

# News & Notes

**Lutheran Church of the Atonement**

**Dec. 7, 2025**



Congregation Meeting, President Cathy Hohl announced a Special Congregation Meeting for **December 14** immediately after worship. The agenda for that Special Meeting is:

1. *Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes*
2. *Endowment Committee Recommendation*

3. *Election of Nominating Committee Members*

These items could not be handled during the November 23 meeting because we lacked a quorum.

## MATCHING GIFTS



Over the next weeks, you'll hear a lot about finances. But, it's not really about the money. It's about

faith and ministry. Acting in faith, several members and friends of Atonement are pooling together to match \$35,000 in year-end gifts. What a blessing this is! Take advantage of this opportunity by making a special gift to support our ministry through the 2025-2026 school year. Together, these financial gifts will add \$70,000 to enable our work for God's kingdom.

Similarly, our annual financial stewardship emphasis, beginning in the next few days, celebrates our growth in generosity in 2025. It encourages continued faith-filled financial support of Atonement's ministry in 2026. Financial intent cards will be distributed - to be returned by you on November 30 and December 7. These statements of intention support your growth in faith and Atonement's ability to fulfill God's mission for us.

It feels like it's about money. But, it's not. It's about faith and ministry. As God grants us "rich supply," as God "helps in time of need," as God "rules his church in love," let our lives and decisions proclaim the "joy this blest assurance gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!" (See ELW 619) Let's joyfully embrace - and support - God's call to us.



appreciated.

## USHER HELP!!

If you would like to serve as an usher during the holiday season or even on select Sunday's, please contact Bill Meyerkord. Your help is greatly needed and



We've been gifted with two beautiful works of art - a quilted Christmas wall-hanging made by Sara Ruprecht and a stained glass lamp made by Emily Buis. "Visit" them in the Family Room. Each is being raffled off with the proceeds designated for the operating budgets of Atonement School and Church. The drawings will be held before Christmas. Tickets are one for \$1, six for \$5, or 40 for \$20. You can obtain tickets on Sunday mornings or by contacting Greg Viehman or Cathy Hohl. If it is during the week, you can see Cathy in the church office or Angie in the school office. Please share this opportunity with your family and friends.



It's time to decorate the church for Christmas! Please join us on **Saturday, December 13 at 9:00 a.m.** in the nave. We especially welcome people who climb ladders!



Seniors (age 50 and over) (bring a side dish to share) Barbara Kay & husband are invited to monthly band bring the spirit of Christmas. Barbara always has an engaging program for us meetings in Fellowship Hall. The next meeting will be on Monday, Dec. 15 at 12:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Christmas Party -

### TOURS

Watch for new tours to be added!

## ATONEMENT LINKS

Welcome to the Hustle & Bustle!

Yes, this time of year is an absolute joy — and also very tiring! Please remember to take care of yourself along the way.

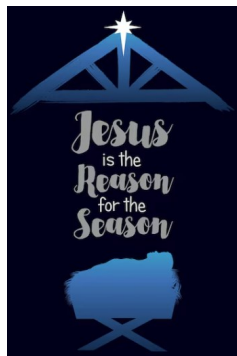
Do you have people on your list to shop for, and the best way to give them what they want or need is with gift cards? Sign up with our RaiseRight program! You give two ways, to the ones you love AND to Atonement Lutheran School—without paying more! Check under the RaiseRight area for the QR Code (also see right column) and Atonement Link number. We thank everyone who has already joined us!

### Reminders:

On December 15-16 the Holiday Shoppe will be open for students to do their Christmas shopping. Would you like to help, or do you have questions? Contact our APTO at [apto.president@alcs-web.com](mailto:apto.president@alcs-web.com).

Mark your calendars for the evening of Thursday, December 18. Plan on joining us for the school's Christmas Concert at 7 pm.

As we move toward the hustle and bustle of Christmas, let us remember: Jesus truly is the reason for the season...God's love and peace to each of you!



### Attendance— Week of 11/30/25

9:30 a.m. = 75

### Giving

Sunday 11/30/25 in-person = \$6403

(includes matching funds)

\$9416.29 all other form of giving from 11/17-11/21. This includes church income received by all methods (ex./ online, mail) and all funds (missions, memorials, etc.)

