

News & Notes

Lutheran Church of the Atonement

May 1-2, 2021



AND NOW FOR SOMETHING TOTALLY DIFFERENT...

... Worship, Meeting, Lunch, and Fellowship in the Park!

Join your Atonement family at beautiful Lakeside 370 Park on Sunday, May 16, as we gather for morning worship at the main pavilion at 10:00 a.m. Music will be provided by Joyful Noiz, led by *Jim Baumgartner*. Holy Communion will be a focus of our worship.

Immediately following worship, we will remain in the beautiful outdoors – the hopefully warm and sunny outdoors – for our annual May meeting, where we will conduct elections (*see related story*), consider a work-program/budget for the coming fiscal year, and conduct whatever other business is necessary and useful for our shared ministries.

Then, without further delay, comes lunch – pre-packaged sandwich, chips, and brownie from Jimmy John's – and beverages provided by our Men's Club. Then, stay, and enjoy the fellowship and the park for as long as you like. The park is located just off the Truman Blvd. exit on Highway 370 in St. Peters. Please make a reservation in advance – to help those planning for the lunch.

There will be the customary Saturday worship service at 5:30 p.m. on May 15, but no services on Sunday morning, May 16, at Atonement. Now, won't this be different!

CONGREGATION MEETING ELECTION NOMINEES

Church Council: President - *Cathy Hohl* (incumbent); Secretary - *Ruth Blundell* (incumbent); Member-at-Large - *Jaimy Suydam*, *Greg Viehman* (elect one; position vacated by term-limited *Rick Brown*)

School Board: incumbents *Wendy Gehner*, *Wesley Johnson*, and *Lynn Zond*; plus *Derrick Hall* (position vacated by *Allison Hall*).



ATONEMENT BOOK CLUB...

...resumes gathering in-person in the Multi-Purpose Room at 2:00 p.m. normally on the second Sunday of each month. We meet this afternoon (date moved due to Mothers' Day) to discuss *Musical Chairs* by Amy Poepfel. We will follow

current Covid safety practices with mask-wearing and social distancing. New readers welcome! Contact Jan Koch at (314) 921-5434 or at njkoch@aol.com to let her know you plan to attend.



C.P.R. AND GARDENING DAY

The weather did not cooperate on Saturday, but we were able to gather on Sunday to work on projects both inside and outside.

Many thanks to: *Chris Gabbert*, *A. J. Gaglio*, *Theresa Gaglio*, *David* and *Darlene Johnson*, *Wesley Johnson*, *Matt* and *Kristin McGraw* and sons, *Don Meier*, *Bill* and *Jane Meyerkord*, *Diane Ritchey*, *Jim Temps*, *Stefan*, *Lyndsie* and *Charlie Thurnau*, and to *Jack* and *Bonnie David* who worked on Monday.

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Seniors Alive is back with in-person meetings on the fourth Monday of the month from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Covid-19 is still lingering, and the church facility requires wearing a mask and maintaining social distancing. That will not prevent Seniors Alive from enjoying each other's company in person on May 24.

Tours start up again in July with "Smokey Joe's Cafe" at the Muny. The Branson trip has been rescheduled for October 5-7, and the Iowa/Mississippi River trip has been moved to August 18-20. All fully vaccinated seniors (age 50+) are invited. Contact Don Kuethe at (314) 831-8478 or at dthekey@sbcglobal.net for details.



A BIG THANK YOU...

...to those who donated cash or gift cards for the purchase of fleece. This has allowed us to provide blankets to the St. Louis area homeless. So far, 55 blankets have been completed, and there is fabric for 12 more. There is also cash to purchase more fabric before Service Sunday. Thank you also to the ladies who have sewn the blankets. Any questions, please call me at (314) 402-2825.

—Elaine Skarstad



2021-22 ACADEMIC YEAR TO BE ALL IN-SCHOOL

Education for the coming school year will be all in-building. The Atonement Lutheran School Board took cognizance of the opinion of many medical and education professionals that students learn better in a classroom setting and that there is no further compelling medical reason to keep children out of the classroom. The school will maintain whatever Covid-19 protocols are recommended.

Principal Rob Biesendorfer paid tribute to the school's faculty, who this year have been teaching both in the classroom and by means of technology. He added that many students learning "virtually" have done excellent academic work.

He noted that classroom teachers are often the first to observe problems such as learning difficulties, vision and hearing impairment, and even abuse. "The growing consensus," he said, "is that children need to be in school, not only for educational reasons, but also for socialization."

With most students now back in the classroom, he added, there is no reason for teachers to be expected to "do double-duty" by also teaching on-line.



GRADUATION SEASON

May is graduation month, and Atonement wants to remember in prayer all of our **member** high school and college graduates. In the absence of our usual attendance forms, please notify the church office via e-mail, in writing, or by calling (314) 837-1224. Please indicate both the graduate's name and his or her educational institution. Thanks.



BLOOD DRIVE AT ATONEMENT

Please donate blood on Thursday, May 13, from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Masks and appointments are required. Call The Blood Center at (866) 448-3253, or sign up on-line at bloodcenterimpact.org; use sponsor code 9645. For more information, call Joyce Pingel at (314) 740-2137.



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

The group meets next Saturday, May 8, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. via Zoom. Anyone who has suffered the loss of a loved one is invited to join. Call *Shirl Henke* at (314) 831-7032 or *Joyce Pingel* at (314) 740-2137.