

# WINTER NEWSLETTER 2011

Volume 1, Issue 4

## A WORD FROM PASTOR DALE

Here's the deal. As followers of Jesus Christ, you and I are called to invite the people we know to church. More specifically, we are called to introduce them to Jesus. "Well," you say, "evangelism isn't my gift!" Nope! You are wrong!! The Holy Spirit gives the gift of evangelism to all of His followers. When He left the last thing He said was, "Go and be my witnesses!" It was non-negotiable.

Statistics say that many people who do not attend church think about going to church at Christmas. That means your un-churched friends may be thinking about it this year. One of the reasons we do a special musical each year is so that we have an opportunity to invite our friends to church at Christmas. You can be assured it is always a unique and special service. This year is the same. When you come to "Light" I hope that you have brought a guest. I can guarantee you that they will clearly hear the message of God's love for us, why He came in the flesh, and what that means for us. God loves you so much!

May God bless you this Christmas season.

Pastor Dale

### Light

"Light" is a musical celebration of Christmas! It features performances by Atonement members, dance, technology and the telling of the Good News of Jesus. Participants will be moved and challenged to go out into our community and world bearing the Light of Christ. Posters and fliers are available at the Connection

Centers and in the church office. We hope all Atonement members will take a few posters to hang in their workplace and use the fliers to invite friends.

“Arise,  
shine,  
for  
your  
light  
has  
come,  
and  
the  
glory  
of  
the  
LORD  
rises  
upon  
you.”

-Isaiah 60:1

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## Christmas Worship Schedule

### *“Light” Performances* December 21st, 22nd, 23rd

at 6:30 p.m.

December 24th

at 3:30 & 5:30 p.m.

### *December 24th* *Christmas Eve*

*Traditional Services:*

3:00, 5:00 & 10:00 p.m.

### *December 25th* *Christmas Day*

10:00 a.m.

*For more information on ALL events at Atonement, please check out our website at [atonementfargo.org](http://atonementfargo.org)*

## ATONEMENT WOMEN'S MINISTRY

### Ladies Night Out!



Join us on January 12th at 6:30 p.m. for a special Ladies Night Out with guest speaker Judy Siegle! One Moment Can Change a Life Forever!

At 18, Judy Siegle experienced one such moment when a drunk driver sped through a stop sign, crashing into her car and shattering her plans of playing college basketball. She

went from anticipating college and a bright future to facing a life in a wheelchair. But Judy never gave up, and never limited herself.

Judy has "courageously turned personal tragedy into professional success" (Harry Argue, CAE, President and

CEO), cultivating an attitude of impact that has touched thousands of lives world-wide as a motivational speaker.

Judy is the author of "Living Without Limits: 10 keys to Unlocking the Champion in You." Judy believes that the most powerful life changing moments occur when individuals choose to live lives of impact, continuing to give their all when others feel like giving up. We would love to have you join us for this special evening!



## FAMILY MINISTRY



### You have a Minute to Win It!

January 20th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Ok, we've seen them do it on TV, now it's your turn! This event is for everyone who thinks they are up for the challenge! Dads & Moms bring the kids and enjoy games, food and fellowship!

This will be the kickoff for "Temple Challenge 2012". There will be a mini health fair and registration for "Temple Challenge 2012" beginning at 5:00 p.m. Join us at 6:00 p.m. for a healthy pasta meal until 7:00 p.m., then we are going to play Minute to Win It! If you prefer not to participate in the meal, you may just come for games at 7:00 p.m., but we

ask that you still sign-up! If you plan to participate in the Temple Challenge, check out p. 3. The sign-up sheet for Minute to Win it will be posted in the Atrium in December. Please sign-up by Jan. 19th.

### Save The Date

It's almost time for the 2nd Annual Valentine's Day Dance! February 11th from 6:30—8:30 p.m. Get your dancing shoes on, because this is one dance you won't want to miss! This dance is for everyone in the Atonement family! We will be dancing, sweet treats and so much fun! Watch for additional information to follow!

## SMALL GROUPS

### 40 Days In The Word

During Lent 2012, Atonement will be diving into a spiritual campaign to give you practical knowledge for studying the Word of God. This 40 Days in the Word Campaign will help you establish a passion to love, learn, and live the Word of God. As you hear this message on Sunday morning you will also be invited to participate in small groups where you will actually "practice what we preach". Get ready because "40 Days in the Word" is coming to Atonement!



