

Atonement Lutheran School Newsletter



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*“Teaching children of God the skills needed for a lifetime of learning,
worshiping, and sharing the love of Jesus”*

Florissant, Missouri

February 16, 2018

VERSE OF THE WEEK: (1 Peter 5:6-7) Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

NO SCHOOL/CHILD CARE MONDAY: School and Child Care will be closed this Monday, February 19, in observance of Presidents’ Day.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Our teachers participated in a workshop through Alive and Well St. Louis which provided training for working with children who have had traumatic life experiences. Their professional development earlier this week through the annual Midwest Education Technology Conference provided training to enrich classroom learning utilizing education technology and on-line resources.

LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK CELEBRATION, FEB. 26-March 2: Our faculty committee for Lutheran Schools Week has planned a great week of special activities and events for the children as we celebrate the blessings of Christian education here at Atonement. Along with special fun, dress-up days during each day of the week, we have a STEM presentation by the Mad Scientist, classroom visits from Florissant emergency responders, and a book fair. We also have invited Tabitha, LCC K-9 trained comfort dog, to visit Atonement. This program is sponsored through the Comfort Dog Ministry of Lutheran Church Charities. The children will be making cards and artwork to thank and recognize the service of our Florissant EMT, fire, and police emergency responders.

GRADES 5-8 PROGRESS REPORTS: Students in our departmentalized Grades 5-8 program were provided progress reports. Since there will be no school on Monday, this will provide students with any missing work additional time and opportunity to complete those assignments.

TRIVIA FAMILY NIGHT, FEB. 23: You don’t want to miss our first A.P.T.O. Family Trivia Night scheduled for Friday evening in the cafeteria, Feb. 23, with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. Trivia starts at 7:00 p.m. with a cost for a reserved table of 10, \$50 and individual seating, \$7. There will be raffles, games, and other prizes. Contact Kristy Mandrell at (314) 378-4023 to reserve your spot for a fun evening with your family and friends!

MUFFINS WITH MOM: The A.P.T.O.-sponsored Muffins with Mom Day committee is still in need of a few dads to help set up and serve our moms and children muffins before school on the morning of Friday, March 2. If you can help, please call Mr. Chris Gabbert at (314) 369-3518 or email gabbert13@gmail.com.

CONGREGATION NEW MEMBER CLASS: Pastor Mueller will host a “Basics of Lutheranism” class for anyone interested in becoming a member of Atonement on Saturday, Feb.24, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. To indicate your interest, please call the church office at (314) 837-1224.

A.P.T.O. LEADERSHIP: Election for A.P.T.O. leadership positions were held at the last meeting. We extend our congratulations and thanks to our parents who have been elected to assume leadership roles and responsibilities. Mrs. Kimberly Rea was elected President, Mrs. Lyndsie Thurnau as Vice President, Mrs. Kia Gibson, Secretary, and Mrs. Maria VanStratton as Treasurer.

MISSION PROJECT: Atonement's mission project for this quarter will be North County Room at the Inn emergency homeless shelter for women and children. This ministry is supported by over 2,000 volunteers throughout the year, including volunteers from our church and school. Once each month Atonement and other area congregations provide an evening of accommodations, dinner, games and movies, and breakfast. Atonement hosts it on the second Monday of the month. Along with chapel offerings, we will collect items that are needed by the families. Items needed include baby and small children's (under age 2) clothing and sleepers, food, paper plates, plastic ware, and DVD movies. If you would like information on helping or volunteering, please call Kelly Sullivan at (314) 541-2285.

PRE-REGISTRATION OPEN 2018-2019: It's difficult to believe that we're in the third quarter of the school year and working on preparations for the next school year. This includes pre-registration. We provide an opportunity each year for currently enrolled families and those from the congregation to pre-register before opening it to the community, beginning February 19. Pre-registration are available on the school's website or from the school office. Please remember to include the \$100 pre-registration fee when submitting the form. This fee is applied to your total 2018-2019 registration fees.

BUILDING BLOCKS TUITION AID APPLICATIONS: Information on the application process for tuition aid scholarships is included with this newsletter. This process runs from January 1 through April 1. This income-based scholarship program, sponsored by the Lutheran Elementary School Association (L.E.S.A.), provides tuition assistance to families of children enrolled K-12 in Lutheran schools. The scholarship awards can range from \$400 up to \$2,000. Please do not delay in completing the on-line application, as soon as you have your 2017 tax information. Should you have questions or need help with the application, call Stacy Bonner in the school office. Families who have children receiving special education services here through LASE may also apply for a scholarship from them, as well.

NEW STUDENT REFERRAL: Many of our new students to Atonement are referred to us by current school families. Our school board adopted a policy last year to recognize and to encourage new student referrals by awarding a tuition credit to Atonement families making the new student referral. For each new student enrolled who is referred to Atonement and remains enrolled in good standing through the school year, a \$300 tuition credit (per each new student referred) will be applied to your final month's tuition bill. So, a new family with two children would then result in a \$600 credit.

FROM THE GARDEN: The 2018 growing season is just around the corner for Atonement's Garden Ministry. There will be opportunities to sign up for plot rental and work days. Plots may be rented to raise fresh produce for family and/or donate to the community's TEAM food pantry. There will be a grow light available soon to start seedlings for transplanting in the garden. We have a work day scheduled for Saturday, March 3 to help prepare the plots for spring planting. For information, please call Jane Meyerkord at (314) 731-2658 or Bernie Murray at (314) 839-1329.

FROM OUR YOUTH MINISTRY OFFICE:

Pasta-bilities is our youth ministry's annual pasta/entertainment fundraiser for summer trips and other faith-formative events; and it is coming on Saturday, March 10, at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale through March 4 (after that, they increase by \$5). Buy them between Sunday services, after worship at all services, or by visiting Debbie Grupe when she is in the office. We are looking for acts for our Variety Show! You can pick up the salmon colored forms from the kiosk or school bulletin board, and return the completed, signed forms to Debbie Grupe's mailbox or through the school office, by Monday, February 26.

Be Like Jesus forms for this event are out and should be returned to Debbie Grupe by March 1 with your \$35 payment. The dates are April 14-15. This event is for grades 3 through 8. Be Like Jesus is a 23-hour service event with children/youth from around the region, with worship, meals, t-shirt and fun included, all for the low cost of \$35! It will be held at Good Shepard Lutheran Church in Manchester. Adults and older youth who wish to be counselors or drivers at the event, please contact Debbie Grupe through the church office, or email her at grupeyouth@gmail.com with any questions.

JYL this weekend: Saturday, February 17, pizza and games. Please text or email Debbie Grupe (314) 583-4159 by Saturday morning if you are coming so that we have enough pizza. \$3/person will help us pay for refreshments. Friends are welcome. All participants should have a youth ministry medical release filled out, signed, and in Debbie's possession, by Saturday evening. Questions may be directed to Debbie, or to Wesley Johnson (314) 363-8434.

ConfirCamp is coming for grades 6 and 7. This year it will be the week of June 18, at Camp Wartburg in Waterloo, Illinois. Registration materials will be out soon. The cost for this week long camp is just \$235. Seventh graders will get a price break. Keep watching for more information!