

October 2025

WEEKLY WORSHIP:

Wednesdays: 6:30pm

Sundays: 9am

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday: 8am-4:30pm

Welcome, Worship, and Serve in the name of Christ

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Wednesday School and Confirmation Students

+ Pizza will be served at 5:15 pm.

+ Class for 3 year olds - 5th grade at 5:45pm

+ Worship at 6:30pm

+ Class for Confirmation at 7:15pm

Teachers for the 3-year-olds – kindergarten are Hanne Gabrielson and Elsa Janni; teachers for 1^{st} – 5^{th} are Presley Grzybowski and Owen Janni. Pastors John and Tim are the teachers for the Confirmation students.

Adults are invited to be present for our youth, to share their stories or to assist the teacher with tasks. All groups need adults present! Adults can come whenever they can, does not need to be a commitment for the year. Adults may be asked to read a Bible passage or just listen. We do need to do a background check for all adults. Just call the office and Laura will assist you.

For the 3-year-old through 5th graders, we will have lessons from the Old and New

Testament this year: October 1 Noah and the Flood

October 8^h God's Rainbow

October 15th No class – MEA

October 22nd Joseph's Colorful Coat

October 29th Ten Commandments

COMMUNITY PACKING PROJECTS

Each month Confirmation students and members of the congregation assemble a project that addresses a need in the community. In September, 100 birthday bags which included cake mix, frosting, candles, paper plates, napkins and small gift were assembled and will be distributed by Catholic Charities Food Shelf.

On October 8th, 100 Blizzard Bags will be assembled containing a can of soup, crackers, juice, tuna/chicken salad, fruit and cookie and will be distributed by Home Delivered Meals. If you want to assist or learn more join us immediately following Wednesday worship.

WEDNESDAY MEALS

Beginning at 5:15pm, we will be serving pizza for \$1 per slice, plus salad, fruit, vegetables, and cookies. All adults and children are welcome.

TRUNK N TREAT



Please put on your calendar Thursday, October 30th 6-7pm, for Trunk N Treat. We ask that participants bring a nonperishable food item for the local food shelf. We need people to have trunks to give out treats, volunteers to help with keeping the parking lot safe, also volunteers to help with games. If you need ideas on decorating your trunk, either ao https://www.orientaltrading.com/holidays/halloween-a1-550760.fltr or see Mata. If you would like to help with planning, please attend the Children and Youth Committee meeting on October 9th.

CARD MINISTRY

PLEASE HELP on **October 16th!** Join us on the third Thursday each month to at **11am** to send cards to Youth of Atonement and at **1pm** to send cards to members who will have birthdays in the next month.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Committees generally meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Finance Committee meets by zoom. You do not need to be a member of a committee to join the conversation of any committee.

The following committees will meet **October 9th at 7pm**: Children/Youth Ministry, Adult Ed, Evangelism, Stewardship Committees.

Mission Committee will meet on Tuesday, **October 14th** at 10am.

Property and Worship committees will meet next on **October 9**th at 2pm.

Committee chairs: Be sure to send a copy of your minutes to Laura.



PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH



October is Pastors' appreciation month and also the month that both of our pastors were called: Pastor John in 2016 and Pastor Tim in 2018. We are grateful. Please keep them in prayers.

FREE

Are you in need of a magnifier on a stand with a light? Please contact Linda Schreiber, 320-293-3894 or email LTJSchreiber@hotmail.com.



ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Ed sessions follow the 9am Sunday service and are in the southeast corner of the Fellowship Hall. Coffee, water, and treats are in the room. All you need to bring is curiosity! Sessions are accessible remotely by following the link posted in the weekly email.

October 5th The Salem Outpost

Jenifer Odette, Executive Director of Greater St. Cloud Public Safety Foundation, will share her perspective on the **Salem Outpost**, a community center located inside Salem Lutheran Church that provides free medical services and hosts the St. Cloud Police Department's Community Crisis Intervention Team. Come learn about this exciting new initiative!

October 12th BWCA Adventures

Kari Dombrovski has led youth on BWCA adventures for years. She will share stories of how she and her groups have met the challenges presented in the great wilderness of the Boundary Waters, a national treasure celebrating its 50th year. Three of our youth, Hanne Gabrielson, Elsa Janni, and Charlotte Wills will also tell us about their BWCA trips. Please join us!

