

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
THE ATONEMENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

Messenger

CONGREGATION MEETING APPROVES RENOVATION PLAN



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

Aaron Richter, Vicar
299-8461

arichter7@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

TBA
alcSecretary@earthlink.net

MESSENGER SUBMISSIONS

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

After an hour of detailed discussion, the Renovation Proposal set forth by the Church Council was adopted (See report inside—on the “back” of the [Plaza Suite flyer](#)—for meeting details). The plan will address many outstanding repair/replacement needs, including replacing our aging heating plant with modern energy efficient furnaces. The plan also includes upgrades: Air conditioning for the sanctuary and office wing, a variety of energy saving replacements, and modest program space expansion.

Because there is a difference of \$56,000 between authorized borrowing and the full cost of the program, a short term fund drive is planned, with the hope of having 50, or more, families give an average \$400 per year for three years.

Since the congregational meeting instructed the Church Council to examine detailed budgets with an eye to the economy before signing any contracts, there is still one more step to complete before the project is officially a “go.” You’ll be hearing a lot more about this in coming weeks.

CONGRATULATIONS EVERYONE!

It's a busy time for members of Atonement, their friends, and families!
We have students graduating at every level!

Elementary School

- Ross Kennedy, Christopher Russell, Bill Anson (*Tully Elem*)

High School

- Chris Peterson (*Lafayette*)
- Chris Snow (*Fowler*)
- Tatyana Hudson (*Corcoran*)
- Charles McDivitt (*Tully*)

Bachelor's Degree

- Dan Strumlok *Ohio Wesleyan University (BA)*
- Stephen B. Halton *Rockville University (BS)*
(*nephew of Eleanora Ott*)

Graduate School

- Beth Arthur *SUNY Environmental Science & Forestry (Graduate Certificate)*
- Erik Holmgren *Columbia University Teachers College (Masters Degree)*

NO MESSENGER NEXT WEEK!

As agreed at the Annual Meeting, the Messenger is on a limited publishing schedule during the summer—so this is a “double” issue. The next Messenger will be published on June 24.



5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - JUNE 15, 2008

8:30 AM	Traditional Service of Holy Communion, Pastor Suarez, Preaching
9:00 AM	Traditional Service of Holy Communion, Vicar Richter, Preaching at Fabius
10:45 AM	Holy Communion Service, Pastor Suarez, Preaching

WEEK'S CALENDAR

SUNDAY (6/15)

8:30am	Traditional Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
9:00am	Traditional Service of Holy Communion (St. Paul's Fabius)
10:45am	Festival Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
12:00pm	Plaza Suite Set (Fellowship Hall)
6:30pm	Plaza Suite Tech (Fellowship Hall)

MONDAY (6/16)

6:30pm	Plaza Suite Tech (Fellowship Hall)
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TUESDAY (6/17)

6:30pm	Plaza Suite Tech (Fellowship Hall)
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WEDNESDAY (6/18)

10:00am	Crafty Ladies (Coffee Shop)
6:30pm	Plaza Suite Tech (Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY (6/19)

6:00pm	Summer Dinner (Coffee Shop)
7:00pm	Summer Worship (Chapel)
7:00pm	WELCA (Conference Room)

FRIDAY (6/20)

8:00pm	Plaza Suite Performance (Fellowship Hall)
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SATURDAY (6/14)

8:00pm	Plaza Suite Performance (Fellowship Hall)
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BIBLE READINGS

Th	Psalm 100 Exodus 4:18-23 Hebrews 3:1-6
F	Psalm 100 Exodus 4:27-31 Acts 7:35-43
Sa	Psalm 100 Exodus 6:28—7:13 Mark 7:1-13
Su	Exodus 19:2-8a Psalm 100 Romans 5:1-8 Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]
M	Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45 Joshua 1:1-11 1 Thessalonians 3:1-5
Tu	Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45 1 Samuel 3:1-9 2 Thessalonians 2:13—3:5
W	Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45 Proverbs 4:10-27 Luke 6:12-19

SUNDAY BUS/VAN SCHEDULE

9:00am	Lodi
9:15am	Presidential Plaza
9:20am	Toomey Abbott
9:30am	Arrive Church
9:45am	Leave Church
9:50am	Hoeffler
9:55am	Lincoln
10:10am	Thurber
10:15am	Loretto
10:30am	Arrive Church

FRESH FROM THE FARM!



