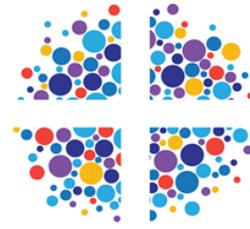


Atonement Lutheran Church
685 Inca Parkway
Boulder, CO 80303



Atonement
LUTHERAN CHURCH BOULDER

Think of us in this way: as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. -1 Corinthians 4:1

Dear Atonement Partners in Ministry,

The stewardship ministry and leadership of Atonement give thanks to God for you - both servants and stewards of all God has trusted us with. Thank you for your commitment to one another and our shared ministry that you have so generously supported.

Our 2023 stewardship theme is "What now, Lord?". This phrase can be said and heard in two very different ways. **One**, as an exasperated plea for a break from seemingly unending bad news. It's a phrase we've likely said multiple times in the past several years as we awaited a new wave of the pandemic and its fallout. It's been fair to ask this question on the tail end of what we have experienced. **Two**, the question can come from a place of excited anticipation for what the future holds. As our team has reflected on the future of Atonement's ministries, we invite you into this second meaning. As a faith community with resilience and strength, we have endeavored to foster connection to God, one another, and the world for the past 60 years. We look to the next 40 years of ministry with optimism and hope, and we ask you to prayerfully consider what God is calling us to next. "What now, Lord?"

Here is what we also know and give thanks for:

- a renovated facility that is busier than ever and bearing fruit, both for our ministries and as our wider community gathers. Community choirs, language and music classes, the Boulder County Crop Walk, and the Interfaith Network on Mental Illness have gathered with us in our space. Our carbon footprint is also down as we see the impact of energy efficiency upgrades included as environmental commitments in the renovation. We are also grateful to continue to fulfill our tithe on the building campaign, most recently committing to sending \$25,000 to our partners in Guatemala to finalize renovation efforts on their school.

- the ability to continue a tithe on our 2022 ministry financial plan, giving \$50,000 outside of our own community life. We also sponsored two Afghan families, providing for many of their needs and providing a dedicated support team as they settled into life in the US. In addition, we both pray for and support our ongoing ministry partners - two Bible camps, Cristo Rey, El Paso, the Guatemalan Lutheran church, and New Beginnings Women's Prison Ministry.
- the return of vibrant Wednesday night gatherings, with time to eat together, time to grow in faith, and time for our music ensembles to prepare for worship. Sundays are filled with vitality. Services feature varied music, dedicated time for children, and a diversity of preaching voices. Sunday morning faith formation is running strong for both kids and adults.

Thank you for your support that enables us to carry out these important ministry highlights.

In the upcoming weeks we will share ministry opportunities and needs for 2023 that we will invite you to support as part of this appeal.

We ask you to give prayerful reflection to the value this community of faith offers you and what type of financial commitment you can make to support our community life and ministry together.

You are invited to join together with our community to offer a grateful response to God for all that is being done in our midst. **On Commitment Sunday, November 13, we will gather for worship and present our statements of intent during the 9:30 am worship service.**

“What now, Lord?” We invite you into hope for the future God is calling us to, and we invite your commitment as a part of the whole. We thank God for you, and we invite your prayers as we focus on our ministry together in 2023.

We give thee but thine own,

whate'er the gift may be;

all that we have is thine alone,

a trust, O Lord, from thee.

In God's generosity,

Atonement's Stewardship Ministries