October 19th Adult Ed will not meet.

October 26th Global Health Ministries

Join us to hear about Global Health Ministries (GHM), a Lutheran organization located in the Twin Cities. GHM provides medical equipment and supplies to Lutheran mission hospitals and clinics in underserved countries around the world. GHM also offers community-based health care and education. Many Atonement members have volunteered at the GHM warehouse and/or assembled health kits, over the years. Come learn how we have made a difference!

PRAYER LIST AT ATONEMENT



Patsy M. Mark A. Lainey M.
Patrick O. Traci N. Kitty R.
Pat and Brian R. Alex Deon C.
Angie F. Jane A. Christopher
Jeffrey A. Baby Kalha Brittany and Brandon R.

Family of Neil Perry

OCTOBER 22/26: REFORMATION SUNDAY

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an everchanging world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

This year on Reformation Wednesday and Sunday, we will hear the faith statements of two youth seeking Confirmation, Arlo Gabrielson and Owen Janni.

OCT. 1, WED

8am Bible Online-Men 9am Quilters Noon Al Anon 5:15pm Pizza etc 5:45pm Wednesday School 6:30pm Worship 7:15pm Confirmation Class

OCT. 2, THURSDAY

7:15pm Choir Practice

9:45am Bible Online-Men 12pm Bible Study-Women 1pm Pieces of Love Quilters 3-5pm Fare for All (Food)

OCT. 3, FRIDAY

6pm Bible Study (Por Su Gracia)

OCT. 4, SATURDAY

10am NA Anonymous 6:30pm NA Anonymous

OCT. 5, SUNDAY 9am Worship

10am Adult Ed: Salem Outpost 10am Coffee & Conversation 10am Unity Spiritual Center 2pm Por Su Gracia Worship 5pm NA Anonymous 5pm Gamblers Anonymous

OCT. 6, MONDAY

1pm Bible Study with Pastors

OCT. 7, TUESDAY

9:30am Men's Group 11:30am TOPS 12:30pm Blood Drive 6:30pm Bells Practice 6:30pm NA Anonymous

OCT. 8, WED

8am Bread Makers 8am Bible Online-Men 9am Quilters Noon Al Anon 2pm Prayer Shawls Group 5:15pm Pizza etc 5:45pm Wednesday School 6:30pm Worship

7:15pm Community Packing 7:15pm NO Choir Practice

OCT. 9, THURSDAY

9:45am Bible Online-Men 12pm Bible Study-Women 1pm Pieces of Love Quilters 2pm Worship/Property Committees 7pm Council Committees

OCT. 10, FRIDAY

6pm Bible Study (Por Su Gracia)

OCT. 11, SATURDAY

10am NA Anonymous 6:30pm NA Anonymous

OCT. 12, SUNDAY 9am Worship

10am Adult Ed: BWCA Tales 10am Coffee & Conversation 10am Unity Spiritual Center 2pm Por Su Gracia Worship 5pm NA Anonymous 5pm Gamblers Anonymous

OCT. 13, MONDAY

11am Service at The Sanctuary 1pm Bible Study with Pastors 5:30pm Book Club

OCT. 14, TUESDAY

9:30am Men's Group 10am Mission Committee 11:30am TOPS 6:30pm Bells Practice 6:30pm NA Anonymous 6:30pm Stamp Club

OCT. 15, WED

8am Bible Online-Men 9am Quilters 11:30am Elizabeth Circle Noon Al Anon 5:15pm Pizza only 5:45pm NO CLASS 6:30pm Worship 7:15pm NO Class 7:15pm Choir Practice

OCT. 16, THURSDAY

9:45am Bible Online-Men 11am Youth Card Ministry 12pm Bible Study-Women 1pm Birthday Card Ministry 1pm Pieces of Love Quilters

OCT. 17, FRIDAY

6pm Bible Study (Por Su Gracia)

OCT. 18, SATURDAY

10am NA Anonymous 6:30pm NA Anonymous

OCT. 19, SUNDAY

9am Worship

10am Coffee & Conversation 10am No Adult Ed 10am Unity Spiritual Center 2pm Por Su Gracia Worship 5pm NA Anonymous 5pm Gamblers Anonymous

