



# CHRONICLE

PENTECOST 2017



## FROM THE RECTOR

**"With the Spirit's Help, We Will Find a Way."**



Dear Friends,

*"Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual." -- I Corinthians 2:12-13*

On Ascension Sunday, May 28th, we baptized Joey Avino, son of Joe and Eloisa, and brother of Alyssa and Angelina (baptized on the same weekend two years ago!). In my sermon, from an article in *The New York Times*, I quoted the single mom of six children who sometimes had to scrounge for change to pay the bills. She told her kids, "We'll find a way." In the Gospel that Sunday, the disciples asked Jesus about whether the Kingdom of God would come soon. Jesus told them it would come in God's own time, and told them to wait for the coming of the Spirit. Like those first disciples who became apostles (messengers) of the Resurrection, we also can "find a way" with the Spirit's help to build God's kingdom of justice and peace, to carry the promise of new life and healing to a world sorely in need.

On the next Sunday, we celebrated Pentecost at Atonement. Everyone wore fiery colors, and at the 10:00am service, we enjoyed the beautiful morning by walking out of the church and onto the Labyrinth, offering the Gospel, Sermon and Litany of the Spirit outdoors. Then, that evening, some folks worshipped in a lovely candlelit Taizé service in the Chapel. We rejoiced that the promised Holy Spirit connects us deeply to God in Christ, and to each other.

In that Pentecost sermon, I mentioned a line from Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury's Pentecost message. He said that the Church in those early days could have

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### FROM THE RECTOR (Continued) “With the Spirit’s Help, We Will Find a Way.”

remained focused inward – something he called dryly, “holy huddling”! However, he said that the Holy Spirit was given to those first disciples to turn them in the opposite direction, to send them **outwards** to proclaim God’s love in Christ, and to serve the world in His Name.

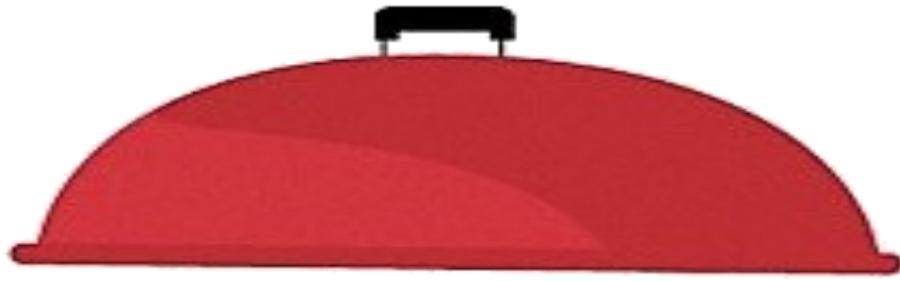
Now in this Pentecost season that stretches through the coming months, we also have been sent out. The weather is growing warm, and summer plans are being made. At Atonement, we move to one service at 9:00am in the Chapel on June 25th. The Spirit is within us, wanting to teach us spiritual things, wanting to help us discern our gifts, wanting to strengthen us for service to our friends, neighbors and community. All we need to do is ask. Wherever we are -- in church or at home, in New Jersey or California, in Paris or Pittsburgh -- the Spirit is waiting for our **consent** to be **sent out** in love and compassion.

We can receive the Spirit anew through worship, prayer, meditating on Scripture, reflection on the events of the day, openness to new ideas and new people, and serving the poor, the hungry, and the vulnerable. Staying connected to your Atonement community through the summer will help you. You have been “born again” in the Spirit at your baptism, and you can be “born again” over and over as you open yourself to become a more deeply spiritual person. The Spirit wants to flow through you to others, to help you share your faith, and to bring compassion, justice and peace wherever you find yourself. With the Spirit’s help, you’ll find a way!

“Come, Holy Spirit” is all that needs to be said -- and believed.

Faithfully,





## **ALL PARISH OPEN HOUSE BBQ**

**JUST Food, Fellowship and Fun!**

**Sunday, June 25th -- 4:00pm to 7:00pm**

**at the Regan home, 8 Beachwood Road in Cresskill**

Can you bring an appetizer, salad/side, dessert or beverage?