### Financial Peace University

Financial Peace University begins at Atonement Lutheran on Tuesday, January 10th at 6:30 p.m. Atonement staff member Darrel Hestdalen will be the facilitator for the 13 week course. Reduced church price is \$93.00 per family unit.

"Financial Peace University is a Biblically based, video-driven small group study that teaches families to beat debt, build wealth and give like never before!"



## HEALTH MINISTRY

*Health Ministry would like to wish you Christmas blessings! May you have good health. May you know that Jesus came to give you life by dying on the cross, just for you. May you be well in your body, mind and spirit. May all your sorrows be turned to joy, your anxieties to peace, your fears to confidence because of this little baby, Jesus.*

*We wish you Christmas blessings. Not just for the month of December but the whole year through. Please know that we care about what you are experiencing, whether good or bad, we at Atonement are here for you.*

### Temple Challenge

*Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20*

Atonement Health Ministry in conjunction with Family Ministry and Life Stages and Missions Strategic planning groups are hosting *Temple Challenge 2012*. Temple Challenge 2012 objectives are to help you develop healthy habits, meet others at Atonement Lutheran Church, raise money for missions at Atonement and provide a fun intergenerational event. Temple Challenge 2012 will kick off on Friday, January 20, 2012 with the Family Ministry Event, *Minute to Win It* at 5:00 p.m. We will start the evening with a healthy pasta meal for the entire family.

Also, that night you may register your team for the Temple Challenge 2012, take advantage of a mini health fair and play Minute to Win It!

Teams will consist of 4-5 people. Teams may be made up of families, Atonement small groups, etc. or you may be placed on a team if you wish. Registration is \$10.00 per person or \$25.00 per family of 3 or more. Registration proceeds will be put in a pot and the top three teams will be given cash prizes that they will give to the Atonement Mission of their choice. Teams will be playing to raise money for their favorite Atonement mission.

Temple Challenge 2012 will take place over 5 weeks and end with the Closing Ceremony on Sunday, February 26th at 3:00 p.m. During the five weeks the challenge will focus on five different health ministry presentations at Atonement and doing activities with your team. The first opportunity to

receive points is to take part in Minute to Win It. The winners will be announced at Temple Challenge Closing Ceremonies 2012. We look forward to you joining us for the Temple Challenge 2012!

### Atonement Christmas Project

*Defend the Cause of the weak and fatherless, maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed. Psalm 82:3*

One of the goals of small groups at Atonement is to “serve together”. A small group started the Christmas project 6 years ago. At Christmas time we have many opportunities to give to charitable causes and many times this can be overwhelming. Which charitable organization do I give to? Consider this possibility: providing Christmas dinner and presents for an Atonement family who may not be able to celebrate Christmas. What a great way to show others about Jesus’ love and to care for them.

The service project goal is to collect funds to buy a Christmas dinner, buy a few gifts for each member of the family and possibly buy a Christmas tree for the family. It is our hope to provide Christmas for a few families, depending on the funds collected. Last year we helped six families celebrate Christmas.

On Sunday, December 18th, we will meet at 4:00 p.m. here at the church. We will shop for groceries and for presents. We will come back to the church to wrap presents and eat pizza. “Christmas” will be delivered to the families the week of December 18th. Please bring a plate of goodies to share.

Please consider making this a special Christmas for our Atonement families. You can designate on your check that your donation is for the “Atonement Christmas Project.” We encourage all small groups to become part of this celebration. Our youth and young adults have committed to helping with this project. If you have any questions please call the church office.



*Merry Christmas*

## CHILDREN'S WEEKDAY MINISTRIES (CWM)



CWM is Atonement's Childcare and Preschool Program. We have had a busy and productive Fall and have been very blessed in our work with children. We entered our 17th year as a preschool and childcare center in the FM area-enrolling 136 children ages 6 weeks-12 years. We employ 30 teachers both full and part-time and they are dedicated to creating a great environment for children and families.

This fall Atonement CWM put on a fundraiser to raise money for our playground and for the Sanford Family Bereavement Fund. The money raised for Sanford will be used to make memorial boxes that are given to families who experience the death of a child. The 1st Annual Miles for Max 5k walk/run was held on September 27th at Lindenwood Park and we raised over \$3,000! We had a great turn-out and several families came out to cheer everyone on and enjoy a beautiful night of fellowship. We invite you to participate next year...because every child matters.

We have had many, many opportunities to reach out and help our community this year: we have raised money for displaced childcare centers in Minot, stopped by Riverview to visit the residents, and rang bells for the Salvation Army.

