



**Atonement
Lutheran
Church**

*Living in God's love ~
Reaching out with hope*

August 2022

Voice of Atonement

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ATONEMENT STAFF

Senior Pastor

Pastor Kristi Beebe

Music Director, Youth and
Outreach Coordinator

Brandon Bill

Office Manager

Audrey Brack-Banks

Music Accompanist

Carol Ott

Keyboardists

Gayle Gunderson

Carol Ott

Pastor's Message

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

After about a month of stressful preparation, success prevailed! July 19th Tiffany and I flew out for a couple days to Los Angeles, CA to turn in many various papers, some notarized and some with an Apostille (of which I had no idea what that was until this experience), to the Spanish Consulate in order to obtain her Student Visa to attend IE University in Madrid.

We were both so nervous, even though we were fairly certain we had everything done correctly and in order. We sat in silence along with everyone else in the room until they called Tiffany's name. She went up front alone, as she's now 18, and I sat in my chair praying for the best, worried beyond belief. We felt like we were in a final exam. In a way we were. She needs that Student Visa in order to go to IE University. Now, we just wait until they email and say, "Your Visa is ready. Come pick it up." You'd think we don't even have USPS or Fed Ex anymore. No, we have to go pick it up! Another flight. What we won't do for what promises to be an outstanding education!

Thinking about education ... it's about Back to School time for many a student, teachers, and administrators. Blessings to all as you get ready to learn, teach, and administrate. It's such an important ministry in so many ways.

I remember my own education well. After High School Graduation, I went to college at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, WA; then on to Wartburg Theological Seminary where I graduated in 1988 (that's a long time ago!), and was Ordained as an ELCA Pastor, and started my Pastoral Ministry as an Assistant to the Bishop in the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod.

It's hard for me to believe but at the beginning of the Pandemic, in 2020, the ELCA celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the decision to Ordain women; and the 40th Anniversary of the Ordination of the first women of color; and the 10th Anniversary of the ELCA's decision to officially Ordain people in same-gender committed relationships. The ELCA called it the "50/40/10 ~ We Are Church; We Are Called!"

Indeed, we are ALL called ~ whether you are a Pastor or not ~ whether you serve on Church Council or not ~ whether you serve on the Praise Team or sing in the church Choir or not ~ whether you teach Christian Education or not ... but you are CALLED TO SERVE in Christ's Church in some way, for God has gifted each and every person to Mission and Ministry in the congregation, in the community, and in the world.

This new school year, consider the gifts you have to serve in Christ's church. Use the ones you've been using for years ... and consider finding new ones as well, just as the women started doing 50 years ago when they started serving in the Ordained Ministry.

As a way to affirm and celebrate 50/40/10, which we didn't do because of the Pandemic, and all the chaos it created in congregations worldwide, August 9th, 16th, 23rd, & 30th we'll use a Bible Study created by the ELCA as a response to that celebration called: "Proclaiming; Reforming; Celebrating." Tune in to Facebook as always on Tuesday evenings at 7pm for this exciting new 4-part Bible Study series focusing on 1) Leadership; 2) Proclaiming; Hard Words; Joyful Words; Faithful Witness; 3) Reforming; Holy Interruptions & Being Counted; and, 4)

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IN OUR PRAYERS:

Recent

Juan Chacon (former parishioner of Pastor Kristi)

Tyler Cline

Lindsey Herdt
(Granddaughter of Doris Kuch)

Ricardo Jimenez

Kyle Koch (Grandson of Donna Zentner)

David McDonald (nephew of Judy Bauer)

Ardie Meeker (friend of Pastor Kristi)

Phil Pienkos

Curt Zabka and family

Ongoing

Jim Bland

Grace Gillette

Jan Harding

Milton Milberger

Chris Moffatt Otto

Barbara Palmer

Kenneth Simms

Arlene Karika Thompson

Beth Thompson

Randy Updike

Jean Viste

Bob Zartman

PLEASE NOTE:

If you would like to place someone on the prayer list, you must email their name and reason for request to: PrayerRequests@atonement-denver.org

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Celebrating: Mourning & Dancing; Telling the Story.