"Farm Fresh" a partnership with PEACE will bring a Farmer's Market to our Parking Lot each week this summer.

Starting June 5, the Mobile Farmers Market will be in the Atonement parking lot Thursday afternoons from 1-3pm.

ASSISTING AT WORSHIP

ASSISTING MINISTER	8:30am	Deacon Karen Douglass
	10:45am	Deacon Jay Berry
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	8:30am	David Rodgers
	10:45am	Janet Holmgren
USHERS	8:30am	Steve & Mike* Strumlok
Elevator Op*	10:45am	Karen Douglass & Missy Wilber*
ACOLYTES/ ALTAR SERVERS	8:30am	Abigail Wood
	10:45am	Austin Draper
ALTAR CARE	8:30am	Lynn Strumlok
	10:45am	Carole Barr
GIFT BEARERS	8:30am	Phyllis & David Rodgers
	10:45am	Stacey Draper & Janet Holmgren
READERS	8:30am	Jeanette Greig
	10:45am	Karen Veverka
GREETERS	8:30am	Gayle Wentworth
FLOWER DELIVERY		Deacon Karen Douglass

SUMMER THURSDAY NIGHT WORSHIP

Can't make it to church on Sunday? Join us on Thursday evenings, with Worship at 7:00pm, in the Chapel, preceded by a picnic supper in the Coffee Shop at 6pm. If your summer weekends are busy, please join us for this mid-week service.

5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Exodus 19:2-8a

We hear more of this amazing Exodus story where God leads the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt, and into the Promised Land. In chapter 19, the people have finally arrived at Mount Sinai, after dealing with the trials and tribulations of the wilderness. It's been a long journey! But it's not over. Now comes the part that is even more incredible: when God chooses them to be God's people: You shall be my treasured possession. But God asks them: Are you sure this is what you want? And the people answer as one: Yes.

And so their journey continues. From now on, it's how they can live in the covenant, the promise that God and they have agreed upon. Though their journey out of Egypt has been difficult, living up to the promise that they have been given will be even more difficult. And they will stumble, but also be continually lifted up by God's eagle wings.

We have the same question as the Israelites did: How do we live as God's chosen people? How do we do that? When we speak of baptism, we do not speak of a one time occasion, but a baptismal journey; a journey that doesn't end until our death. Though blessed with a promise to be a child of God, and knowing that can never be taken away, let us think about these questions: how do we live as God wants us to? How has your life changed because of your baptism?

Let us pray, Mighty Deliverer of all people, you sent your Son into the world to break the power of sin and death. Help and guide our actions to express the joy and promise of the amazing covenant made in our baptisms. In your name we pray, Amen.



6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - JUNE 22, 2008

8:30 AM	Traditional Service of Holy Communion, Vicar Richter, Preaching
9:00 AM	Traditional Service of Holy Communion, Pastor Rodgers, Preaching at Fabius
10:45 AM	Holy Communion Service, Vicar Richter, Preaching

WEEK'S CALENDAR

SUNDAY (6/22)

8:30am	Traditional Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
9:00am	Traditional Service of Holy Communion (St. Paul's Fabius)
10:45am	Festival Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
12:00pm	Graumenz Reunion (Gym)
8:00pm	Plaza Suite Performance (Fellowship Hall)

TUESDAY (6/24)

8:00am	Messenger Volunteers (Coffee Shop)
7:00pm	Appleseed Steering Committee (Coffee Shop)

WEDNESDAY (6/25)

10:00am	Crafty Ladyes (Coffee Shop)
6:30pm	ACC Graduation (Sanctuary)
7:30pm	ACC Ice Cream Social (Gym)

THURSDAY (6/26)

6:00pm	Summer Dinner (Coffee Shop)
7:00pm	Summer Worship (Chapel)

FRIDAY (6/27)

8:00pm	Plaza Suite Performance (Fellowship Hall)
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SATURDAY (6/28)

