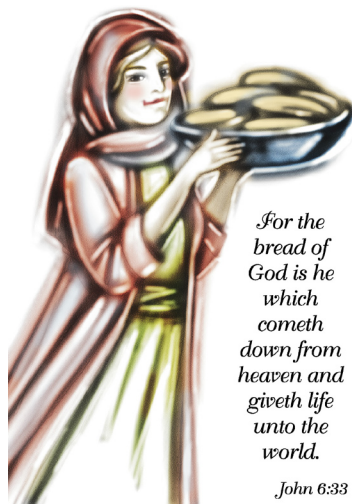
SUNDAY MARCH 15  
10:45 AM SERVICE  
COOKIE RECEPTION  
FOLLOWING THE  
SERVICE



All girl scouts and those who have been involved in scouting are invited to attend in uniform, sash, vest or, for the Daisies among us, smock! We will be awarding an official Girl Scout Sabbath Fun Patch to all who participate.

Please join us in honoring Sydney Woods, Desi Pecore, Stacie Draper, and others. Plan to attend the reception (with Girl Scout cookies as the refreshment of choice!) immediately following the 10:45 service.

Read more about Girl Scouts and their history on the web at [www.girlscouts.org](http://www.girlscouts.org).



*For the  
bread of  
God is he  
which  
cometh  
down from  
heaven and  
giveth life  
unto the  
world.*

*John 6:33*

## BREAD FOR THE HUNGRY

On Sunday, March 22, Women of the ELCA will present you with an Envelope for you to place your contribution to help Feed the Hungry.

One half of the proceeds will be given to West Side Food Pantry (St.Pauls) and one half will be given to ELCA World Hunger Fund. More money means more people will be fed, so please give generously. You can also mail a donation to:

Women of the ELCA  
Atonement Lutheran Church  
116 W. Glen Ave.  
Syracuse, NY13205

*(Please mark your check "Bread for the Hungry")*

## WANT TO KNOW MORE...

...about being a Lutheran Christian? Or...do you want to become a member of Atonement?

Tuesday, March 17, 24, and 31 at 7pm - Pastor Rodgers will have a group over coffee (or other favorite beverage) to talk about just these things. This is an opportunity to get your questions answered! For more information, see Pastor Rodgers or call 492-9065.



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

**bles•ed [bles-id] [bles-t]**

1. consecrated; sacred; holy; sanctified

Wow, read that definition again. Now think of all of the times you use the word "blessed" – no matter how you say it. You may use it as a way to sign off an email, a letter, or a phone conversation. You may say it when asked how your day is, how you are feeling. Or you may refer to this word when you talk about your life.

But what do you mean? What does "being blessed" look like? What does it feel like? Is there a prescription you can fill, a recipe you can follow? Is there actual physical proof of this condition, this blessedness? I propose the answer no. Sprinkled with a little bit of yes. (Don't you just hate that?)

I think explaining what I don't think a blessing is might be helpful. As Lutherans, we don't follow a program that leads to blessing, with benchmarks of accomplishment along the way. Blessing does not guarantee monetary wealth, success in business and in life measured by possessions and notoriety.

Being blessed comes from God.

Do you feel that whatever or whoever you feel blessed by was somehow earned, or begrudgingly bestowed upon you? That there is some sort of hook in the blessing? That it's not quite done with you, but in a bad way? Danger! Danger! I would hazard a guess that it would not fit in this category of blessing.

This does not mean, however, that blessings bring about instant happiness and contentment. There is a deep joy associated with living in and amongst the mysterious blessings of God. We are can be blessed through difficult situations. We are blessed through other people's actions and words. We can be a blessing to others through actions and words, whether accidental, intentional, broadcast, unseen, or unknown. And it is through God and the incredible work of the Spirit that these blessings are experienced, realized, and lived.

*Have any suggestions of words your curious about? Contact Laura at 492-9065 or [laura.aase@gmail.com](mailto:laura.aase@gmail.com).*

**BIBLE, BEVERAGE, AND BAKED GOODS AND WELCA MEETINGS THIS WEEK**



The next Women of the ELCA meeting will be Thursday, 3/19, at 6pm in the Kiesewetter Center conference room. Topic is Prayer.

