



Atonement Ministries on the Move!

June 2005

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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 20 through June 23

Registration is currently underway for our summer VBS program. Forms are available at church. After May 31 there will be a \$5 registration fee. In the stories Jesus calls us to follow, love, trust, invite, and share. Students in grades 5 & 6 will participate in SIT— Servants in Training which prepares students to help with VBS and Sunday School when they reach Junior High.

VBS Mission Project...VBS children along with their congregations will join together to assist The American Refugee Committee in restoring the livelihood of the victims of the South Asian tsunami. Our goal is to build one boat at a cost of \$2,600 which includes the boat, motor, net/traps and labor. Contribution envelopes will be available prior to and during the week of Vacation Bible School. Checks can be made payable to **Vacation Bible School**. Watch your bulletins for more detailed information on this exciting project!

St. John's Bible Project...The VBS Team is presenting an opportunity to hear about and view this monumental task! Please join members of St. Peter's and Atonement churches and bring your friends on **Wednesday, June 22, 6:30-8:00 pm in the cafeteria of the Church of St. Peter....** all of Atonement's space will be filled with children!

Looking for a Summer Mission?.....

Volunteers for Hands Across the World

Hands Across the World is a nonprofit organization to welcome and assist newly arrived refugees and immigrants to St. Cloud. English as a second language, sewing, and basic computer skills are taught to students who need language and living skills to thrive in our community. Brianda Cediell is the director and classes are held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church from 9:30 to 11:30 from Monday through Friday.

The following volunteers are needed this summer:

- One volunteer to teach English from Tuesday through Friday mornings. Necessary materials and training will be provided.
- Volunteers age 16 and above to care for children from 6 months to 4 years old while their parents are in class. They will be assisting a certified teacher.
- Two certified teachers to take turns helping with child care.
- One volunteer to help teach sewing on Mondays.
- Five volunteers on Mondays to help students on a one-to-one basis use computers.
- In the fall a volunteer is needed to teach an advanced English class.

If you are willing and able to help with this important work of welcoming strangers to our community or if you want more information, please contact Marilyn Berg at 251-2999 or marilyn.berg@astound.net.

Women's Activities

Wednesdays at 9:00 am—Quilting

June 7 1:30-6:30 Bloodmobile

June 15 11:00 All-Circle Bible Study at Church

June 22 7:30 Ruth/Martha Circle—
Hostess Arlys Hengemuhle

Mother/Daughter Luncheon Thank

You!...A very special thank you to Les Engel, Wayne Hayes, Morris Freier, Ken Norbie, Ray Dennis and Harold Affeldt who served and cleaned up for the WOA Mother/Daughter Luncheon! Also to Marcia Handahl, Diane Wisniewski-Grzybowski, and the Youth Choir for the musical entertainment! *WOA Mother/Daughter Luncheon Coordinating Committee*

Bloodmobile...Thanks to all the volunteers who have donated their time to work and their blood to save lives over this past year. Our response to the need for both has been gratifying, but we won't rest on our laurels! The summer months present an increased need for blood. Our next blood drive will be June 7. If you would like to help, please call LouAnn at 252-1555.

Ministry Opportunities

Calling All Cell Phones!...If you have cell-phones and accessories you no longer use, consider donating them to Anna Marie's Shelter. Please deposit the phones in the designated box. This program is sponsored by Verizon Wireless Hopeline Recycling.

June Is Repel & Wipe Month....for Paper and Plastic! MOSQUITO REPELLENT and TOILET PAPER are needed! Please bring your donations to church on June 19 or any time in June. Questions? Call Phil at 259-6451.

Inside Atonement

Blood Pressure Check...Interested in having your blood pressure checked? Stop by the stations set up in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, June 11, from 6:30-7:00 pm or Sunday, June 12, from 9-11:00 am. For those people having their BP checked, a free packet of information from the American Heart Association will be available. Included in the packet is a blood pressure tracking form and a refrigerator magnet for stroke recognition. *Health & Wellness Advisory Team*

Congratulations to Pr. Art Ree....as he celebrates his 50th Anniversary of Ordination. Art was ordained on June 12, 1955. He was recognized at the SW Minnesota Assembly this spring and will also be honored on Sunday, June 12, at his former congregation in Portland, North Dakota. Pr. Art concluded his ministry career as a chaplain at the St. Cloud VA Hospital. Art and Nancy and their family have been members of Atonement for 20 years. On behalf of the congregation, we congratulate Art on his 50 years of service to the church!