Please sign up by Thursday, June 23rd in the Reception Room or via the Church Office at 201-568-1763 or [parish.admin@atonement-tenafly.org](mailto:parish.admin@atonement-tenafly.org)





### WELCOME OUR NEW SEMINARIAN!

Armantina Peláez will be worshipping with us on July 2nd, and in some of our other summer services. Please welcome her! As we go into the fall, Armantina will begin serving as Atonement's Seminarian, in preparation for ordination to the priesthood.

Armantina lives in Fairview. She has been an active member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Paterson for about ten years, where she has served on the Vestry and as a Warden.

She has worked as a Human Services Director in the health industry. She is currently taking classes at Drew Theological Seminary in Madison, having already received degrees in religious education and psychology.

Armantina was born in Cuba. She is a former member of the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart, and has worked for both the RC Diocese of Paterson and then the RC Conference of Catholic Bishops.

More information about our new Seminarian will be available in upcoming communications. Welcome, Armantina, to Atonement!



## CONFIRMATION

By Carol Petrovich

Even though it was raining outside, inside St. Phillips & Trinity Cathedral in Newark many voices sang joyously to start the Confirmation Ceremonies on Saturday, May 13th.

Luke Johnston proudly walked down the aisle to be confirmed by Bishop Mark Beckwith. Luke had completed all the requirements and will be giving his report on hunger to the congregation in the near future. Congratulations Luke! God bless you.



LEFT: WITH THE HELP OF HIS SPONSOR, WALTON CLARK, LUKE TAKES THE ATONEMENT FOOD COLLECTIONS TO THE CENTER FOR FOOD ACTION.

RIGHT: LYNNE WEBER, BISHOP MARK BECKWITH, LUKE JOHNSTON AND WALTON CLARK AT TRINITY & ST. PHILLIPS CATHEDRAL ON CONFIRMATION DAY.





## ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

By Carol Schults

The Environmental Committee has had a busy couple of months.

The GreenFaith Circle, which Atonement is involved with, has been involved with and supporting rallies in Washington, Hackensack and Teaneck over the last few months. These rallies have been to show the community's support for environmental topics.

Atonement is one of the participating congregations in the Central Bergen GreenFaith Circle. The Circle brings congregations of different faith traditions together to cooperate on environmental issues and share ideas. Over the past few months, the Circle has planned rallies in Washington, Hackensack and Teaneck. (Lynne Weber was scheduled to speak at the Hackensack rally, but was unable to do so because of a funeral at Atonement.) These rallies have been organized to show the community's support for policies and practices that protect the creation God has given into our care.

On April 30th, the church school went out to the garden behind the church to plant herbs and to learn about compost used in the garden. We discussed why we plant in compost created soil and why we select water-tolerant plants. We discussed how small the plants are at the beginning of the season and how much they grow over the season. As we planted the new plants, we remembered how big the plants were last fall when we put the garden "to sleep." The herbs are available for people to harvest over the summer, but just take small bunches, do not pull out the entire plant. There is mint, rosemary and thyme available to enjoy.

On June 1st, I attended a GreenFaith Circle meeting, where there was a discussion of the recent events and the environmental rallies of the last few months. There was a discussion of topics and possible actions that we can be involved with going forward. The different representatives mentioned possible upcoming events, ranging from speakers at the Ethical Culture Center in Teaneck to protests along the freight train lines in Closter.

Through the Central Bergen County GreenFaith Circle, we've been made aware of several FREE programs on Sundays at 10:30am to 11:30am. So it's possible to attend 9:00am summer services at Atonement then enjoy these programs at The Ethical Culture Society located at 687 Larch Avenue in Teaneck:

- July 16th: Susan Golden, trained at the Al Gore Climate Reality Project Leadership Institute in Colorado, will present a science-rich program about the environment and suggested courses of action in the face of climate change. The title is Climate Hope.



## ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS (Continued)

- August 13th: Lawrence White will talk about EcoVillages and the process of creating the first EcoVillage in NJ. They exist in other states and are shared, sustainable, living spaces. The title is Ecovillage.

There is a strong interest in the Circle to collectively encourage certain sustainable practices in our spiritual communities over the next few months. There are three main areas identified where we can make a difference -- energy use, composting and food waste, and plastic bag ban awareness and education. Atonement has made a number of commitments in these areas already, and we'll be reviewing our practices and thinking about how we can further them.