5:00pm	Sinko Wedding (off-site)
8:00pm	Plaza Suite Performance (Fellowship Hall)

ASSISTING AT WORSHIP

ASSISTING	8:30am	Vicar Richter
MINISTER	10:45am	Vicar Richter
COMMUNION	8:30am	Merikay Harper
ASSISTANTS	10:45am	Missy Wilber
USHERS	8:30am	Baxter Simmons & David Rodgers*
Elevator Op*	10:45am	Karen Douglass & Stacey Draper*
ACOLYTES/ ALTAR SERVERS	8:30am	Eion Holmes
	10:45am	Dennis Walker
ALTAR CARE	8:30am	Lynn Strumlok
	10:45am	Carole Barr
GIFT BEARERS	8:30am	Merikay Harper & Roberta Mettler
	10:45am	Austin Draper & Janet Holmgren
READERS	8:30am	Lynn Strumlok
	10:45am	Karen Douglass
GREETERS	8:30am	Harriet Walters
FLOWER DELIVERY		Yvonne Tucker

6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JEREMIAH 20:7-13

Today we hear from a prophet, Jeremiah. Remember, a prophet is someone who throughout the Old Testament proclaimed God's word to the people, usually telling them what they were doing wrong and God wants them to get it right. Jeremiah is the most faithful, and probably the most reluctant worker for God ever. I'll give you an example: this passage is Jeremiah's sixth lament. Six! And we're only in chapter 20! But Jeremiah is being called to be a prophet: someone who speaks the scary difficult truth to all those who do not want to hear it. And Jeremiah is punished for it. The beginning of chapter 20 has Jeremiah struck and placed in the stockades. He even has a nickname from people he calls friends (v. 10): Terror-All-Around. And despite all the struggles that Jeremiah goes through, he continues with the message he has received from God. He calls it a "burning fire" or "a fire in his belly" (v. 9) that all he can do is proclaim.

Last week, we talked a little about baptismal journeys, and what your baptism means to you now. Part of that journey is listening to where God has called you and is calling you as both an individual and as part of a church. Sometimes, it's a difficult place. Sometimes it's a struggle. Sometimes we don't want to go. But as people of God, we are always called by God to work in this world. So then, more questions to think about this week: where has God called you? Where is God calling you now? And where is God calling the church that you are a part of?

Let us pray, O God, you guide us in our paths, down roads that we do not want to go, through doors which we do not want to enter. Open our ears and our eyes to your call, and lead us on our journeys. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

BIBLE READINGS

Th	Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18 Jeremiah 18:12-17 Hebrews 2:5-9
F	Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18 Jeremiah 18:18-23 Acts 5:17-26
Sa	Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18 Jeremiah 20:1-6 Luke 11:53—12:3
Su	Jeremiah 20:7-13 Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18 Romans 6:1b-11 Matthew 10:24-39
M	Psalm 6 Micah 7:1-7 Revelation 2:1-7
Tu	Psalm 6 Jeremiah 26:1-12 Revelation 2:8-11
W	Psalm 6 Jeremiah 38:1-13 Matthew 10:5-23

SUNDAY BUS/VAN SCHEDULE

9:00am	Lodi
9:15am	Presidential Plaza
9:20am	Toomey Abbott
9:30am	Arrive Church
9:45am	Leave Church
9:50am	Hoeffler
9:55am	Lincoln
10:10am	Thurber
10:15am	Loretto
10:30am	Arrive Church

From Vi Bradley...

To Everyone at Atonement,

Thank you so much for the flowers. They certainly brighten up a room.

I really enjoy going to church on Wednesdays and Sundays and appreciate all the help I've received.

Thank you again.