**"We have had a busy and productive Fall!"**

### What is coming up for CWM?

As we move into the winter season, we have many wonderful things planned as well as additional ways for our children and families to give back to the community.

CWM will be participating in the Red River AEYC community fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House as well as preparing for some wonderful community projects during the Week of the Young Child in April. Our school age children always do an amazing "Art Auction" and choose the organization or individuals in need that they would like to donate the money to.

In addition to our community outreach, we will continue to offer several after-school programs for our school-age children. Preschool enrollment for Fall 2012-2013 will begin in February.

### Wondering how YOU can help CWM?

CWM has a scholarship fund that is always in need of help. Through this scholarship fund we are able to help provide financial assistance to families who are interested and/or are currently attending our program. If you are looking for a way to give this year, please consider this fund.

For more information on CWM programs or ways you can help, please contact Anna Marohl at 237.9651 or [amarohl@atonementfargo.org](mailto:amarohl@atonementfargo.org)

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



### Important Dates:

- December 11: Christmas Program at 3:00 p.m.
- December 25: No Faith Factory
- January 1: No Faith Factory

### Christmas Cookies!

On December 11th at 3:00 p.m. our Faith Factory kids will be presenting *Christmas Cookies*. Please join us for a fun-filled afternoon as we celebrate the birth of Jesus!



### Little Lights

We are preparing for our littlest angels to join the Sunday morning Faith Factory education hour. If you have a child that was born between 9/1/08 and 8/31/09 and is potty trained, we would love to have them join Little Lights! We will meet from 10:50-11:00 a.m. in Room 114 beginning on January 8th, 2011. To register, you may fill out the form on page 5, and return to the office by December 18th, 2011.

# MEATBALL DAY



This year's meatball dinner will be December 14th, 2011. Atonement staff will be hosting! Serving starts at 5:00 p.m. There will be a certain "jolly" visitor and his wife, who will be joining us for this evening of fun! There

will be special music performed by the Oak Grove Madrigal Singers! There will be a free will offering. After the meatball dinner, join us for a worship service in the Sanctuary, filled with Christmas music. Come hungry!

## LITTLE LIGHTS 2011

PLEASE REGISTER MY CHILD FOR THE LITTLE LIGHTS 2 & 3 YEAR OLD FAITH FACTORY. THIS CLASS IS FOR CHILDREN WITH BIRTHDAYS BETWEEN: 9/1/08 AND 8/31/09

**CHILD'S NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE OF BIRTH** \_\_\_\_\_

**CHILD'S ADDRESS**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CONTACT EMAIL**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**FATHER'S NAME** \_\_\_\_\_ **HOME PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**CELL PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**MOTHER'S NAME** \_\_\_\_\_ **HOME PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**CELL PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**ALLERGIES:** (DOES THIS CHILD HAVE ANY KNOWN FOOD ALLERGIES?)  
\_\_\_\_\_

**HEALTH:** (ARE THERE ANY HEALTH CONCERNS WE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT?)  
\_\_\_\_\_

**TOILET TRAINING:** IS YOUR CHILD TOILET TRAINED? Y / N IF NOT, YOU NEED TO PLEASE BE RESPONSIBLE TO BE IN THE CLASSROOM TO CHANGE DIAPERS AS NEEDED.

**I AM WILLING TO HELP BY:** SMALL GROUP LEADER 1X A MONTH / EXTRA SET OF HANDS IN THE ROOM 1X A MONTH

**NAME OF ANYONE AUTHORIZED TO REMOVE THE CHILD FROM THE CLASSROOM:**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ RELATIONSHIP TO THE CHILD

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ RELATIONSHIP TO THE CHILD

*DONATIONS OF ANY SIZE ARE APPRECIATED. FUNDS WILL GO FIRST TOWARD THE COST OF CURRICULUM, SNACKS, AND CRAFTS (\$15 PER CHILD) AND SECONDLY TOWARD MAKING FAITH FACTORY MORE EXCITING AND FUN WITH STAGING, PROPS, ETC. THE FAITH FACTORY CHILDREN ALSO SUPPORT CHORONA RAUL, A "WORLD VISION" CHILD IN MOZAMBIQUE.*

DONATION AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_

## YOUTH/YOUNG ADULT

### BWCA 2012: Explore God's Amazing Creation

Are you in grades 9-12 and want to go to the Boundary Waters? Please register by February 5, 2012. Space is limited! Forms available at the connection center! July 18-23, 2012. BWCA2 (if needed): June 6-10, 2012.