INVITE YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS TO JOIN THIS HALF HOUR BIBLE STUDY WITH YOU ... maybe have them over for dinner first, and then tune in to God's Word together! After all, education is for ALL ages, and vitally important!

You are never too young or too old to learn something new! A happy & a great studying to ALL this new School Year!

Blessings,

—Pastor Kristi Beebe



President's Thoughts

"Faith in action is love, and love in action is service. By transforming that faith into living acts of love, we put ourselves in contact with God Himself, with Jesus our Lord."

— Mother Teresa

What an unusual summer this year. Heat, heat, heat! Maybe August will see a return to the lovely summers of warm days and cool nights? Regardless we have begun looking towards fall and what we are called to be about. Thank you to the great response to the Worship Survey sent out in July. It will be reviewed by the ALC Visioning Team.

This month I am looking at two of the Ministry Teams we are hoping to rebuild. In addition, we believe we need to develop two new Ministry Teams. The complete list of Ministry Teams and the basic mission is located elsewhere in this newsletter.

You will notice in the Church Council Meeting Highlights that our ministry needs to rebuild two teams:

1. Congregational Caring – work along with Pastor Kristi to reach to members and friends that need extra attention like visits, cards, prayers This involves a ministry team meeting with Pastor.
2. Social Ministry – as part of the revisioning/rebuilding of the Outreach ministry we have a name change. The goal of this ministry has always to be supportive of local charities like Community Ministry,

P.S. YES, I'm definitely joining Tiffany in traveling to Spain when the Student Visa finally is ready! After all, **Travel is Educational, as well!** (It takes 3 – 6 weeks before being able to pick up the Visa, again, in L.A.! We hope to go to Spain around the end of August. Tiffany starts school Sept. 12th; and Scott & I will return after the Parent's Meeting on Sept. 9th)

Lutheran Family Services, and local school support. We collect food for the local food banks, shoes, eyeglasses, Angel Tree, and Christmas Stocking. ALC collects food for Holiday baskets. This ministry needs leadership and more people on the team. This ministry would involve ministry team meetings as set by the team and time to execute programs.

Council also recognizes the need for two more teams:

1. Fellowship Ministry – a group of fun-loving people to help put on special events like church picnics, movie nights, concerts, GaGa Tournaments and what ever great ideas are thought of.
2. Advertising – This would be a team dedicated to getting the word out and inviting in people in. Using tools, we currently have banners, flags, Facebook, Nextdoor, posters, newsletter articles, E Blast. Also, developing new tools! Tracy Ford and Cookie Plate have volunteered, and we could use more help to hang banners and flags.

We challenge all friends and members of ALC to explore your interests, spiritual gifts, and passion. Where is God calling you to help your neighbors – near and far.

Blessings,

—Eileen Koppenhaver
Congregation President



Not the End of Summer Jamboree

Sunday, August 21,
Noon to ???

Join us following the later service as we celebrate summer, back to school, each other!

We will eat together, play games together, enjoy music, and fun!

- Bring school supplies to help Westgate and any kids that need supplies to help succeed in school
- GaGa Pit Tournament! Basketball! Corn Hole!
- Bring your lawn chairs and we will provide shade!

(Bad weather option, we'll move into the Fellowship Hall!)

Church Council Meeting Highlights

Council Meeting on Zoom, July 13, 2022, at 6:30 PM

President's Report – Eileen Koppenhaver

- Due to very few people sponsoring altar flowers, Council voted to discontinue our \$160 per month contract with King Soopers. We will put together greenery to fill the space. If anyone wants to bring flowers to decorate or remember special occasions, please let the office know.
- Personnel – Brandon Bill is resigning from the Youth and Outreach Coordinator position at ALC. He plans to stay through July to ensure VBS does not have any hiccups. Pastor Kristi is looking into available Youth Worker who could fulfill this role as it is important to the church. Brandon Bill will continue with music.

Pastor Kristi Report

- About 50 people filled out the worship surveys. Pastor will share this with the Worship Visioning team.
- Pastor also is pulling the digital sign action team back together to get in front of the City of Lakewood for variance to extend the sign and have it be a colored sign rather than monochromatic.