MEETING NOTES

May Council Meeting

- Staff reports were approved by the council.
- Much of the meeting was spent discussing the proposed building renovation. Recommendations made by members at the various informational meetings were incorporated into the final plan that was presented to council. Council approved the resolution to be presented to the congregation on June 1st. Members working on the building renovation plan include Jerry Holbrook, Bill Wheelless, Brad Arthur, Dan Randall, Barry Graumenz, Solomon Williams and Pastor Gaetz as staff. If the resolution is approved by the congregation other committees will to be formed to decide on interior design; i.e. colors of walls rugs etc. The construction time if the resolution is approved will be all paperwork completed and authorized by July 15th, with construction starting late summer early fall with occupancy in early 2009.
- Atonement Child Care Center received a glowing report from the Head Start Program. As a result, the child care center will receive additional funding.
- Appleaseed Productions is working on a business plan to move them to self sufficiency. A preliminary draft was returned to them with questions and suggestions for improvement.
- Business Manager Beth Arthur and Jon Wilson are working on a program to minimize the time needed to process payroll for all the staff. A first draft was received by the Council.
- June meeting will be held on June 30 rather than the scheduled date of June 9 to avoid a conflict with Synod Assembly.

Special Congregational Meeting - June 1, 2008

- A special congregational meeting was held on June 1st to discuss the building renovation plan. 51 voting members were present. Deacon Jay Berry opened the meeting with a prayer.

The resolution approved by church council is as follows

"The Congregation resolved to borrow the sum of up to \$ 650,000 payable over a term of up to 20 years ("Loan"), from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for the purpose of refinancing the existing Loan with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and funding renovations to the Church building. The Congregation also resolved that the Trustees, or such other officers as may be authorized by the Constitution and Bylaws, are authorized to negotiate terms and conditions for the Loan which will be secured by a first mortgage on all or any portion of the Congregation's property including any extensions in the payment dates or due dates. The persons holding the following offices are authorized to execute all documents for the Loan: President, Treasurer, Senior Pastor.

Be it further resolved that the Trustees, or such other officers as may be authorized by the Constitution and Bylaws, are authorized to negotiate terms and conditions for construction/renovation contracts."

- There was much discussion about the need for replacing the chapel, increasing size of the coffee shop, and adding another meeting room. Some of the reasons discussed for needed space included meeting and storage space. Discussion centered around the costs of renovation without the additional space. The church has received advance commitments from related organizations and individuals that will cover all but \$56,000 of the total cost of the project.
- A motion was made and defeated that the congregation see the itemized costs before making a decision. It was, however, decided that the council obtain detailed information before they make final commitments. Copies of that information will be available to anyone who wants it by the end of June.

The resolution passed. Vote: Yes-28, No-8, Abstentions 0.

- The presentation also noted that Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has a Matching Funds Program through which our project will be eligible to receive \$1 for every \$2.given. More information will be made available to anyone who is interested.

- Karen Douglass, Secretary

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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

Community Hospital

Fay Delaney

St. Joseph's Hospital

Tom Irwin, Roberta Frigon

Crouse Hospital

Arlene Woods (Peter Woods' Mom)

At home or in a nursing home

Ella Baker (Marty Shay's mother), Elisabeth Gereke, Evelyn Goings, Joan Hughes (friend of the Greigs), Mary Hyde, Betty Rae Kennedy, Barbara Nelson, Dorothy Phillips, Heather Strong (Pat Strong's daughter), Betty Theel, Sandy Walters

Those in the armed services

Mike Breedlove (Pensacola, FL), Scott Carpenter, Travis Carpenter, Jack Fields (Ft. Bliss, TX), Trevor Martineau (Paris Island, SC), Kevin Monds (Ft. Benning, GA), Chris Nillhouse (Korea), Justin Randall (Quantico, VA), Melissa Young (Phoenix, AZ)

Sympathy is extended to Ruth Cornish on the death of her long time friend Ruth Meyers.

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.

SHARE A BRICK?

Bill Kemp writes:

"I believe that \$400 for a brick is a little expensive for me. So I would like to have the pleasure of a teammate to help share the cost and help make the project possible.

With just one brick at a time, we can change our church. With just a few bricks, we can do so much. So I ask you for your help to make this possible. If we all work together as a team, we can make this achievement possible."

You can reach Bill at 470-7081.

If others would like to "share a brick" but cannot find a "teammate," contact the church office. You can sign up for a "portion" of a brick and we'll find others to share with you.



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Nora O'Dea

Pete Zalizniak



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