

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
THE ATONEMENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

Messenger



**THE ATONEMENT
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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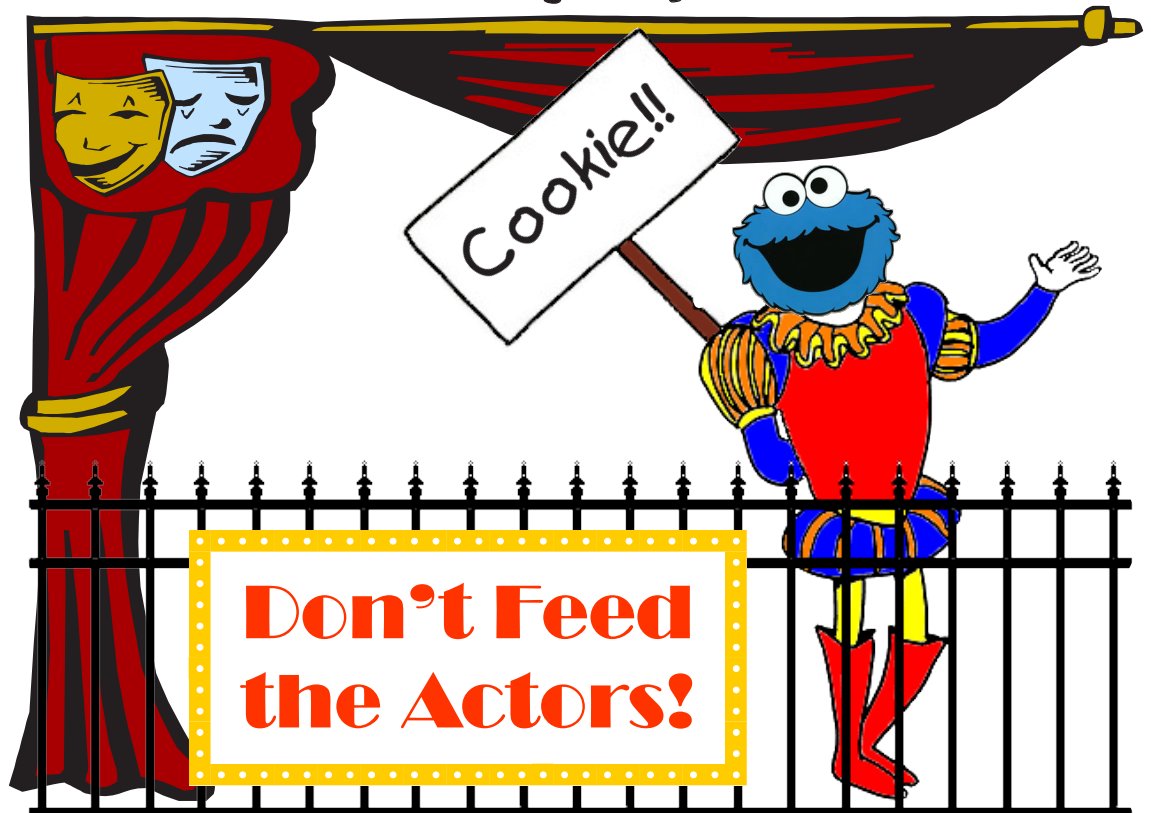
june@alcsyracuse.org -or-
graphic arts mailbox in church
office by noon on Friday



Appleseed Productions

proudly presents

Another evening of improvisation!



April 3 & 4, 2009 at 8pm

On the Atonement Stage

116 West Glen Ave, Syracuse

All tickets: \$10

Reservations

(315) 492-9766

reservations@appleseedproductions.org

Buy Tickets Online

www.AppleseedProductions.org

CARIN' FOR ERIN BENEFIT

Erin Beitz is a sophomore honor student at Paul V. Moore High School in Central Square. She has been a friend of Luther Memorial congregation member Megan Syrell since they were in elementary school. Erin was diagnosed in January with a rare form of brain cancer and lymphoma, just after her 16th birthday. Erin and her parents spent 6 weeks at Children's Hospital in Boston, where Erin underwent evaluation, a craniotomy, and received her diagnosis. Erin is now undergoing aggressive chemotherapy treatment at University Hospital, which will continue for the next 6-8 months. Family and friends are trying to raise money for the Beitz family in an attempt to ease the financial burden of medical and travel expenses during this trying time. Please come support Erin and her family by attending her upcoming benefit. There will be food, live music, an auction, sale of t-shirts, pins, bracelets, and more.

May 3rd, 2009 • 1-6pm

American Legion in Cicero, 5575 Legionnaire Drive

**Tickets: \$10 advance sale,
at the door - \$15 for adults, \$10 for kids**

(Co-sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans' "Care Abounds in Communities Program")

For advance sale tickets or to make a donation, please call Tina Syrell at 668-9190 or email her at tmsyrell@aol.com.

