

NEWS & NOTES

Lutheran Church of the Atonement

February 18-19, 2012

WHEN MORNING STARS SANG TOGETHER

Merle Blundell continues a study on worship in the sanctuary today at 9:30 with a look at worship from creation to the expulsion from paradise.

PROPERTY CONCERNS

Can you help your church staff in dealing with a few physical plant concerns?

Thermostats throughout the building are programmed according to actual room usage. Making major adjustments or, worse yet, using the “hold” buttons overrides the programs and wastes energy.

Blue bins around the building are for paper recycling. Please put regular trash (empty cups, plastic wrappers, gum, etc.) in the normal trash baskets.

Plastic snow shovels are provided to shovel the sanctuary front steps. Use of metal-blade shovels chips the stones and scrapes off the protective sealant.

The stained glass window over the entry door is to be illuminated at night. That’s when it looks best. Please leave the window lights on, when you leave in the evening -- while turning off other hallway, stairwell, and classroom lights.

Automated light switches have been installed in several restrooms. The lights will

remain on for 14 minutes or as long as there is activity in the room. Please do not adjust the controls.

Thanks for your assistance in these matters.

CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY: THIS WEEK

This week, February 21 - 22, the Lifetouch photography team will be here for scheduled photo sessions for our 2012 photo and phone directory. If you have not scheduled a session, you may reserve a time on-line at www.alcs-web.com. Just click on the Lifetouch icon. You may also call the church office, and Mike will help you. If you have reserved a time, thank you for signing up and please show up for your appointment.

When you come, you may also participate in “Feed the Need.” If you received a green bag when you reserved a photo session, please return the green bag at your portrait session with canned goods for a family in need. (If you did not receive a green bag, just bring your canned goods in a paper or plastic bag.) You will receive \$5 off your Lifetouch order, and Atonement will receive money from Lifetouch for local food pantries.

HOMELESSNESS TO HOME, SWEET HOME

Humanitri has assigned Atonement a house and (and a family) for which to care! It is in Berkeley, just a few miles from Atonement. We’re ready to move in furniture and household

goods. See the list on the armoire in the narthex for items needed. We also need beds (including a baby bed). Please contact Susan Thomas at (314) 837-5224 immediately if you have or can get these items quickly. You may also sign the attendance form. Our family cannot move in until there are beds.

DEVOTIONALS FOR LENT

On a table in the narthex are several copies remaining of a new Lenten devotional resource, *From Death...to Life*, written by long-time Lutheran church leader, Rich Bimler. Also available is an assortment of “leftovers” from previous years. If we need to order more of the Rich Bimler booklets, please notify Pastor Mueller.

SENIORS (VERY MUCH) ALIVE

Meet friends! Make new friends! Enjoy a variety of entertainment! Sign up for a tour! Come to “Seniors Alive” on the fourth Monday of the month at 1:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Bring a friend or a neighbor. On February 27 we will show the movie *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. For a ride, please call Dorothy Becker at (314) 355-4139.

Please call Don Kuethe at (314) 831-8478, if you have any questions about tours.

Mar. 21 - Depart 9:15 a.m. - Tour the Peabody Opera House, Union Station, and Anheuser Busch. Lunch at Hard Rock Cafe.

April 18 - Depart 9:30 a.m. - Historic Kirkwood homes, the Frank Lloyd Wright house, and the Kirkwood farmers’ market. Lunch is included as part of this outing.

May 22-24 - Depart 6:30 a.m. - A fabulous Kentucky adventure! See Churchill Downs Museum, Louisville Slugger factory, National Quilt Museum, New Harmony, Corvette plant, Bowling Green. All fun-filled days!

“ENJOY LOCAL”

Do you like supporting local restaurants and saving 10 percent on every meal? If so, stop by the TWB desk on Sundays and purchase an “Enjoy Local” card for \$10. You can go to www.enjoylocal.com for a complete list of restaurants. All proceeds go to APTO to fund Project Playground.

BIBLE & BREAKFAST...

. . .continues a new Ray VanderLaan video series, *Walking with God in the Desert*, featuring life lessons from the Pentateuch (Exodus through Deuteronomy). Each unit begins with a video presentation and continues with Bible-based discussion, led by Pastor Mueller.

We invite you to join this lively group for doughnuts and bagels, for coffee and tea, at 9:30 a.m. on Thursdays in Fellowship Hall. We usually finish up around 10:35.