Vice President Tracy Ford

- *Drop in the Bucket* for Wholly Kicks was successful, raising more than \$1,000. Cristo Rey also raised \$786.
- July's *Drop in the Bucket* is for Miracle Workers Habitat for Humanity and a representative from Miracle Workers Denver will speak at services on July 17.
- Tracy will reach out to Pastor/Brandon to try to get in touch with the West Gate principal for August *Drop in the Bucket*.

Stewardship for All Seasons – Randy Cunningham

- Second-quarter giving statements should be available soon.
- Status of the AED project (2022 ministry initiative). Randy recommended going with a local company. Church officials will also

need training, both online and in-person certified instructors. No need for a vote on this because it was already approved.

- 2023 ministry initiative proposals discussed.
 - In order to meet the Stewardship for All Seasons goal of beginning the process in September, the council will need to select an initiative at the August Council meeting.
- Carol Farr shared the ELCA website Generosity Watch Party information on stewardship, which is being offered for free in July, August, and September. Carol will share the details with Council and ministry teams.

Treasurer – Mike Skaff

- Revenues were better than expenses in June, but the church is still around \$40,000 short of budget (not actual spend.)
- Mike and the Finance Committee recommends we use Church Mutual for commercial property insurance, saving the church \$6,300 annually. However, Brotherhood Mutual is better for workers compensation. Motion to change insurance to Church Mutual except for Workers Compensation. Motion passed.
- Julie Strasser volunteered her husband to look at the broken backboard of basketball hoop. She also said new dishwashers are set to arrive in early August.

New Business:

- Will work on new/restructured Ministry Teams
 - Social Ministry (Outreach) need leadership and more team members
 - Congregation Caring
 - Fellowship
 - Advertising – Tracy and Cookie volunteered for this team.

The next meeting is set for August 10.



Ministry Teams Gathering

Sunday, August 28,
11:45 in Education Room

Light lunch will strengthen
you for good planning!

It is finally time to put our
heads together and share
Ministry Team plans,
calendar, and visioning.

Let Audrey in the church
office, 303-985-1122,
know how many from your
team will be attending.



August Food Needs:

Tuna, jelly, cereal,
diapers sizes 6 & 7

They are also collecting for Thanksgiving and Christmas food boxes:

Stuffing, pie crust mix,
evaporated milk, gravy
packets, cake mix,
frosting

Ministry Teams Descriptions

Adult Education – Carol Farr, team leader

The Adult Education Team's mission is to work together to build a respectful and nurturing environment focused on supplying opportunities for fellowship and learning.

We strive to support this environment by building an inclusive curriculum, addressing a range of learning styles, offering a wide array of diversity efforts and programs, and by learning about experiences of our church members.

We are committed to the importance of encouraging dialogue among all participants by supplying the opportunity to explore and to clarify their own beliefs and values

Evangelism – Kathy Stapleton, team leader

"and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ."
Philemon 1:6 ESV

The Evangelism Ministry is the arm of the church that reaches outside the church to invite, welcome and share information about the mission and ministry of Atonement. We will have Greeters every Sunday to welcome everyone. If we have visitors we give them a gift and explain our procedures. When we receive new members we assign mentors. Our main focus is to make everyone welcome and feel comfortable in our church atmosphere.

Faith in Action – Barbara Kaare-Lopez, team leader

"So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other." John 13:34

Faith in Action Ministry Team (FIA) members strive to walk with people who are enduring challenges in our society; challenges that reduce people to issues and diminish their visibility. Poverty, discrimination, access to healthcare and education, and tries to promote fear and hatred of others affect real people and families and cause real suffering. We want to confront these maladies with justice, hard work and radical love.

Our Guideposts: We are blessed to lift up ELCA's public policy, the Rocky Mountain Synod's (RMS) advocacy policy and our own. Our approach is two-pronged: Education and

Advocacy. We work through political channels on behalf of peacemaking, hospitality to strangers, care for creation, and concern for people living in poverty and struggling with hunger and disease. We have begun to study issues specific to "Caring for Creation", an ELCA Social Statement. Currently we are learning about our water issues, mainly in the Western U.S. We welcome all people who are willing to move mountains: God's Work, Our Hands.