To track Erin's progress or to leave her a message, please visit www.erinbeitz.com



MARCH COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Pastor Gaetz reported that because of the stock market decline, our Endowment Fund has decreased by \$400,000 in six months. Due to that decline, the 2009 church budget can

not continue as projected. A task force is being established to review the current finances. The same task force will also conduct the review of Jon Wilson's job description, as reported in the March 10 issue of the Messenger. The following people will be on the task force: Carole Barr, Council President; Debi Nelson, Council Vice President for Finance; Pastor Gaetz, staff; and one person to be named.

The Youth Group was very busy in February and activities are continuing. Three teens, plus Vicar Laura, went to the Central Crossroads Volleyball Marathon. That same weekend, five teens and several adults went to Lake Chautauqua Lutheran camp for a retreat. In April, the Youth Group will be selling chocolate crosses before Easter, sponsoring the Easter Breakfast, and conducting their annual pansy sale. These fundraisers support our youth going to church summer camps.

After having some work done on it, the bus is currently working well (including the wheelchair tie-downs). But the Council is still looking into a new one because it has gotten to the point now that the repairs are worth more than the bus!

The rest of the meeting the Council reviewed reports from staff, organizations and committees.

- Karen Douglass, Secretary



WORD [WURD] OF THE WEEK

- *contemplating the language of faith*

giv-en [giv-uhn] – For me?! You shouldn't have...but I'm so glad you did.

There is a standard practice in parts of the Midwest where, upon being given something, the "givee" (ok, receiver, but this is not about football, dad) tries to refuse it. Like at least one time, if not two or three times. "Oh, no thank you, I couldn't." OR "It's just too much! You shouldn't have!" OR "You're too generous" are common responses to being overwhelmed with whatever the person is trying to give to you. Sort of a cultural thing, I suppose. You just might seem a little too eager if you accepted too soon, or worse yet, greedy.

For those of you new to this phenomenon, if the person didn't like what they were being offered, they would say it was "*interesting*," and in that *italicized way* that tells you "That is the last thing I'd want!"

But I am convinced that it does stem from the feeling of being overwhelmed by someone else's thoughtfulness or generosity toward you. It shows that they have been thinking of you and thought enough of you to offer something to you, something that you just might like. To know someone has taken time to consider you, and then to try and please you, well, it's the stuff of love, isn't it? And sometimes, in the face of love shown in the simplest of ways, we stammer and shuffle our feet and try and refuse it, although in the most polite of ways.

Can you see the tie-in I'm about to make? We've been given Jesus, people! We are journeying to the cross with Jesus, who was given to us so that we might know the depth of God's love for us. And in turn we are given forgiveness. Bold and grief-stricken, but constant in the face of our refusal of God's love. We may not be so Midwestern Polite when we refuse God's love, God's forgiveness. In fact, often times we are downright rude in our refusal of God's love, God's forgiveness. But God doesn't take it back from us, saying we don't deserve it. Because of course we know this, and maybe this is why we put out our hands and say "No, that can't be for me." But God does not take "no" (Midwestern Polite or otherwise) for an answer.

And for that, we say thank you, God.

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

KNOT IN MY LIFE!

A two-part program for 7th-12th graders



Come and discover how to go from negativity being a "knot" in your life, to saying "Not in my life!" to negative attitudes.

What can 1 piece of twine teach you about being a positive light for the world?

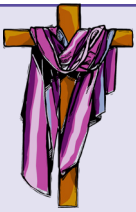
More than you might think!! Come and See!

Part 1

March 29th, Noon-1:30
Coffee Shop
Pizza Lunch Provided.

Part 2

April 4 during the
Spring Day Retreat



FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT - MARCH 29, 2009

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

WEEK'S CALENDAR

SUNDAY (3/29)

- 8:30 AM Traditional Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 AM Sunday Church School (Classrooms)
- 10:45 AM Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
- 12:00 PM Confirmation Class (Coffee Shop)
- 12:00 PM Drum Instruction (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 PM Don't Feed the Actors! Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

MONDAY (3/30)

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

TUESDAY (3/31)

- 8:00 AM Messenger Volunteers (Coffee Shop)
- 7:00 PM Rich Aunt Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

WEDNESDAY (4/1)

- 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 (4/2)

- 7:00 PM Don't Feed the Actors! Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

FRIDAY (4/3)

- 8:00 PM Don't Feed the Actors! Performance (Fellowship Hall)

SATURDAY (3/28)

- 5:15 PM Traditional Service of Holy Communion (Fabius)
- 6:15 PM Christian Education Classes (Fabius)
- 8:00 PM Don't Feed the Actors! Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

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	Deacon Karen Douglass
	10:45am	Janet Holmgren
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	8:30am	Dorothy Phillips
	10:45am	Jon Wilson
USHERS Elevator Op*	8:30am	Steve Strumlok* & Baxter Simmons
	10:45am	Sue Scharoun & Bill Kemp*
ACOLYTES/ ALTAR SERVERS	8:30am	Eion Holmes
	10:45am	Dennis Walker
ALTAR CARE	8:30am	Louise Brown
	10:45am	Pat Strong
GIFT BEARERS	8:30am	David Rodgers & Dorothy Phillips
	10:45am	Jon Wilson & Louise Brown
READERS	8:30am	Laura Aase
	10:45am	Kevin Smith
GREETERS	8:30am	Roberta Mettler
FLOWER DELIVERY		Ken & Jeanette Greig