OCT. 20, MONDAY

1pm Bible Study with Pastors

OCT. 21, TUESDAY

9:30am Naomi Circle 9:30am Men's Group 10am Dementia Support Group 11:30am TOPS 6:30pm Bells Practice 6:30pm NA Anonymous 6:30pm Stamp Club

OCT. 22, WED

8am Bible Online-Men 9am Quilters Noon Al Anon 2pm Prayer Shawls Group 5:15pm Pizza etc 5:45pm Wednesday School 6:30pm Worship 7:15pm Confirmation Class 7:15pm Choir Practice

OCT. 23, THURSDAY

8:30am Lefse Making 9:45am Bible Online-Men 12pm Bible Study-Women 1pm Pieces of Love Quilters 6:30pm Executive Committee 7pm Council Meeting

OCT. 24, FRIDAY

8:30am Lefse Rolling 1pm Prayer Beads 6pm Bible Study (Por Su Gracia)

OCT. 25, SATURDAY

10am NA Anonymous 6:30pm NA Anonymous

OCT. 26, SUNDAY 9am Worship

10am Coffee & Conversation 10am Adult Ed: Global Health 10am Unity Spiritual Center 2pm Por Su Gracia Worship 5pm NA Anonymous 5pm Gamblers Anonymous

OCT. 27, MONDAY

1pm Bible Study with Pastors

OCT. 28, TUESDAY

9:30am Men's Group 10am Naomi Circle 11:30am TOPS 6:30pm Bells Practice 6:30pm NA Anonymous 6:30pm Stamp Club

OCT. 29, WED

8am Bread Makers 8am Bible Online-Men 9am Quilters Noon Al Anon 5:15pm Pizza etc 5:45pm Wednesday School **6:30pm Worship**

7:15pm Confirmation Class

7:15pm Choir Practice

OCT. 30, THURSDAY

8:30am Lefse Making 9:45am Bible Online-Men 12pm Bible Study-Women 1pm Pieces of Love Quilters 6pm Trunk N Treat

OCT. 31, FRIDAY

8:30am Lefse Rolling 6pm Bible Study (Por Su Gracia)

LETTER FROM YOUR PASTORS

The recent surge of political violence is a tragedy that hits close to home. It's disturbing. In the last few months we've witnessed: the murder of Minnesota state representative Melissa Hortman and her husband, Mark, along with the attempted murder of state senator John Hofman and his wife, Yvette (who survived). More recently the murder of political activist Charlie Kirk.

Charlie Kirk lost his life while participating in something uniquely American: public debate and civic engagement. These events are a sad reminder that

even in a country that values free expression and the open exchange of ideas, participating in public life carries real

FAITH AND POLITICS

risks. This violence is a reminder of our fragility and the terrible consequences of growing hatred and division.

As pastors at Atonement, we reflect on and pray for political figures and national events. That's part of our calling: to help God's people think theologically about what's happening in the world. This month, we felt it important to share some thoughts about Charlie Kirk's memorial, which broadcast on national media an attitude toward faith and politics that deserves consideration.

Martin Luther and other Protestant reformers taught that God rules all the world in what we perceive as two spheres of activity, or "Two Kingdoms". (Much of this will sound a bit

POWER AND POLITICS

like separation of church and state to American ears). God, they wrote, rules the spiritual kingdom (the right-hand kingdom) primarily through the Gospel to bring about

salvation through Christ. God rules the temporal kingdom (the left-hand kingdom)—the world of governments and civil society— through the law, to uphold justice and order.

Luther was particularly concerned that governments would try to corrupt spiritual authorities to make it seem like power and politics can save us (they cannot). He was right to be concerned. While politics is about what is possible, God's grace accomplishes what is impossible. Both faith and politics are under God's authority, but they are not the same. When they get mixed together, faith can be distorted to look like a courthouse or prison, and political figures or parties can become idols.

At Charlie Kirk's memorial, which ran for many hours, what looked like worship often felt like a political rally. Spiritual language was used to frame political struggles in ways that blurred the line between the church's call to grace and a call to partisan action. The church is not meant to be a platform for partisan agendas; it is a space of repentance, forgiveness, and communion of believers with God and each other — a place where the only red we venerate is the blood of Christ and the only blue we care about is the water of baptism.