Building and Grounds – Mike Lewellyn, co-team leader, open 2nd co-team leader

The mission of the Building and Grounds team is to be good stewards of the church facility and grounds. This ministry is shared with two team leaders for inside and outside maintenance. They rely on teams to lock-up the building each night, snow removal, cleanup of the grounds and more.

Children Ministries – Kari Bland, team leader

The mission of Children's Ministry is to fulfill the promise we make as a faith community at the baptism of our children. We provide family participation with Cradle Roll publications from birth to three years old. We are a place to learn about God, the Bible and God's purpose for our lives. We are a place that's safe and an environment that's welcoming! A place to partner with parents in the Christian education of children. Our children are accepted as important persons in the body of Christ!

Stewardship – Randy Cunningham, team leader

The mission of the Stewardship Team is to nurture a culture of generosity that includes financial giving, in-kind giving, and personal service (volunteering) within the church as well as for its various ministries.

Worship and Music – Shauna Skaff, team leader

We are called to supply an environment to help bring the word of Jesus to whom ever enters our building. Worship and Music does all things involved in producing worship services for Atonement. We try to use all the senses people have. Sight- slides, banners, and decorations. Hearing- working with the audio

ATTENTION ALL CONFIRMATION STUDENTS AND CONFIRMATION STUDENT "WANT-A-BE'S!":

Upcoming Dates for
Confirmation Classes and Fun
Times in August

Day time events:

- Monday, July 25th - July 29th
(in case you get this one of those days = Your assistance is needed at Atonement's Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp Day Camp (i.e. VBS); 9am - Noon for Preschool - Kindergarten; and 9am - 3pm for Grades 1 - 5. If you fit into that Upper Elementary Age Group, please register for the Day Camp and attend that rather than assisting as Assistants are considered Grades 6 and above for Day Camp.

- **Class and Fun Days** (with this selection of days, hopefully everyone can make it at least 2 or more times!) ... (If you need a Zoom Class while traveling, talk to me and let's figure that out):

August 1st (Monday):
9:00am - Noon

August 2nd (Tuesday):
9:00am - Noon

August 9th (Tuesday):
9:00am - Noon

August 10th (Wednesday):
9:00am - Noon

*IF FOR SOME REASON 9am-Noon doesn't work out for everyone, and the afternoon works better, let me know and we'll see if everyone else can accommodate your schedule!

-Pastor Kristi

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including music with organ, piano, Choir and Praise Team. Taste- giving of and taking communion.

Our Worship and Music Director, Brandon Bill and Worship Team selects music and plans services with Pastor Kristi. We welcome participation with the worship software, our new streaming and recording hardware/software for online worship, and sound board.

Youth Ministry - currently seeking a Youth Leader

Drop in the Bucket

August's *Drop in the Bucket* benevolence giving is to New Beginnings Worshipping Community: A Prison Ministry Making Christ Known Inside the Walls.

New Beginnings Worshipping Community is a Synodically Authorized Worshipping Community of the ELCA that meets inside the walls of the Denver Women's Correctional Facility (DWCF), a

Youth Ministry is Atonement's effort to help each and every young person grow personally and spiritually. Youth Ministry seeks to help youth share their gifts, grow in life skills, develop a positive self-image, overcome prejudices, develop respect for differences, serve those in need, and foster social change, participate in the sacraments, develop a personal spirituality and prayer life, apply their faith to daily life, participate in the Church, and develop a personal relationship with Jesus.

prison for women in Denver, Colorado. The Mission of New Beginnings "is to restore shattered lives to wholeness through the love of Jesus Christ." You can read some of their inspirational personal stories by following them on Facebook or going to their website at newbeginningswc.org

Stewardship

Stewardship of your whole life

Before you read further, stop and list the top five things you value most in life? Then rank them by importance. Go!

All done?

If you're like most people, your top-five list includes family, health, time, God, friends, job, home or community. Does money even show up? For many of us, it doesn't, and yet most of church talk about "stewardship" involves how we use our gifts of money.

Yes, we are "stewards," or caretakers of the material wealth with which God has blessed us, but we are also responsible for nourishing and cherishing all the OTHER blessings that God has put into our lives. That goes especially for the things we value most.

