

PASTORAL CALL

CONGREGATION MEETING TODAY, 9:30 a.m.

All voting members of the congregation are encouraged to attend this important meeting to vote to extend a call and to authorize the Church Council to negotiate a salary package. Voting members of the congregation are confirmed members who during the current or preceding calendar year have communed in the congregation and made a contribution of record to the congregation. A quorum of 75 voting members is needed. A two-thirds vote is required to call. Please participate in this exciting time in the life of our congregation!

Adult Forum - Jan 28
9:30 a.m. in the Chapel



NOTE - Due to the Congregation Meeting today, we will not meet.

Next week we will continue to discuss **The Way, Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus**, by Pastor Adam Hamilton. This session is "The Healing Ministry of Jesus in Capernaum."

We look forward to walking through this series with you and hope you will join us for learning, discussion, and of course, donuts and coffee.

Epiphany 2024 Stewardship Emphasis: Growing in Faith Together (GIFT)

You should have received a mailing with an introductory letter and a GIFT Inventory.

Please return an inventory for each person in your household by mail or in the offering plate by February 4, 2024,

"Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits. All kinds of things are handed out by the Spirit, and to all kinds of people!" (1 Corinthians 12:4-7, The Message)



At its January meeting, the Church Council accepted, with regret, the resignation of David Cole as Treasurer, effective February 9th. Dave has served Atonement in many roles, including Vice President of the Church Council. He continues to serve as a representative from Atonement with the Great Rivers Collaborative. He has worked tirelessly, striving to keep our ministry on a solid financial foundation. Please join the Council in thanking Dave for his many years of inspirational zeal and dedication to the Treasurer's position.

The Council will be appointing someone to fill out the term of Treasurer until an election is held at the Congregational meeting in May. We are grateful for Dave's willingness to help with this transition. We ask that you continue to keep Atonement's congregation and council in your prayers.

—*In Christ, Keith Tomazi,*
Council President



Please take note that the school or church offices may be closed due to inclement weather. Please be sure to call before arrival to make sure someone is here to assist you. The school closures will be listed on the news channels.



CONFIRMATION SERVICE PROJECT

From Sunday, February 4 through Sunday, February 11 we are asking you to bring cans of soup or stews for our food pantry collections. Each can you bring can be used to vote for the team you think will win the Super Bowl (or the team you want to win.)

The Souper Bowl of Caring is a national effort that began in 1990 when a youth group at a South Carolina church had the idea of using Super Bowl weekend as a time to unify people not only around the big game but the big job of helping hungry people. We can help our local food pantries and encourage this national youth-led effort. Thank you!

ATONEMENT LINKS

Where Atonement school and church families link together in Christ.

What a week! First we have Martin Luther King Jr. holiday on Monday and then a snow day on Tuesday. I hope you were all warm and safe.

Wednesday brought us back to school with a bit warmer weather. As we move through January and plan for February, it's a good time to remember that Easter is a little earlier this year. In fact, Valentine's Day this year is also Ash Wednesday.

As you begin to plan your special Valentine's evening, I think it would be great to see people come to church, receive the ashes, and then go out to dinner - without washing the ashes off! What a way to "Be the Light"



JANUARY MISSION OF THE MONTH: The Bridge in New Town St. Charles

What is The Bridge? A Coffee House, a Fair Trade Shop, a Faith Community, with a mission of bridging the gap between God and everyday life by spreading God's love to all in unexpected ways. Their theme verse comes from Micah 6:8: to do justice, love, kindness, and walk humbly. Check out their new website at: thebridgecoffee.org or talk with Chuck and Betty Luebke. When you give to Atonement's Missions of the Month as marked on your offering envelope (or designated with your online giving), you support these many outreach ministries.



We invite those 55 years and older to join us Monday, Jan. 22 at 12:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Featuring Mike Coleman, ventriloquist and entertainer, plus there will be music and laughs.

2024 Trips

Feb 21 - *Valentines Eagles Trip*. Visit the West Alton Bird Sanctuary, lunch at Pere Marquette and Alton Lock & Dam Museum; guided tours at the Sanctuary and Dam. Bus leaves at 8:30 am and returns at 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$80 per person. Contact Pat Furlong at (636) 447-5040 for information..



The 2024 growing season...

Although it's hard to think about gardening when the temps are below zero, it's time to start planning already! If you are interested in working with the Garden Leadership Team in planning for the 2024 growing season, please sign up on the attendance form or contact Jane Meyerkord at (314) 731-2658 or jmeyerkord@aol.com. The Leadership Team will be meeting on January 23 at 1:30 p.m. in the church workroom.

Atonement's garden is a combined Community and Youth Garden that is part of the Seed-STL (formerly Gateway Greening) garden network. We have the opportunity to apply for garden supplies to expand or improve our garden or for fruit trees or shrubs. The deadline for applications is already on February 4. More information including planting calendars and class opportunities can be found at <https://seedstl.org>.

***REFLECT AND REVIVE:
WHAT DID WE LEARN?
MOVING FORWARD: TIDBITS ABOUT K.L.C. PROCESS***

KLC Tidbit #2: Leadership starts with an individual, but that leader must engage others and have a clear purpose. We've seen that kind of leadership when Sunday School was re-introduced in 2022. A member to whom offering Sunday School was very important gathered other like-minded folk. Together, that group found a curriculum and energized others to participate in keeping this faith-building program alive and well.

Ask yourself: Where can you energize others as Atonement continues its walk of faith?



Thank you...Thank you...Thank you...

We have received thank you letters:

...from ELCA World Hunger for our gift of \$565.
“Your generosity is getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries, including the United States.”

...from ELCA Good Gifts for the gift from Advent by Candlelight of \$505 to provide school fees and uniforms for girls so that they may live abundant lives.



Year end tax statements will be mailed by Jan. 31. If you do not receive yours in a timely manner, please contact Cathy Mifflin, (314) 837-1224.