At the memorial, Charlie Kirk's wife, Erika Kirk, offered forgiveness to her husband's assassin—one of the most Christ-like things a person can do—while other speakers engaged in political rhetoric that fueled division. One embodied Christ's unifying love; the other reflected the world's tendency toward animosity. This is why Lutherans caution against conflating God's spiritual work with political battles. Our vocation is to proclaim peace and truth, even when it runs counter to the prevailing political tide.

Partisanship also risks turning people into symbols. Charlie Kirk was more than what was said at his memorial. Like all of us, he was sinner and saint at the same time— an imperfect human being on a faith journey. By many accounts, he loved to learn, was open to changing his mind, and trusted God's ability to change people. That resonates with our Lutheran understanding of sanctification: faith is not static but grows and matures throughout life. His concern for families and even his reported interest in Catholicism suggest that the Holy Spirit was shaping him in ways more complicated than soundbites reveal.

We also recognize his willingness to engage opponents. On college campuses, he often chose debate and conversation over dismissal. Lutherans value a church that is not insular but engaged in public life, offering a voice for justice and compassion. In this way, his witness aligned with our own commitment to civic engagement through dialogue rather than coercion.

By viewing him as a whole person, saved by Christ, we are also able to hold that Charlie Kirk's support for Christian nationalism—calls for a "Christian state" or for the "Seven Mountains Mandate"—stands in sharp contrast to Lutheran theology. Our church is called to form the conscience of believers, not to control or, more likely, be controlled by the state. God does work through government to preserve order, but the state is not God's kingdom on earth. Confusing the two opens the door to something dangerous: the belief that one political system is divinely ordained. History shows that such thinking can—and has—been used to justify oppression and intolerance.

We share the grief and anger over Charlie Kirk's murder, for his own sake, for the sake of his family, and for the loss of the potential good he could yet have done in the world. And we know that one reaction to this grief and injustice is to seek vengeance, but it is our

suggestion that the best way to honor Kirk's memory is not by rallying for retribution but by

WHERE THE CROSS IS OUR HOPE, AND WHERE FORGIVENESS MARKS OUR LIFE TOGETHER.

practicing the Gospel he himself professed: forgiveness, reconciliation, and trust in God's transforming grace.

And may we, as the people of Atonement, be a community where grace, not judgment, defines us; where the cross, not political party, is our hope; and where forgiveness, not vengeance, marks our life together.

Consecration Sunday will be November 9th.

Plan to be present for worship at 9am with a brunch following.

ATONEMENT'S



October Mission: Anna Marie's Alliance

All money collected this month will be matched by an anonymous donor.

Anna Marie's Alliance provides safety, shelter, support, and referral services to survivors of domestic violence and their children living throughout central Minnesota.

Their mission is to provide education, intervention, and advocacy to those affected by relationship abuse with a holistic approach and anti-oppression focus. Their vision is a world free of relationship abuse.

Since 1979, Anna Marie's has served more than 21,000 survivors of relationship abuse. Their team provides intervention in crisis situations and education that prevents domestic violence. Youth programming, advocacy services, and referrals for clients to partner organizations are Alliance just some examples of the work they do.

You can help. Join Anna Marie's Alliance's group of amazing, dedicated donors, whose contributions allow them to carry out their mission. Make a gift to support the work they do, or give the gift of your time and talent by volunteering to help. To get involved, call 320-251-7203.

If you are experiencing violence in your home, call 320-253-6900 any time, day or night. Their advocates are there to help, 24 hours a day,

ANNUAL BREAKFAST FUNDRAISERS for October

Programs are from 8-9am, with breakfast buffet starting at 7:30am at the Park Event Center. Table hosts from each event may ask you to be their guests.

Habitat for Humanity is scheduled for Wednesday, **October 8th**.

Inspiring Hope Breakfast for Anna Marie's Alliance is scheduled for October 29th.

KIDS' CLOTHING



When you have the opportunity to purchase kid's clothing or to donate gently used clothing, there is a bin in the Donation Center where you can drop them off. We will add to the clothing available at Catholic Charities. This is a year-round need, so if you take advantage of clearance sales anytime, items will be taken to Catholic Charities.

COATS FOR KIDS (AND ADULTS) DISTRIBUTION

FREE winter apparel for everyone – infants to adults!

Dates: Saturday, October 11th Saturday, October 18th

Time: 10am to 2pm

Although we still have a collection box, Coats for Kids has moved to St. Anthony's where the dedicated space allows them to keep the coat racks up at all times. Volunteers would be appreciated. Call Ione at 320-492-7993.

