



"Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you."

ISAIAH 60:1

Atonement Ministry Plan 2026 General Fund

Our theme for this fall is RISE, based on Isaiah 60:1: "*Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.*" Built on the priorities of our emerging Strategic Plan and the work of our Next Level Generosity Team, we will focus on the following four areas. In all these areas the Strategic Planning team has discerned from the Holy Spirit to focus on reaching the next generation—25 to 45 year olds, young families, and those disconnected from faith—while celebrating the wisdom and legacy of those who have brought us this far.

Worship (Experiencing the Good News)

This involves welcoming all who enter our campus with radical hospitality and acts of kindness. Whether through liturgy, creative arts, an enhanced Welcome Center or special events, we want every person to know that we offer the Good News of Jesus Christ and a safe place to engage in a spiritual journey.

Connect (Building Strong Relationships)

Relationships are important! This involves engaging in conversation and sharing our faith journey together. Opportunities to strengthen relationships are provided through worship, special events, community involvement and social hours. We engage a majority of our members in activities, including Stephen Ministers and Care Support Groups, to help individuals and families during times of change, crisis, or need. Our community outreach includes the Good Faith Network, organizing efforts to address homelessness, affordable housing, elder care and mental health.

Discipleship (Growing in Faith and Action)

Living life as followers of Jesus is an affirmation of our faith. As Martin Luther reminds us, we are baptized anew each day for God's work. Opportunities to teach, grow, and support one another are provided to all ages through KFaM, YFaM, Adult Forums, Small Groups, outreach projects, and social activities.

Generosity (Responding to God's Call)

Living in God's grace, we are called to be grateful, graceful and generous. We do this by how we acquire, regard, manage and share what God has entrusted to us. Through our Next Level Generosity and Stewardship efforts, we will focus on sharing stories about the impact of our giving; promote recurring giving; grow giving to our General Fund and the Atonement Foundation; conduct a Campus Sustainment Fund appeal; and enhance giving reporting.

Our Benevolence Ministries are a way we help serve those in need; grow current and future leaders; bring an ELCA perspective and voice to current economic, environmental and social issues; and nurture synodical, cultural, ecumenical and global relationships. These ministries include:

- Brookridge Elementary School
 - Food Pantries
 - Metropolitan Lutheran Ministry (MLM)
 - ELCA Central States Synod
- Project 1020
 - Hollis Renewal Center
 - Camp Tomah Shinga
 - Kansas Interfaith Action (KIFA)

National and global ministries include ELCA Advocacy Ministry, Campus Ministry, Disaster Response, Global Mission, Outdoor Ministry, and World Hunger.

Atonement’s ministry is 90%+ funded by the contributions of members and friends. We invite the Holy Spirit to guide each household in how they will respond to God’s grace. This response is not out of compulsion but through a spirit of generosity. In 2024, the General Fund received \$1.35 million, and Total Income was almost \$1.4 million. Based on giving through the first nine months of 2025, we are on a path to meet our General Fund budget of approximately \$1.4 million. The Atonement Ministry Plan 2026 anticipates a General Fund of \$ 1.5 million.

The budget categories below account for over 20% of the General Fund for 2025. These categories are not often highlighted, yet are essential.

Benevolences	\$ 100,000
Communications	\$ 10,000
Property	\$ 155,000 (Excludes Campus Sustainment Fund Projects)
Utilities	<u>\$ 60,000</u>
	\$ 325,000

Utilities are on track to increase by 16% in 2025. Due to cost increases, these budget categories are expected to increase further in 2026.

As our ministry continues to RISE, we will strengthen our foundation in Jesus Christ, growing wide and reach deep. It is the Holy Spirit that guides us. Through your participation and financial support, we will shine brighter in our community and beyond.



Visit Atonement’s Website
www.atoneluth.org/rise



Visit Atonement’s Giving Web Page
www.atoneluth.org/give