Now refer back to your top-five list. For each, consider these questions:

- Why is this item in the top five?
- How well am I caring for this?
- Am I treating it as one of the most valuable items in my life? Why or why not?
- How could I care even more for this item?
- How would God want me to care for this, and why?
- How would my life change if I really cherished and nourished this gift?

When we are good stewards of all the blessings and opportunities God gives us, we open our lives to the full joy and potential that God intends for us. How can you be a better steward of what God has given you?

—Rob Blezard

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THE CORNER DESK

It's already August!

Is it hot enough for you? I am so very grateful for the new air conditioning unit that was recently installed in the office. It makes working so much more pleasant!

Day Camp has come and gone, and was a wonderful success! A million thanks to everyone who helped in any way-- from helpers, to counselors, to donations, housing, and counselor dinners. (It takes a village to make a day camp!) Thank you all again!

Don't forget to catch a glimpse of the beautiful gardens at the front of the church. They are in full bloom this time of year, and the flowers are spectacular! Many thanks to Pat Lorenz and Liz Kelpis who regularly water and tend all our beautiful plants.

Wishing God's best for you!

Audrey Brack-Banks
Atonement Office Manager

Worship and Music

Change is happening in the Sanctuary

We have incorporated our streaming and ProPresenter (which runs the slides) together in one station. You will see more monitors in the booth. With this change, we will have one person running all the streaming and slides, and someone else will run the audio. We are always seeking volunteers to assist with the Audio/Visual/Streaming/Website, musicians, singers, worship assistants and Ushers.

We are also making changes with the Altar Flowers. Since we have returned to services inside, we have tried to do things as we have done before. Unfortunately, we have not had the sponsors needed to keep fresh altar flowers in

the sanctuary every Sunday. At the July Council meeting, it was decided that we are going to cancel our standing order at King Soopers for fresh flowers and go in a different direction that is more efficient. Stay tuned for more details.

If you would like to have flowers in the Sanctuary for a special occasion, please feel free to bring in your own bouquets to help decorate the sanctuary. We thank all those who have donated in the past, as well as those who have delivered the flowers on Saturdays. We will still be doing the poinsettias and lilies for Christmas and Easter.

— Shauna Skaff
Worship and Music Ministry

JOIN US FOR SOME SUMMER FUN!

MOVIE NIGHT!

FRIDAY AUGUST 5TH

7:00 PM MINI MOVIE GOERS
PIGLET'S BIG MOVIE

8:30 PM MULTI-GENERATIONAL MOVIE
COME FROM AWAY

FREE POPCORN!

F.I.A. Book Discussion “Where the Water Goes” by David Owen

Personal Intro: Being from Michigan, the “Great Lakes State” as our license plates used to state, I took water for granted. What is a drought? What.....boil the water in order to drink it? We can drink water straight from the faucet in Michigan. What is so special about water?

Living in Honduras, Central America, for 2 ½ years as a Peace Corps Volunteer in the late 1970’s, I learned to appreciate water. If you want to get sick, just drink the water straight from the faucet. It was not treated.... not potable.. A “chubasco” (torrential rain) comes and you travel by boat over the road due to the flooding... and the bridge/s are washed out.... Too bad. You have to buy kerosene for your kerosene stove to boil your water so you can drink it...Oh well.

You move to the Southwest U.S. from the Detroit area and learn about “the annual precipitation rate in Colorado is 15 to 17 inches, mainly from snow melt. Yikes...annual snowfall in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula might be 300 inches plus in the Copper Country. Forest fires are increasing year-round in Colorado. There are compacts to allocate the water among 7 states. I cannot keep track of all these water laws. It is overwhelming.

READ David Owen’s book, *Where the Water Goes*. I thought it would be boring and confusing.

It was not. It was stated, “the Colorado River is the most valuable stream in the world.” “It and its tributaries flow through or alongside seven western states—Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico (the Upper Basin), and Nevada, Arizona, and California (the Lower Basin)—before crossing into Mexico near Yuma, Arizona.” (Page 5,6) Lees Ferry is the dividing line between the Upper and Lower Basin. It has been called “the American Nile” (p. 9) and is 1,400 miles long.