ATONEMENT & UNITY PARTNERSHIP FOR LINCOLN CENTER

In collaboration with our friends from <u>Unity Spiritual Center</u>, we are designating **shelves** in the Donation Center for the ongoing collection of food and other specific items needed at Lincoln Center/Homeless Helping Homeless. Daily lunch and dinner meals are provided for only 25 individuals, but that leaves many folks without a meal. They can always use breakfast foods as well as hygiene items, including laundry soap. Unity and Atonement will be helping with food donations to fill that gap. A "shopping list" can be found on the Lincoln Center shelves in the Donation Center, please take one to refer to when grocery shopping.



Thank you for your commitment to helping ensure our unhoused neighbors have enough to eat. "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2

SAVE PLASTIC BAGS ETC

We will be collecting plastic bags at church for Veteran Resource & Enrichment Center (V-REC)'s efforts in raising 1,000 pounds of bags to win a recycled bench from NexTrex. This campaign will end February, 2026. The bags collected include: grocery bags, bread sacks, newspaper sleeves, salt bags, bubble wrap, dry cleaner bags, bulk cereal bags, ice bags, case over-wrap, plastic shipping envelopes, and pallet wrap & stretch film. They must be clean and dry and free of food residue. Let's recycle and help V-REC win this bench! If you'd like more information about V-REC, visit their website at www.vrecmn.com or find them on Face Book. V-REC plastic packaging collection is clearly designated in the Donation Center. If you have any questions, please speak to someone on the Mission Committee.

FUTURE MISSION OF THE MONTH (MOM)

November - Homeless Youth Agencies (SHY, 180, Pathways4Youth)

December - God's Global Barnyard (ELCA)

FARE FOR ALL



The next sale will be Thursday, October 2nd. You do not need to "qualify", there is no registration and there is no limit to purchases.

We are finding the need for more volunteers for clean up at the end of the sale at 5pm. Please consider coming to shop during the last half hour and stay for clean-up.

Questions can be addressed to Kathy Matthies and Jan Keavney. Website: https://www.thefoodgroupmn.org/groceries/fare-for-all/

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JOIN THE CHOIRS!

Atonement's voice choir has weekly practices on Wednesdays at 7:15pm. The bell choir practices on Tuesdays at 6:30pm.

Not only do they provide a valuable ministry, but choir members have fun doing it.



FINANCIAL GIVING

Since January, general giving is behind our budgeted giving amount by about **\$8,800**. We hope to close this gap before winter costs begin again.

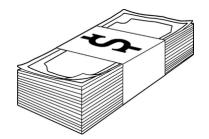
Reminder: Please make checks payable to Atonement and write on the memo line what it's for (Mission of the Month, packing projects, VBS, memorials, flowers, etc).

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Mortgage was \$363.405.92 on 01/01/2024; **Now \$21,622** as of 08/31/2025.

Total pledged: over \$353,000

Cash received through 8/31/2025: \$288,332.31



MISSION OF THE MONTH CONTRIBUTIONS

The August Mission of the Month received \$1,798.50. Thank you.

HELP US MAKE LOTSA LEFSE!

God's work. Our hands. Covered in flour.

It's lefse time at Atonement! Come join the fun this October and November as we roll, cook, and mix lefse to sell at our Advent Celebration. Whether it's your very first time or your hundredth, we'd love for you to be part of this wonderful Scandinavian—and Atonement—tradition. Sign up for one shift or several, and know that all proceeds benefit local non-profit social service organizations.

Questions? Call Eric Vollen at 651-272-9132 or Jon Ness at 651-472-4628, or email nessvollen@gmail.com.

2025 Lefse Making Dates

Thursday, October 23 - 8:30am: Cooking & Mixing

Friday, October 24 - 8:30am: Rolling

Thursday, October 30 – 8:30am: Cooking & Mixing

Friday, October 31 – 8:30am: Rolling

Sunday, November 2 – 10:30am: Cooking & Mixing

Monday, November 3 – 4:00pm: Rolling

Sunday, November 13 – 10:30am: Cooking & Mixing

Monday, November 14 – 4:00pm: Rolling

BLOOD DRIVE

Atonement continues to host the community drive on the first Tuesday of every even month. October 7th is the next date to give here. The Red Cross Blood Mobile will be available at Atonement 12:30-6:30pm. For easy appointment scheduling, go to redcrossblood.org which will enable you to schedule your blood donation. Each donor is greatly appreciated! There is an urgent need for donations. Questions: Contact Nancy Johnson, 320-223-9979 or Joyce Raetz, 320-248-7771.