### Shop RaiseRight for Christmas!!

Don't forget to stop by the Welcome Desk or scan the code below to order your gift cards. Proceeds benefit Atonement School. Contact the school office with questions.



PayPal.com  
[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=AY5JSU5UWCVS6](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=AY5JSU5UWCVS6)

Go Fund Me:  
[fund.me/580b1615f](https://fund.me/580b1615f)

Scan to donate

gofundme



Advent by Candlelight, Sunday, December 7, at 6 p.m.



Midweek Wednesday  
Advent services - 7 p.m.  
(Dec. 3, 10, 17)

Christmas Eve Services will be held at 4:30 and 10:00 p.m. service. Christmas Day service will be at 10:00 a.m.



New Year's  
Eve: Family fun  
night and devo-  
tions: 5:00 p.m. -  
8:00 p.m.



*"It's time to mother Earth"*

Teleconference instead of traveling. If you fly five times per year, those trips are likely to account for 75% of your personal carbon footprint. Not only does this tip help you save energy, but also \$Money\$ and helps you save time so that you can do more of what you like to do

[https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-tips/?gclid=CjwKCAiAt9z-BRBCEiwA\\_bWv-E4z76\\_4ollmbwO8yrDYfhLDFIHIhOXPuYnE\\_4Q6g-](https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-tips/?gclid=CjwKCAiAt9z-BRBCEiwA_bWv-E4z76_4ollmbwO8yrDYfhLDFIHIhOXPuYnE_4Q6g-)



The traditional Advent Calendars give us something to remove from a calendar each day during Advent leading up to Christmas—most have a trinket or candy. This year, as part of our anniversary celebration, we will assemble REVERSE Advent Calendars. Put a non-perishable food item INTO a box each day during Advent and we'll donate them to TEAM Food Pantry. You can bring them to Atonement at Christmastime for bulk delivery to TEAM or you may take the completed box to a food pantry of your choice. If you would like, we have boxes with the list of items available in the church narthex.

## Reverse Advent Calendar

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package of pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - canned corn
- December 22 - canned mixed vegetables
- December 23 - canned carrots
- December 24 - canned green beans



**Bandana's BAR-B-Q Wants To  
Help Make A Difference along with**

**Atonement Lutheran School  
Tuesday December 9, 2025  
11:00 am – 9:00 pm**

**Please join your family and friends at our  
Florissant Location  
8234 North Lindbergh (314-837-6000)  
Present this ticket to your server and  
Bandana's will donate a portion of the total  
proceeds to  
Atonement Lutheran School PTO**

**Good for Dine-In & Carryout**





## Financial Position Summary July 2025 thru October 2025

Balances thru October Status: Danger		Bank Accounts Status: Danger	
Mortgage Balance Due	\$ 2,122,309	Balance on Oct 31	\$201,196
Bank Accounts	\$ 201,196	+/-Forecast Through 06/30/2026	-\$289,997
Restricted Funds	\$ 188,192	Forecasted Balance on 06/30/2026	-\$88,801
Operating Cash	\$ 13,003		
Endowment Fund in Thrivent Account	\$ 154,314		
<p><b>Restricted Funds</b> includes money that was given and set aside for specific purposes such as Capital Improvements, Youth Impact Fund, Memorials, etc. <b>We have significantly dipped into the restricted funds in order to cover operating expenses.</b></p> <p><b>Operating Cash</b> is the money available for daily operation of the church and school such as paying salaries, utilites, insurance, etc. The desired minimum needed to operate Atonement is \$100,000.</p>		<p>The checking and savings account balances as of the last day in the reporting period and the forecasted balance at the end of fiscal year (June 30), based on the Actual and Forecasted Surplus/Deficit thru June 30.</p> <p>For the period Nov. 1, 2025-Jun. 30, 2026, expenses are forecasted to be \$290,000 higher than revenue. \$190,000 of the shortfall is because OneFund gifts have been trending lower, and school enrollment is less than anticipated. The forecasts have been adjusted to reflect these changes.</p> <p>Revenue generation campaigns are being launched. Details will be provided at the November 23, 2025 congregation meeting.</p>	