BIBLE READINGS

	Su	Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16
		Hebrews 5:5-10
Th		Psalm 51:1-12 Isaiah 30:15-18
	M	Psalm 119:9-16 Isaiah 43:8-13
F		2 Corinthians 3:4-11
	Tu	Psalm 119:9-16 Isaiah 44:1-8
Sa		Acts 2:14-24
	W	Psalm 119:9-16 Haggai 2:1-9, 20-23 John 12:34-50

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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

At Home or in a nursing home

Ella Baker (Marty Shay's mother), Josie Billingsley (Lynn Strumlok's mother), Mary Branch (Joslyn Court I resident), Richard Boynton, Rose Camerata (Eleanora Ott's neighbor), Joseph Christopherson (Vicar Laura's friend), Lou DePalma, Bette Keil, Tanya (Gebman) McGinn (Bill Kemp's daughter-in-law's sister), Dan Murphy (Willie and Sharon Monds' friend), Beverly Oliver (Beth Arthur's friend), Ceil Piotrowski (Jackie Koslowsky's grandmother), Louise Thurlow (Janet Holmgren's friend), Tammy Treanor, Ethel Ulrich, Nancy Welch (Bax Simmons' daughter), Virginia Wiggins (Green Pt. Senior Living Community), 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)

Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Leonard LaLonde, Debi Nelson's father, who died March 21. The funeral was Wednesday, March 25, Pr. Rodgers officiated.

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.



April Anniversaries

- 5 Donald & Cheri Miller
- 12 William and Dawn Kemp (2002)
- 17 Robert & Dawn Neyhart (1993)
- 18 Shelley & Timothy Myers
- 19 Robert & Rita DeOrdio (1991)
- 23 Robert & Elaine Knaack (1949)
- 23 Carolyn & Richard Cawley (1994)
- 24 Scot and Lauren Carpenter (2005)



- 1 Louise Brown
- 2 Benjamin Girardi
- 3 Cheryl Carter, Linda Seeland
- 6 Evelyn Goings, Spencer Thomas Metz, Leete Candace
- 8 Rebecca Van Marter, Jessica Girard
- 9 Christopher Pirong, Candace Stroup
- 11 Heather Hill, Clair Ryan
- 12 William McCarthy, Robert Martin
- 13 Danielle Barnum
- 14 Fana Gebru
- 15 Emilie Bachmann, Kimberly Bouvia
- 16 Janet Ann Catterson, Ross Kennedy
- 17 Karl Adams, Chauntavia McCormick
- 19 Kathy Lawson, John Lindberg
- 21 Gary Stensland, Morgan Purcell
- 22 Peter Koslowsky, Christopher Sargent
- 23 Samantha Gaetz
- 24 Corey Bassett, Ruth Cornish, Cathleen Waters
- 26 Melissa Wilber, Jerald Holbrook, Trisha Rosenbarker, Mackenzie Walts
- 27 Linda Morlock
- 28 John Smith, Mildred Sahn
- 29 Kelly Steingraber, Lisa Brower
- 30 Joanne Claeys, Kinsey Rae Caiello

Once Upon a Tree
Words & Music by Pepper Choplin

Countryside Community Chorus presents

Once Upon a Tree

Sunday April 5
St Paul's Fabius Community Church
Fabius, NY
2:30pm
Free-Will Offering

Note: Our own Gary Stensland will be performing!



PALM SUNDAY	SPRING HEALING SERVICE	MAUNDY THURSDAY	GOOD FRIDAY
<i>April 5</i>	<i>April 8</i>	<i>April 9</i>	<i>April 10</i>
8:30am Palm Sunday Service 10:45am Sunday of the Passion	5:30pm Dinner 6:15pm Service of Healing and Renewal <i>Vicar Aase, preaching</i>	10:30am & 7:00pm Services of the Last Supper <i>Pastor Suarez, preaching</i>	7:00pm Tenebrae <i>Pastor Gaetz, preaching</i> The ancient and beautiful service of shadows and darkness
<h2>Easter Vigil</h2> <p><i>April 11</i></p> <p>5:15pm Easter Vigil Services Atonement Sanctuary</p> <p>Lighting of the New Fire, Renewal of Baptism Vows, Baptisms, and Holy Communion</p> <p><i>Vicar Aase Preaching</i></p>		<h2>Easter Celebration</h2> <p>Atonement Lutheran Church - Syracuse Sunday April 12:</p> <p>8:30am Festival Eucharist 9:15am Easter Breakfast (all are welcome!) 10:30am Festival Eucharist</p> <p><i>Instrumental prelude (with guest musicians) precedes each service. Pastor Gaetz Preaching</i></p> <p>St. Pauls Fabius There <i>will</i> be an Easter Celebration at St. Paul's Fabius. Please see next week's Messenger for the schedule. <i>Pastor Suarez Preaching</i></p>	