The BBB meeting will be Saturday, 3/21) at 9am in the Coffee Shop. Topic is Esther.

All women of Atonement are invited to join us!

**VAN AND BUS SCHEDULES**

**SUNDAY BUS**

- 9:00am Lodi
- 9:05am Park
- 9:20am Toomey Abbott
- 9:30am Arrive Church
- 9:45am Leave Church
- 9:55am Lincoln
- 10:15am Loretto
- 10:30am Arrive Church

**WEDNESDAY VAN**

- 4:45 Leave Church
- 5:05 Sabine St.
- 5:20 Driscoll Ave.
- 5:30 Church

**WEDNESDAY BUS**

- 4:30 Leave Church
- 4:40 Lodi St.
- 4:45 Park St.
- 4:50 Sedgwick/James
- 5:05 Toomey Abbott /Almond
- 5:20 Valley Vista
- 5:30 Church

 **Appleseed Productions**  
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**Sharee Lemos**

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**THE BOYS  
NEXT DOOR**

**COUNCIL NEWS**

The February meeting welcomed new members Monty Euston, Doug Siddal, Gary Stensland, and Solomon Williams. The first order of business was the annual meeting of the Atonement Housing Corporation followed by Lutheran Social Services of Syracuse. The Housing Corp. is looking into better ways to use the Atonement Commons site. Lutheran Social Services (which includes the Atonement Child Care Center) now includes a subsidiary of Appleseed Productions. This change, made during 2008, will allow Appleseed more funding sources.

Then, at the regularly scheduled council meeting, staff reports were reviewed. As mentioned in a previous newsletter, a task force is reviewing Jon Wilson's contract as a follow-up to a motion made at the annual meeting. Committee reports were reviewed. New business included a discussion about the bus. The tie-downs, needed for wheelchairs use, have been fixed. However, the bus has gotten to the point where it costs more to repair it than it is worth. The staff is looking into bus options.

- Karen Douglass, Secretary

**INTERESTING STATISTIC....**

In statistics released recently by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, there are now 10,324 congregations in our denomination. About 75% of those congregations have less people at worship each week than we do here at Atonement. That means that only about 2,600 Lutheran Congregations are larger than Atonement and most of them are in the mid-west. Only about 20 of them are in our Upstate New York Synod.

This is not to say we can't do better. But, you should know we have things rather good here. Tell a friend. Invite a friend.



## THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT - MARCH 15, 2009

5:15 PM (Saturday)	Traditional Service of Holy Communion, Pastor Rodgers, Preaching at Fabius
8:30 AM (Sunday)	Traditional Service of Holy Communion, Pastor Rodgers, Preaching
10:45 AM (Sunday)	Service of Holy Communion, Pastor Rodgers, Preaching

### WEEK'S CALENDAR

#### SUNDAY (3/15)

- 8:30 AM Traditional Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 AM Celebrate Communion (Fellowship)
- 9:30 AM Sunday Church School (Classrooms)
- 10:45 AM Worship Service for Girl Scout Sunday (Sanctuary)
- 11:45 AM Girl Scout Sunday Cookie Reception (Narthex)
- 12:00 PM Confirmation Class (Coffee Shop)
- 12:00 PM Drum Instruction (Sanctuary)
- 2:00 PM The Boys Next Door Performance (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:00 PM Rich Aunt Rehearsal (Chapel)

#### MONDAY (3/16)

- 11:00 AM Pastoral Staff (Conference Room)
- 5:00 PM Atonement Housing Board (Conference Room)
- 7:00 PM Rich Aunt Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

#### TUESDAY (3/17)

- 8:00 AM Messenger Volunteers (Coffee Shop)
- 7:00 PM Appleseed Steering Committee (Coffee Shop)

#### WEDNESDAY (3/18)

- 10:00 AM Crafty Ladies (Coffee Shop)
- 11:30 AM Lent Prayer Service, Lunch, Class (Sanc. & Fellow. Hall)
- 5:30 PM Wednesday Night Church Night (see box)
- 6:00 PM CDA Classes (Chapel)
- 7:00 PM Rich Aunt Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