“Let God meet you in the ‘deserts’ of your life”

LENTEN JOURNEYS WITH CHRIST

Lent is a beautiful season of prayer, meditation, caring for others (alms giving), and focusing on God (fasting). On Wednesdays during Lent, Atonement offers “Living Lent” 2012 with four programmatic opportunities for those age four and up. At 5:45-6:30 p.m. Karen and Steve Ryals offer yoga for kids and a separate beginning yoga class for adults. From 6:00 to 7:00

p.m organizations will host Lenten dinners beginning with the Men's Club fish fry and bake on Ash Wednesday. From 6:30 to 7:20 p.m. there are two other programs available (described below). At 7:30 p.m. Lenten worship begins. (Note: on Ash Wednesday the service begins at 7:20 with the distribution of ashes.)

Yoga integrates the body, the mind, and the spirit. Ancient Yogis had a belief that for a person to be in harmony with self and environment, one has to integrate the body, the mind, and the spirit. For these three to be integrated, one must balance emotion, action, and intelligence. The Yogis formulated a method through exercise, breathing, and meditation -- the three main Yoga structures. In Yoga, the body is treated with care and respect. Yoga exercises improve circulation, stimulate abdominal organs, and put pressures on the glandular system of the body, resulting in better health.

Making Sense of the Cross is a video series with the Rev. Dr. David J. Lose, a professor at Luther Seminary, with time for discussion, beginning at 6:30 p.m., led by one of our pastors. You can listen into a conversation between two people having a candid discussion about the Cross. One voice assumes the role of teacher or coach, a person who has studied the faith in some depth. The second voice assumes the role of a person who is curious and knows a little about the Faith, but brings a lot of questions such as: So what's with the cross? What does the cross say about God? Did Jesus have to die? What did Jesus accomplish?

Faith Connections brings together our faith with action. Each week has a theme and an associated activity. Here are the first few.

Feb. 22: Prayer -- Openness to God

Make and give away a friendship bracelet

Feb 29: How we think about God

Create a Holy Week devotional

Mar. 7: What gives life?

Make a basket of love for homebound seniors

We need supplies for several projects including: baskets, Easter items to put in the basket for homebound seniors, hygiene items, and fun things like puzzle books. If you have some, please give them to Pastor Vargo.

GRIEF RECOVERY SEMINAR...

...begins, March 13, and continues for 11 Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m to noon. In "Grief Recovery" we will look at how to recover and to regain energy and spontaneity. If you are interested in a different and life-changing approach to grief, then RSVP to Pastor Vargo today. Books for the class are \$15.

"PLANNING AHEAD IN 2012"

On March 26 at noon take time to look forward on how to include your family and your spouse in your future plans. You will receive a guide to help you convey to your children and your future generations important tidbits from your life; wishes for your funeral; legacies that you want to leave for family, church, and community; and what important documents and information you should organize. The guide will help you answer all-important questions for your family such as, "What would they have wanted? Did I do the right thing?" This is the best of the best. It's never too early to think and plan ahead. RSVP to Pastor Vargo at (314) 837-1224. We will provide a catered lunch. We invite you to join Seniors Alive after the meeting.

COMMUNION SERVICE IN THE SANCTUARY

On February 27 at 12:30 p.m. join Pastor Vargo for a worship service for those who can't attend Sunday morning: the homebound, chronically ill, seniors, shut-ins, and those who work weekends. Following worship, join the "Seniors Alive" in Fellowship Hall at 1:30 p.m.

YOUTH FORUM TODAY

Please join us in the youth room between services on Sunday. Bring a friend.

BROOM HOCKEY...

...for this evening is cancelled. Too few signed up. As an alternative, the high school youth are invited to Good Shepherd Lutheran. See the next article for details...

A NEIGHBORLY INVITATION

Our neighbors at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd invite the high school youth to



"Family Time" from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. today, Feb. 19. Bring a drink and snack to share, and enjoy some games and time to chill with new and old friends. Good Shepherd is at 7380 Howdershell Road. This event will be repeated on March 4 and March 18.

FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS

If you know how to make a friendship bracelet and could teach others to make one, Debbie Grupe, would like your assistance with the Ash Wednesday "Living Lent" activity on February 22 after dinner. Any middle school or high school youth who can help, please come to dinner at 6:00 p.m. At 6:30, we'll get started with a brief devotion, the we'll make bracelets to share. Find Debbie on Facebook, or e-mail her at debgrupe@sbcglobal.net.

UPCOMING WORSHIP NOTES

February 22 -- On Ash Wednesday, join our Atonement School students for a service with imposition of ashes at 8:45 a.m.; return in the evening for a service of Holy Communion at 7:30 p.m., preceded by imposition of ashes.

February 26 -- Lent remains a season of repentance and reflection; on this First Sunday in Lent, we will offer our more traditional Lenten worship at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday and at 8:15 a.m. on Sunday, with "Worship, Too!" at 10:45 a.m.

February 29 -- A brief service of Evening Prayer at 7:30 p.m. will send us home after the "Living Lent" activities earlier in the evening.