Laotian Ministry....Our Laotian community is searching for a used computer to use in conjunction with their ministry. If anyone has a used computer they wish to donate, please contact the church office. **Thanks, too,** for supporting the Laotian Fundraiser on Sunday, March 13! The eggroll sale raised \$582 for their ministry! They are planning another sale on **Sunday, June 19.** Watch the bulletins for details.

Suggestions for Newsletter....We are always looking for ways to improve, enhance, and perk up one of our major communication conduits...the NEWSLETTER! It seems to be in a constant state of flux (who isn't!) and that's the way it should be. We try different ways to make it more meaningful and relevant....sometimes successfully and sometimes not so much. We are once again seeking suggestions and **constructive** (remember, we have feelings, too!) criticism

on how to make it more enjoyable, informational, and readable. Please jot down your ideas and e-mail them to Ann at anne@atonementlutheran.org. We probably can't incorporate ALL the good ideas that are put forth, but we will certainly give them serious thought! Thanks for your input.

Why Be a Lutheran Christian?

Were you baptized Lutheran as a child but have forgotten much of your confirmation teachings? Did you grow up in another faith tradition and now wonder what makes our understanding of the basic elements of religion unique? Are you new to the church and desire to grow in your knowledge of Lutheran teachings? Do you have nothing better to do for a few Wednesday nights this summer? Join us for a discussion around some of the things that Luther taught and time has forgot, beginning June 1 at 6:30PM. We will use the Bible, Luther's Small Catechism, and a list of items that I have been working with for a number of years, to guide our conversations. If you have questions please let me know.
Pastor Rodger

Pictorial Directory....If you haven't yet signed up for your photo session, please call the church office. On-line sign up will be available after June 15. Watch for further instructions. Phone dates are July 26-29, August 25, 26, 31, September 1, and October 4-8. Times are 2:30-9:00 pm **except** on July 29, August 26, and October 8 when the time will be 10:00 am—4:30 pm.

Song Leader Needed for Saturdays..We are looking for a songleader for Saturday, 5:30 pm, worship. There is compensation for this position. If interested, please call the office at 252-6203.

Youth Updates

Luther Crest News...Four Atonement college youth will be counselors at Luther Crest Bible Camp this summer! When you see them be sure to offer your congratulations...Kelsey Hanks, Noelle Salmonson, Trish Zahara, and Hailey Haroldson. These young women will be wonderful role models for the youth with whom they work—we are very proud of them!

Day Camp...*Don't delay!* Only 40 campers may participate in Day Camp! Registration forms were sent home with Sunday School children and are also available in the church office. Camp will be July 25-28 from 9:00-3:00 each day. Staff from Luther Crest bring great camp experiences right here to St. Cloud for children kindergarten through grade 3. We meet at church and venture out to community parks for the day's experience.

This year's theme is **Pray!** and focuses on 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, "*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*" Registration forms are in the church office. The fee is \$35.

Sunday School

Sunday School is in recess until next fall. This has been an exciting year – our rotational class model has been well received by students and staff. During the summer we will be planning for next year. Please contact Karen Vann (252-6203 or

karenva@atonementlutheran.org) with suggestions you have to improve or refine our Sunday morning learning hour.

Our theme for next year is "Surprised By God's Grace". We will learn how God's grace brings hope and love in Bible stories about the woman at the well, Noah, Philip, on the road to Emmaus, and at the first Passover.

Karen will also be happy to learn that YOU would like to help with one of the following:

- redecorate classrooms during this summer
- plan activities for each story
- volunteer in one of the stations next year (art, music, computer lab, storytelling, science)
- volunteer to guiding children to the proper station each Sunday
- help with one of the stories