



Vision Statement

Who We Are

As Baptized people of God, and under God's blessing, Atonement has a long tradition of faithfulness in worship and music, in Christian education for children, in pastoral care and in leadership in our wider church communities.

In recent years, we have become excited about our new and renewed emphases on youth ministries, on social ministries, on adult education, on evangelical outreach, and on stewardship education. We have come together to support two major building projects in the past nine years, along with significant renovations to much of our property. Atonement is a people on the move, out of love for our Savior.

Come to Atonement at almost any hour of the day (or evening) and you will find volunteers hard at work, equipping Atonement for our many ministries. An estimated 400-plus people regularly volunteer time and energies to Atonement's many ministries, serving in every capacity from choir members to evangelism callers to Stephen Ministers. We are here because we love Atonement.

Why We Are Here

We are here, because we love Atonement, but we love Atonement, because our Lord first loved us, gave His life for us, called us into His service, and placed us in this congregation. God not only calls us to serve; God empowers us for service and gives us gifts to be used to His glory.

Our Vision

Atonement will be a Christ-centered congregation, where God's people regularly and faithfully gather for worship and Bible study, where we join together to reach out to others with expressions of God's love, and where we generously and sacrificially provide the resources necessary to move forward with all aspects of our Lord's mission in this place.

What Does This Mean For Us?

[This was always Martin Luther's question.] It means that we will, first of all, honor the commitments we have made--to those who advanced the resources needed for our recent building and renovation projects, to those who serve us as their Christian vocation, to those who minister throughout the community on our behalf, and most important, to the One who has already provided all that we are truly need. Specifically, we will commit adequate funding from our personal resources:

- to carry forward Atonement's program of mission and ministries for 2005 (approximately \$680,000 for the coming year);
- to honor the debt service on the Kretzmann Hall, Jungkuntz Hall, and related renovation projects (\$650,000 over the next three years);
- to repay (in advance) some of our remaining debt from those projects in order to "free up" additional funds for our many ministries (approximately \$125,000 over the next three years); and
- to provide support for the renovation of Fellowship Hall, which also serves as our school's cafeteria (approximately \$125,000 over the next three years).

Our Hope

That all of our Atonement family will respond to the challenge, say "yes" to Atonement's present ministries and future growth, and joyfully share in "not equal giving, but equal sacrifice."



OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

- ✓ **Campaign Co-ordinator** *Sara Ruprecht* acts as a liaison between all the Directors, pastor, Campaign Director, and consultant throughout the campaign. Sara will develop lists of names for volunteers and special lists as needed for unique groups throughout the campaign program.
- ✓ **Campaign Directors** *Wayne and Joyce Winter* are the lay leaders of the campaign who will inspire the work of the Leadership Team and inform the congregation of progress.
- ✓ **Advance Cultivation/Commitments Directors** *Sandy Furuya and Betty Luebke* will organize and cultivate above-average commitments, providing support for the campaign.
- ✓ **Ministry Emphasis Directors** *Angie Kemper and Jane Meyerkord* will co-ordinate a program to educate the congregation about the ongoing ministry and mission of the church.
- ✓ **Spiritual Life Directors** *Les and Joyce Pingel and Marion Kubasch* will organize and implement a time of prayer to lay the spiritual foundation for the campaign.
- ✓ **Not Just for Grandparent's Day Director** *Brenda Blight* will lead in introducing Atonement Lutheran School to members and regular attendees.
- ✓ **Hospitality Director** *Debbie Hinkebein and Marian Stevens* will be responsible for the food and decorations at the fellowship gatherings throughout the campaign.
- ✓ **Communications Directors** *Don Tanner and Missa Hollis-Hatfield* will co-ordinate campaign publicity and inform the congregation of the meaning and message of the program through print and video.
- ✓ **Mailing Director** *Ginny Schaefering* will co-ordinate all materials, mailings and other information used during the campaign.
- ✓ **Commitment Directors** *Paul and Dolly Schroeder* will lead in providing contacts to homes to receive commitment responses.
- ✓ **Follow-Up Directors** *Jerome and Linda Flynn* will provide support throughout the giving period and involve new members as they join.

Pastor's Letter

Jesus did not drop hints:

- "Follow me."
- "Take up your cross."
- "Let the children come to me."
- "Take up your bed and go."
- "Your sins are forgiven."
- "Go in peace. Your faith has made you whole."

I know my own style of enlisting people's participation is to drop gentle hints and to offer indirect suggestions in hopes that folks will come to their own conclusions about what help is needed from them.

But, that's not how Jesus did it!

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus is consistently straightforward in summoning His would-be disciples [and maybe some who didn't want to be] and in saying, in effect, "This is what is needed from you to advance the work of My Father's Kingdom."

What Jesus says is not subject to misinterpretation. We are to forgive (Mark 11:25), to serve each other (John 13:15), to provide for those in need (Mark 9:41), to stop sinning (John 8:11), to let our light shine before people (Matthew 6:16), and to support God's work sacrificially (Luke 21:3-4).

The fact that we are able, some 2,000 years later, to hear the Good News of our salvation in Christ, is the direct outcome of Jesus speaking clearly and of His disciples responding, as Jesus had asked.

In enabling that Good News to go forward into our future, we need to be no less bold, ...no less direct, ...no less straightforward, than Jesus was! So, this time, no gentle hints, no subtle suggestions:

- "Come to the campaign events that will help you learn about Atonement's mission and ministry."
 - "Pray about your response to the challenges that God sets before us as a congregation."
 - "Pledge your most generous and sacrificial support to the 'We Say Yes' campaign, so that God can continue His powerful work among us."
 - "Go in peace. Your sins are forgiven."
- Let's respond as boldly and confidently, as those who first heard our Lord's call to them, not knowing exactly where He is leading, but at peace, because He is leading us.
- Pastor Mueller

Co-operation Appeal

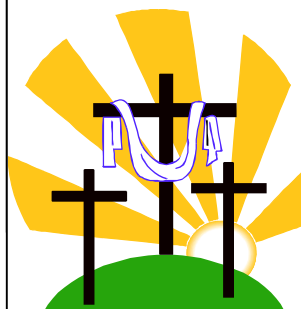
Your Help Is Needed!

We have a need for workers to help make this campaign a success. "Say Yes" to participating in the future of our church. Call Sara Ruprecht for information on volunteering for a variety of positions: 636-936-8395



Spiritual Life

Over the next couple of months this stewardship campaign is going to invite you to take a spiritual journey centered on your relationship to God and your relationship to His money. The journey will challenge you to be faithful in the ways you manage the Lord's money. One definition of a Christian steward is someone who manages the resources of God in the best interest of God's work. The Bible challenges us to come to grips with the ownership issue. Who owns it? God or me? Giving generously is nothing more than an act of gratitude. Your life and all that you have is a gift from God.



Lutheran Church of the Atonement
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Florissant, MO 63031

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We Say Yes! CALENDAR of Events

Selected Dates	Oct 24, Oct 27, Nov 4	'Thank You' Events and Video Previews
Saturdays/Sundays	Oct 30-Nov 21	Stewardship Emphasis in Worship
Selected Dates	Oct 25-Nov 12	Newer Members Home Fellowships
Wednesday	Nov 4	'Not-Just-For-Grandparents' Day
Sunday	Nov 7	Mission Fair/Ministries Emphasis
Saturday/Sunday	Nov 20-21	Commitment Services
Friday/Saturday	Dec 3-4	Prayer Vigil
Saturday/Sunday	Dec 4-5	"First Fruits" Offerings

