

Atonement Youth News

Where did summer go?

We have one hot month left before school starts again, so don't miss out on these summer activities!

Service Opportunities—helping organize the Clothes Closet at the Reading Intermediate School for one, Food Bank volunteering, and more. Keep an eye on your text/email and respond if you intend to come!

Volleyball—every week, unless otherwise announced, we've been having Pickup Volleyball for youth in the gym, Wednesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. All Atonement members and friends are welcome to join us for a night of fun and exercise!

Planning—the Youth Task Force will convene sometime this month to look ahead to the fall. Pastor Julie will also be reaching out to various youth to add their voices to the conversation with questions like:

- What are you interested in/passionate about?
- What kinds of activities are meaningful to you?
- How can I best communicate with you?

Answers to these kinds of questions go a long way toward planning meaningful and engaging opportunities that you want to participate in!

Youth Summer Trip

We're already looking ahead to Summer 2018, when the Youth Gathering will take place in Houston, Texas. All youth grades 8-12 are eligible, but note that we will need a commitment to the trip earlier this year because of the need for organizing air travel and other logistics. Pastor Julie will schedule a preliminary information session about this trip in late August or early September, and will give you an idea of deadlines as soon as she nails them down! Trip Dates: June 27-July 1, though we may leave early or stay late, so hold a day on either end for that purpose!

Twitter

ALCwyoYOUTH
Atonementwyo

Instagram

Atonementwyo

Website

[http://
www.atonementwyo.org](http://www.atonementwyo.org)

Pastor Julie Recher

jrecher@atonementwyo.org

Cell: 610-927-7849

(OK to text)

Office: 610-375-3512

Upcoming events:

- ◆ Volleyball Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. In Atonement's gym
- ◆ Service opportunities
- ◆ Conversations—to be scheduled!

League of Lutherans

4th-6th Grade Youth

LOL for short. Here's what you need to know about it:

- ◆ activities for 4th-6th graders
- ◆ often involve parental planning/coordination
- ◆ About once a month during the school year
- ◆ Purpose: to help kids connect outside of Sunday school in preparation for Confirmation

Pastor Julie helps coordinate these activities, with all 4-6th graders and parents welcome to participate. It may need restructuring this year, given the difficulty we had with scheduling last year.

Save the date:

Group Fun in the Gym
For both Parents & Youth
Sunday, September 24
6:30-7:30 p.m.

We'll play games and do some initial planning for the year.

Confirmation Corner

Changing It up

Atonement is restructuring how we do Confirmation this year. Some of the changes you will notice:

1. Main class sessions will take place on Sunday afternoon/evenings this year, from 4:30-6 p.m., allowing for Pastor Julie to take a much more active role in teaching and engaging conversation with the youth.
2. A different curriculum will be used to better serve the main goals of the program, to build a foundation for lifelong faith engagement.
3. We hope to involve parents more than we had before.
4. The model of the rest of Sunday school is moving toward an intergenerational model—meaning Confirmation students should still have engagement with learning on Sunday mornings as well. More on that as it develops.
5. Because of this restructuring, the credit system will need to be reassessed to fit the new model. We will presumably still require worship, learning, and service credits, but it may be a different number or structure.

These changes may sound daunting given the extra level of commitment, but we feel it is important that the pastor be more involved with the program for both teaching and building meaningful relationships with the youth, and that simply wasn't possible in the time crunch on Sunday mornings. Additionally, we hope the program will better serve its purpose of encouraging active faith participation so that as children grow, their faith continues to grow with them.

More information on the new program will be available at our Orientation Session, scheduled for Sunday, September 10, 7-8:30 p.m. in the nave. We hope you will join us!