#### THURSDAY (3/19)

- 6:00 PM WELCA (Conference Room)
- 7:00 PM Rich Aunt Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

#### FRIDAY (3/20)

- 6:30 PM Appleseed Set-up (Fellowship Hall)
- 8:00 PM Boys Next Door Performance (Fellowship Hall)

#### SATURDAY (3/21)

- 9:00 AM Bibles, Baked Goods, & Beverages (Coffee Shop)
- 10:00 AM Synod Urban Team (Conference Room)
- 5:15 PM Traditional Service of Holy Communion (Fabius)
- 6:15 PM Christian Education Classes (Fabius)
- 8:00 PM The Boys Next Door Performance (Fellowship Hall)

BIBLE READINGS			
	Su	Exodus 20:1-17	
		Psalm 19	
		1 Corinthians 1:18-25	
		John 2:13-22	
Th		Psalm 19	M
		Exodus 19:1-9a	
		1 Peter 2:4-10	
F		Psalm 19	T
		Exodus 19:9b-15	
		Acts 7:30-40	
Sa		Psalm 19	W
		Exodus 19:16-25	
		Mark 9:2-8	
		Psalm 84	
		1 Kings 6:1-4, 21-22	
		1 Corinthians 3:10-23	
		Psalm 84	
		2 Chronicles 29:1-11, 16-19	
		Hebrews 9:23-28	
		Psalm 84	
		Ezra 6:1-16	
		Mark 11:15-19	

### WEDNESDAY CHURCH NIGHT

- 5:30 Dinner in the Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 Youth Worship in the Coffee Shop
- 6:15 Worship in the Sanctuary
- 7:00 Wednesday Night Activities
  - Recreation and games in the gym
  - Adult Class: Prayers of the Passion

### ASSISTING AT WORSHIP

ASSISTING MINISTER	8:30am	Vicar Laura Aase
	10:45am	Vicar Laura Aase
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	8:30am	Merikay Harper
	10:45am	Kevin Smith
USHERS Elevator Op*	8:30am	Joanne & Paul* Claeys
	10:45am	Bill Kemp & Don Brown*
ACOLYTES/ ALTAR SERVERS	8:30am	Sydney Woods
	10:45am	James Stanford
ALTAR CARE	8:30am	Barb Nelson
	10:45am	Arlene Tyo
GIFT BEARERS	8:30am	Merikay Harper & Eion Holmes
	10:45am	Kevin Smith & Karen Veverka
READERS	8:30am	Pam Haumann
	10:45am	Jay Stone
GREETERS	8:30am	Ken Greig
FLOWER DELIVERY		Deacon Karen Douglass

### OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please remember the following members and friends at Atonement in your prayers.

#### Crouse Hospital

Dan Murphy (Friend of Willie and Sharon Monds)

#### Upstate Hospital

Lou DePalma

#### Hospital in North Dakota

Joseph Christopherson (Friend of Vicar Aase)

#### Hospital in Virginia Beach

Tammy Treanor

#### At Home or in a nursing home

Ella Baker (Marty Shay's mother), Bronwyn Barr (Carole Barr's niece), Darlene Barr (Carole Barr's niece), Mary Bennett (Joslyn Court I resident), Josie Billingsley (Lynn Strumlok's mother), Richard Boynton, Rose Camerata (Eleanora Ott's neighbor), Lou DePalma, Bette Keil, Tanya (Gebman) McGinn (Bill Kemp's daughter-in-law's sister), Beverly Oliver (friend of Beth Arthur), Ceil Piotrowski (Jackie Koslowsky's grandmother), Ethel Ulrich, Nancy Welch (Bax Simmons' daughter), Bill Wheelless, Joshua Woods (Kathy and Peter Woods' nephew), Mary Woodworth (Karen Douglass' neighbor)

#### Those in the Armed Services

Mike Breedlove (Great Lakes, Ill), 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 Strumlok (Quantico, VA), Melissa Young (National Guard, Syracuse, NY)

*Note: People who are not hospitalized are listed only once per request. If you would like a person listed for additional weeks, please call the church office (492-9065) each week by 10am Thursday.*