The Circle is also hoping to celebrate its accomplishments by coming together for a picnic open to our elected officials and other spiritual communities in end of August or early September. More to come.

Interested in joining the Environmental Team at Atonement? Want to participate in the GreenFaith Circle? Contact Carol Schults, Chair or Birgitta Karlén, Co-Chair.



THE RECENT BERGEN GREENFAITH CIRCLE MEETING. CAROL SCHULS, ALTHOUGH NOT PICTURED, WAS THERE!



# REDISCOVERING GRACE: Reflections on the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation

## An Adult Education Retreat

Across our country and our world, the 500th anniversary of the Reformation is being observed. Lutherans and Catholics are holding special events and services. The English Reformation took place about 15 years later. This retreat will look at some of the themes of the Reformation through writings, art and music, at the divisions and denominations, and the movement towards unity, that came in the years following.

**Friday, September 22nd through Sunday, September 24th, 2017  
Holy Cross Monastery in West Park, New York**

**Led by:** Dean and Lynne Weber

**Cost:** \$220 for retreat, room and meals

**RSVP:** Pat D'Anna at [parish.admin@atonement-tenafly.org](mailto:parish.admin@atonement-tenafly.org)

**Deposit:** RSVP and minimum \$100 deposit due Wednesday, July 5th

**Balance:** Due August 1st (partial scholarships available)





## STEWARDSHIP

**Your stewardship truly makes a difference in the world. Thank you!**

In addition to your pledges -- which support our overall ministry as a church and also helps us make a significant commitment to local Outreach -- your special offerings over the past several months are already making a difference in the lives of our neighbors far and near. Thank you for your generous support, and here's a summary of where Atonement's \$2,290.73 went:

**\$340**

### **HEALTHCARE, EDUCATION, RELIEF – MIDDLE EAST**

The “Good Friday Offering” taken on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday supports The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East – including their schools, hospitals and clinics that serve people in need regardless of religion or culture.

**\$765**

### **FOOD FOR OUR HUNGRY NEIGHBORS – JAZZ BENEFIT**

“The Jazz Berries” opened our 12th Annual Arts & Music Festival on the Saturday after Easter. Attendees were generous, with an offering of \$765 to feed our hungry neighbors through the Center for Food Action.

**\$877.48**

### **A WELL TO PROVIDE CLEAN WATER – LENTEN OFFERING**

“Make Change – Making a Difference” was the theme for this year’s Lenten Offering. So many of you took home jars and filled them with change (and a few bills), with a result that we far exceeded our goal of \$500. This was a good thing as every dollar will be needed, joined with other District 9 Episcopal Church offerings, to build a well to provide clean water for a community through Episcopal Relief and Development!

**\$368.25**

### **RELIEVING NEED ACROSS NORTHERN NJ – ALLELUIA FUND**

The non-pledge offering for the Episcopal Visitation on Mother’s Day totaled \$368.25. Bishop Mark Beckwith designated the offering for the diocesan “Alleluia Fund,” which supports a number of organizations and programs across northern NJ that reach out to people in need.

THANKS for continuing to bring in food for our hungry neighbors in response to Luke Johnston’s Confirmation project, and our ongoing appeal.

THANKS to everyone who has brought in supplies for infants in need for our North Porch drive which took place from Mothers’ Day, May 14th through Fathers’ Day, June 18th. You can still bring in items (baby wipes, diapers size 3-5, Infamil powder formula, any baby food) for the week after Father’s Day. Please drop off your donation in the parish office, or leave it in the Chapel narthex, clearly marked, “North Porch.”



### COUNTRY FAIR

By Carol Petrovich

We know it's only June, but it's not too early to think about our annual fall fair which will be held on Friday, November 3rd and Saturday, November 4th. Please mark your calendars and if anyone asks you to lend a hand say YES! Please commit to be a part of this important Atonement major fundraiser. All hands on deck are necessary, as pulling off a major event like this cannot be done by a small group of people. Let's ALL pitch in and make this the best fair ever!