The last Sunday of June, six

Atonement members met as part of F.I.A.’s book discussion to review this book. I led the discussion on the first 5 chapters of this book. We discussed terms that stymied me in the book. What is an acre foot? What exactly happens in fracking? What exactly is the Colorado River Compact? Do the headwaters of the Colorado River really begin in Rocky Mountain National Park? What is Prior Appropriation Law, practiced in Colorado and the West, versus Riparian Law that is practiced in the Eastern U.S. & England? Does Colorado really have more than 20,000 abandoned subsurface metal mines? And have you seen the 1974 movie *Chinatown* with Jack Nicholson, which treats these old water laws and probable scandals?

Read this book even if you are not enamored, yet, with water issues in the Southwest. You might become interested, even fascinated with water and its issues around you.....and learn to appreciate it, as I did. (Introductory review by Barbara Kaare-Lopez)

Book Review, Final Chapters, *Where the Water Goes; Life and Death Along the Colorado*, David Owens

The next major stop for Owen along his journey following the Colorado River was the Imperial Valley located in southern California. The Imperial Valley shown here is distinctively shaped by the All-American Canal that flows from the Colorado River at the Imperial Diversion



Dam northeast of Yuma, AZ. In this picture the agricultural rich Valley sits in sharp contrast to the land not entitled to use of the water in the river (left side).

“Today, the Imperial Valley is the largest single user of Colorado River water. It’s also one of the most productive agricultural areas in the United States.”

Owen uses the farm of Clarence Cox to illustrate the



challenges of irrigated farming under the increasing restriction brought on by the Quantitative Settlement Agreement and new and more efficient farming techniques. He also uses this chapter to discuss the concept of “highest and best use” in agriculture, the role of “ditch riders”, unintended consequences of reuse of irrigation water and the exporting hay across the Pacific (bales ready on the right) (Chapter 14, *Imperial Valley*)

From the Imperial Valley the story flows north to the Salton Sea (also in the picture above) which began this phase of its existence in 1905. “When irrigation canals from the Colorado River jumped their levees near the U.S./Mexico border in 1905 on the desert east of San Diego, millions of gallons of fresh water spilled into the Salton Trough, historically an arm of the Lower Colorado River Delta at the head of the Gulf of California. When the water finally stopped, it filled a trough 45 miles long, 17 miles wide, and 83 feet deep.”

While he explores the various uses and incarnations of this Sea over the years, he spends a great deal of this chapter on “salt”, the decimation of wild birds and animals that had relied on the Salton, and the “air shed” resulting from the receding shoreline and increasing winds



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over toxic residue. Owen continues his travelogue with brief discussions of North Shore Beach & Yacht Club, Slab City (a la Nomadland) and Sonny Bono's wildlife refuge. He ends this chapter with a discussion of possible mitigation of the decreasing levels of water and increasing salinity of the Salton Sea. (Chapter 15, Salton Sea)

And, because no discussion of "where water goes" that's the Colorado River is complete without a nod to the Bureau of Reclamation, the next chapter discusses both the history and influence both past and present of the Bureau. "Reclamation built the first dam on the Colorado: the Laguna Diversion Dam, completed in 1909, about 20 miles up from the Mexican border." Owen intimates that part of the reasoning behind this dam includes keeping CO River water in the US and from Mexico. In fact, it is not until 1944 when the two sign a treaty that sets Mexico's annual allotment at 1.5 million acre feet. A good part of this chapter discusses in detail the ramifications of trying to keep CO River water all in the US, including a number of unintended consequences such as flooding of the canals, leaking of the canals, and drowning in the canals. This chapter ends with a discussion of the Yuma Desalting Plant and more consequences. (Chapter 16, Reclamation)

Leaving Yuma and continuing down River, Owen enters Mexico and an extended discussion of the degradation of the delta, impacts in Mexico and remedies underway to keep 1.5 million acre feet flowing to the Sea of Cortez. This includes the Morelos Dam, maintained and operated by Mexico



under the supervision of the International Boundary and Water Commission located in the US. Here we learn the term "avulsive river event" of concern because it can accidentally shift territory from one country to the other". Major new agreements known as Minute 318, Minute 319, and now Minute 320 serve to address new events: storage of Mexican water in Lake Mead (requested after earthquake), and "pulse flows" that have sent water all the way to the Sea.