### Are You Connected?

Girls Coffee Nights, BDubs, Guys Nights, State of Grace. There are lots of ways to connect. We love to spend time with you and help you grow in faith. Want to join us? Contact us 212.3448 (Andrea), 446-7561 (Brandon), 361.5136 (Josh) or find us on Facebook.

### 2012 Mission Trips

*All Youth Mission:* Rock the Cities (June 24-July 1, 2012). There are still a few spots remaining! We hope you can join us for an *awesome* week of ministry and service in the Cities! Second deposits (\$75) are due January 29th.



*Sr. High Mission:* Honduras (August 1-10, 2012). What an amazing opportunity to serve Jesus, help others and be changed. We will work at an orphanage and teach children the love of Christ, as well as complete building projects and more. There will be a *mandatory* meeting in January regarding transportation plans. Please watch your email.

### Hit the Slopes!

Join us Thursday, December 29th for an awesome day of fun! All youth gr. 6-12, former youth and friends are invited to ski or snowboard for the day! It will be a blast! Cost varies if you choose to ski, snowboard or need a lift ticket and includes transportation. Bring your own spending money! Forms available at the Connection Center. Sign-up by December 14th, 2011

### Let Us Do Your Christmas Baking!

Let us do your Christmas Baking! The Youth Mission Groups are holding a bake sale on Sunday, December 18, from 8-12 noon. All money raised will benefit kids going on Mission Trips in 2012. There will be lots of items, including Lefse, Krumake, cookies, candies, puppy chow and more!

### Time for Christmas Treats!

Atonement youth mission groups will host fellowship time with Christmas goodies, coffee, hot cocoa and apple cider

following the "Light" performances on December 21st, 22nd, and 23rd. There will be a free will offering. *At Atonement, we believe that as Christ-followers, we are called to be the hands and feet of Jesus in our world. Your free will offering will support our call to mission.*

### Wired Stuff We Like:

Chad Sufficool's Blog: <http://sufficool.tumblr.com>

I Am Second: [www.iamsecond.com](http://www.iamsecond.com)

CARM: [carm.org/what-gospel](http://carm.org/what-gospel)

To Save A Life: <http://tosavealifemovie.com>

World Vision: [www.worldvision.org](http://www.worldvision.org)

Elf Yourself: [www.elfyourself.com](http://www.elfyourself.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

Get Fed: [www.atonementfargo.org/getfed](http://www.atonementfargo.org/getfed)

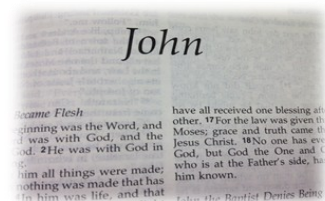
### Upcoming Christmas Events in Youth Ministry

- All Youth Bell Ringing-Dec. 7, 2011  
5:30-8:00 p.m.—FM Area
- Sr. High Christmas Party-Dec. 13, 2011  
8:30 p.m. Youth Room
- All Youth Fellowship night-Dec. 14, 2011  
6:30 p.m.—Youth Room

### AIM

Looking for a great small group for anyone between the ages of 18-35? Join the AIM group! This group meets on Sunday nights and is an excellent opportunity for growth in faith, friendship, and service!

Starting in February, we will be starting a new Bible study based on the gospel of John. We will read and explore this gospel together! We will meet at Atonement around 7:00 p.m. and there is childcare available! Contact Brandon Foster with any questions at 701-446-7561 or [bfoster@atonementfargo.org](mailto:bfoster@atonementfargo.org)



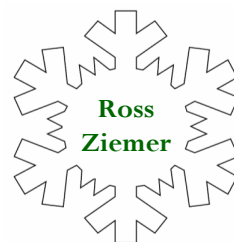
***Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests. Luke 2:14***

From all of us in Youth/Young Adult Ministry, we wish you a wonderful Christmas. May you always remember that Jesus is the reason we celebrate and that through Him,

we are made new!

God's blessings, Andrea, Brandon, Josh and Dan.

THE STAFF AT ATONEMENT WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU A  
VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS, AND A HEALTHY,  
HAPPY NEW YEAR!






4601 South University Drive  
Fargo, ND 58104

**NON-PROFIT ORG.**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**PERMIT #1646**  
**FARGO, ND**

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

A decorative rectangular area with a blue background, filled with white snowflakes and stars of various sizes. The text is centered within this area.

*For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his  
shoulders. And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

*~ Isaiah 9:6*