During the summer, please keep in mind items needed for all the booths:

- Silent Auction: furniture, antiques, small rugs, top of the line household items, tickets to an entertainment arena.
- Home Booth: linens, slightly used appliances, dishes, silverware, anything for the home.
- Tricky Tray: any new item with a selling tag on it.
- Serendipity: Fine and costume jewelry, china and ceramics, novelties and collectibles, art and fine household items, evening bags and scarves.
- Bake Booth: homemade baked items.
- White Elephant: all those items you have not used in years, something given but not needed. Everyone has some white elephants around.
- Christmas Booth: any Christmas item.
- Book Booth: books in good condition that are not outdated, but no encyclopedias or text books. DVDs also welcome, but no VCR tapes.

We really need YOU. Please help us to make our fair a BIG SUCCESS.



## OPPORTUNITY SHOP

By Carol Petrovich

By the time you read this, the Opportunity Shop will be closed for the summer. Have we had a successful nine months from September 2016 through June 2017? To answer this question, we must say there is good news and bad news.

The good news is that we had many beautiful items for sale this year that were mainly donated, therefore enjoyed 100% profits. Would you believe that there were over 2,000 items for sale? Now for the bad news...

Even though we were able to give the church some of the money we budgeted for, **customer traffic is down**. Sadly, some days we had no customers. We tried to analyze why and how to remedy the situation. We came up with a number of reasons and there is one that you can help us with -- WORD OF MOUTH.

We are hoping you will tell your friends, coworkers, relatives and anyone else you know all about our shop. A women who does not come to our church but attends Bible Study was told about the shop. The following week she came in and spent over \$50! WORD OF MOUTH WORKS! Please, help us spread the word!



## VESTRY NEWS

By Fran Regan

The Vestry welcomed new members at their May meeting: Birgitta Karlén, Andrea Pieper, Alan Lauderdale and Wilson Reimers. Roberta Roshong is our new Warden and Carol Petrovitch our new Junior Warden. The vestry thanks the retiring members Seiji Konno and Walton Clark, and we remember with sadness the passing of vestry member Jim Scott. Jim brought to the meetings a kind and intelligent spirit, helping the church in many ways including financial security. We look forward to a new team but thank those who have given of themselves to support the church community.

The church had a busy and productive year with our new steeple and cross, restored organ, successful Arts & Music Festival, and fundraisers like the Country Fair, Mom's Night Out, and Mother's Day Vendor Event. The year was capped by the Bishop's visit on May 14th. The congregation had the opportunity to hear from Bishop Mark Beckwith during the morning forum and at the service, where he talked first to the children. The Bishop was particularly pleased with the number and enthusiasm of our youth, the future of the church. Atonement is blessed.

The vestry has continued to participate in the Dwelling of the Word, reading and discussing the passage Luke 10:1-11. It is fitting to contemplate this passage while working to expand the church into the community. To bring the church outside our walls is an important part of the mission. Atonement has been participating, thanks to Wilson Reimers and Lorraine Sorvino, in a three-month period of listening introduced at the Annual Convention in January known as the "Listening Excursion." This program asks congregations to engage in activities that will facilitate listening "to God in themselves, in scripture, in each other, and in their neighborhoods." The Dwelling in the Word exercise in which the congregation participated a couple of Sundays ago was part of this program. Wilson drew a map of Atonement's neighborhood which hangs on the main bulletin board in the hall to the Reception room. Take a look at it when you get a chance. Wilson will be organizing a walk of our neighborhood. The idea is to take us out of ourselves and into our neighborhood and look for opportunities to serve God.

The Vestry held their annual retreat on Friday, June 9th through Saturday, June 10th. We spent Friday evening at Atonement reviewing how we work and going over team assignments. On Saturday morning, we gathered at the Alpine Scout Camp to discuss Stewardship, particularly Annual Giving, in order to provide recommendations to Atonement's Stewardship Team for implementation in 2017-2018.

If you are interested in serving the church on a team or in a particular ministry, please speak to one of our Wardens, Roberta Roshong or Carol Petrovich, or the Rector. We welcome anyone who wants to share their gifts with the church.

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# CHURCH OF THE ATONEMENT

97 Highwood Avenue at Engle Street  
Tenafly, New Jersey 07670

Phone 201-568-1763

Fax 201-568-1775

Email [parish.admin@atonement-tenafly.org](mailto:parish.admin@atonement-tenafly.org)

Website [www.atonement-tenafly.org](http://www.atonement-tenafly.org)



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