Equally fascinating was the discussion of the Welton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District in AZ and its bypass canal that the US built in response to complaints of river water salinity. It may start in AZ but it ends in Baja! This lead directly into the discussion of the new wetlands of the Cienega. See the contrast here: above the most ruined part of the delta, and below the developing wetlands of Cienega near the Sea of Cortez. (Chapter 17, The Delta)

Owen ends his book with a comprehensive list but brief discussion of what can be done. He explores possible solutions to impending water difficulties, such as desalination, limiting sprawl, agricultural changes, cloud seeding, importing water, government intervention, and one of my favorites: environmentalist vs environmentalist. Each solution leads to a cascade of consequences and challenges that would need to be overcome. The best solutions seem to be those where the law of the river isn't rewritten, but utilized for the benefit of all. Owen's last sentence seems to foretell the future: "the ambiguity of the Law of the river can be thought of as one of its strengths, since it is impossible to be doctrinaire about a doctrine that no one understands." (Note: All pictures from David Owen website: https://www.davidowen.net/david_owen/where-the-water-goes.html) (Suzanne Rousso)

FIA Picks:

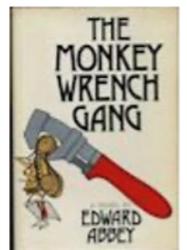
A 150-year-old San Luis Valley farm stops growing food to save a shrinking water supply. It might be the first deal of its kind in the country, Michael Elizabeth Sakas CPR News, July 12: here's the link to water conservation in the San Luis Valley through an innovative conservation easement. Read and applaud! (Recommended by Suzanne Rousso) https://www.cpr.org/2022/07/11/san-luis-valley-farming-drought/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=lookout&utm_campaign=lookout20220711

"Running Dry in the American West," National Review, Shawn Regan, In the cover story for the new issue, Regan, vice president of research at the



Property and Environment Research Center in Bozeman, Mont., surveys the effects that a record drought will have on America west of the Mississippi. The problem is a combination of drought, bad luck, NIMBYism, and, yes, governmental regulation that prevents water from being distributed efficiently through market mechanisms. As usual, however, Americans are learning to shoulder a sclerotic government aside and get on with it by attempting to "adapt to scarcity without sacrificing economic growth." Another point of view on addressing the issue of water scarcity, YOU KNOW it's bad when both sides of the political spectrum are writing about it. (Recommended by Suzanne Rousso)

The Monkey Wrench Gang, Edward Abbey, Classic comic gem of destructive mayhem and outrageous civil disobedience—the novel



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Blessing of the Backpacks

All children are invited to bring their backpacks to church on Sunday, August 14th, so that they and their backpack can be blessed.

Help us celebrate and bless the beginning of the new school year!



The Square Halos Square Dance Club has a dance on the second and fourth Fridays of every month through the summer! Have fun and get a little exercise while making new friends. Please bring your own water bottle; light refreshments will be served. No covid restrictions, hearing assist at every dance. Meet in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 pm. The next Dance will be on August 12th. **Don't know how to square dance?** Lessons begin every Thursday evening at 7:00 pm starting August 18th. See you there!

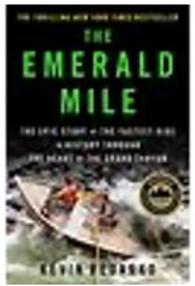
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that sparked the environmental activism movement. Ex-Green Beret George Hayduke has returned from war to find his beloved southwestern desert threatened by industrial development. Joining with Bronx exile and feminist saboteur Bonnie Abzug, wilderness guide and outcast Mormon Seldom Seen Smith, and libertarian billboard torcher Doc Sarvis, Hayduke is ready to fight the power—taking on the strip miners, clear-cutters, and the highway, dam, and bridge builders who are threatening the natural habitat. The Monkey Wrench Gang is on the move—and peaceful coexistence be d...d! Amazon

“Ribald, outrageous, and, in fact, scandalous.” —Smithsonian (Loved and Recommended by Suzanne Rousso)