DEMENTIA CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

This group will be meeting at Atonement once a month on the 3rd Tuesday, from 10–11:30am. When needed, they also provide respite care for loved ones. This support group had it start at Dr. Patrick Zook's clinic, D-CAN, but due to a lack of funding the clinic had to close. This support group is now through Vivie. Vivie has an integrated set of services and specialized programs. Whether the need is for skilled home health care, vibrant senior living, or meaningful hospice support, they surround the people they serve with whatever kind of care they need. To learn more about Vivie go to: Vivie.org

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE OF CENTRAL MINNESOTA

A weekend away for a lifetime of change

The upcoming Beginning Experience weekend retreat is October 10th - 12th at Luther Crest.

The loss of a loved one through separation, divorce or death is one of life's most traumatic experiences. Beginning Experience is an international program that helps facilitate the grief resolution process for those who have suffered such a loss and frees them to again

love themselves, others and God. This is accomplished by offering time-tested grief resolution programs presented by trained peers. Founded by a Catholic nun and rooted in the Christian tradition, the ministry's open,



ecumenical spirit serves those of all faiths. Beginning Experience of Central Minnesota is just one of over sixty teams serving communities across the United States.

For a weekend in the spring and a weekend in the fall, the Central Minnesota Beginning Experience program is presented by a team of people who have suffered the loss of a loved one and are willing to share their own experience to help others. You choose a spring or fall session.

Team members lead participants through a program of presentations, private reflection, and small group sharing. A sense of community develops in an atmosphere of care and support that is the hallmark of each Beginning Experience weekend.

If you are divorced, widowed or separated and are still suffering from that loss, take a few minutes to explore this site and discover what this program can do for you.

To receive an application or for more information, call 320-319-8863 **or visit** Beginningexperiencemn.com

ENJOY!

- Some call it multi-tasking; I call it doing something else while I try to remember what I was doing in the first place.
- Thinking back to when "a new hip joint" meant someplace I wanted to go on Friday night.
- Shoutout to everyone who can still remember their childhood phone number but can't remember the password they created yesterday.
- Nothing refreshes my memory of what I need at the grocery store like coming home from the grocery store.

WREATH ETC SALES FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Again this year, St. Cloud Area Special Olympics team will be selling wreaths, swags, spruce tips, and porch pots. All orders must be received **before November 1**st. Please see the Schreibers in church or email LTJSchreiber@hotmail.com or call 320-293-3894. As a team we depend on our fundraisers to cover the rental space for practices, equipment, and competition fees. Our team offers bowling, track, swimming, powerlifting, basketball, softball, bocce, track, floor hockey, golf, snow shoeing, and corn hole; all for individuals with special needs ages 8-99. Thank you for your support and prayers.





Friday, November 14th 7:30pm at Atonement

Free will offering.

Choral Celebration for the Food Shelf

Mark your calendar! A community choir concert will be held Saturday, November 22nd, at 7pm at St. Mary's Cathedral in St. Cloud. This free event brings together local choirs - including our own Atonement Choir - and supports Catholic Charities Food Shelf.



FROM ARCHIVES: "AN INTRODUCTION TO OUR NEW CHURCH"



"The Cross: The large dimensioned cross, sawn from a single oak tree of one of the members, proclaims Jesus both as the crucified Christ and as the risen Lord. The rough wood presents, on a human scale, the cross as an instrument of torture and death. Hidden within it is the life of the resurrection represented by the white metal cross, the cross of glory. This theme is repeated in the exterior cross above the building where the white cross of glory is encased by a rugged cross of wood.

This cross does not decorate or adorn the worship center. It cannot be readily grasped, comprehended, and controlled by those who gaze upon it. Rather it challenges, intrudes, and relentlessly reaches out, even drawing us to itself. Standing on the floor it is among us; next to our path of entrance and exit it dares us to touch and take it while it casts its shadow over us. Thus, it invites us to die and live with the Christ whom it makes present to us."

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Atonement Lutheran Church

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