The Emerald Mile: The Epic Story of the Fastest Ride in History Though the Heart of the Grand Canyon, Kevin Fedarko, In the

spring of 1983, massive flooding along the length of the Colorado River confronted a team of engineers at the Glen Canyon Dam with an unprecedented emergency that may have resulted in the most catastrophic dam failure in history. In the midst of this crisis, the decision to launch a small wooden dory named “The Emerald Mile” at the head of the Grand Canyon, just fifteen miles downstream from the Glen Canyon Dam, seemed not just odd, but downright suicidal. The goal was to nail the all-time record for the fastest boat ever propelled—by oar, by motor, or by the grace of God himself—down the entire length of the Colorado River from Lee’s Ferry to Lake Mead. Did he survive? Just barely. (Recommended by Water2022)



“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday

Sept. 11 2022

SAVE THE DATE

The ELCA’s “God’s Work, Our Hands” service day will be on Sunday, September 11th.

This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Keep looking for information about Atonement’s involvement in this important service activity!

To Pastor Kristy, + Atonement,

Thank you very much for the graduation card. The Church was great at teaching me good morals and how to be the best version of myself I could possibly be. See you soon!

— Jack Ford

Don't forget to tithe through the Summer!!

Proverbs 11:25 Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.

We know that you are going to be busy during the summer months. Please don't forget to contribute your tithe to the church while you are away on vacation. **ALL the following giving methods have the option to schedule recurring giving. Just set it and forget it!!**

How can I donate to the church?

You can send your monetary donations using the following methods:

- Mail a check to the church
- Use Venmo
- Use Paypal
- Use the new smartphone app "Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement"
- Text-to-Give option
- Use the Atonement Website < <https://www.atonementdenver.org/gifting.html> >
- **For all E-Giving options, please consider adding 2.5% to offset the processing fees. THANKS!**

Mail a check to the church

Yes, we still take checks and cash 😊

Giving using **venmo!**

Using your Venmo App, send payment to **@AtonementLC**

Or Scan the following QR Code



(optional) Provide a 'What's it for?' note to your donation if you want to donate to a specific designation. Otherwise, your donation will be directed to **"General Operating"**.

Giving using **PayPal!**

Using your PayPal App, send to **@AtonementLC**

Or Scan the following QR Code



(optional) Provide a 'note' to your donation if you want to donate to a specific designation. Otherwise, your donation will be directed to **"General Operating"**.

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Don't forget to tithe through the Summer!!



Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement

The new app is available for Android and iPhone. Please download this new app to your smart device for uninterrupted access.

Online Donation via our Website:

The donation website can be reached using the following path:

Go to the Website: <https://www.atonementdenver.org/gifting.html>, then,

click or scan the following QR code



Text-to-Give Option:

Giving in the moment is easy with our text-to-give option.

1. Text to phone # **720-513-1562** and enter the amount you wish to donate.
2. Click the registration link and enter your payment information.
3. Receive a verification text as well as an email receipt.

For future giving, simply send a text to the same number with the amount you wish to give, and your donation will process automatically.

****Note*** Text-to-Give is directed to **"General Operating"**.

If you need to modify you Text-to-Give profile, text the word EDIT to phone # 720-513-1562. You will then be presented with a registration link.

Submitted by: Mike Skaff – Treasurer@atonement-denver.org

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Shauna Skaff

Giving Opportunities that don't cost you a dime!!!

[Philippians 4:19](#) *And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.*

You can help Our church every time you shop anytime throughout the year!!!

Here's how!!

- RaiseRight (formerly ShopwithScrip) – Purchase Gift cards or eGiftCards
- AmazonSmile
- King Soopers Community Rewards



Fundraising through Gift Cards

ShopwithScrip is now RaiseRight. This is a program where you can purchase gift cards for over 780 retailer brands, with rebates ranging from 2-16% given directly to Atonement Lutheran Church every time you shop, **at no additional cost to you**. RaiseRight is the app that enables you to purchase these many e-gift cards directly from your smart-device...while you shop!

Enroll and Start Earning!! <https://www.raiseright.com/enroll>

Enrollment Code: **F84C731861822**

Tutorial: https://youtu.be/MKV_BXUWIm8



You shop. Amazon gives.

AmazonSmile

Who doesn't shop Amazon?!??

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the eligible purchases to our church. To support Atonement Lutheran Church, go to:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/84-0594012>

and select "Atonement Lutheran Church, ELCA Lakewood" as your charity!



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