



the vinebranch

a monthly publication of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

August 2022

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Invite your friends, family and neighbors to one of the most fun evenings in our neighborhood!

**Abiding Savior's
FAMILY FUN NIGHT
Wednesday, August 10
5:00 - 7:00pm**

This is a FREE event and *everyone is welcome*. We'll have food, fun, and games including the Mounds View Police rock wall, a visit from the police K-9, BINGO, music, popcorn, snow cones, face painting, and more. Invite your friends and neighbors and join us for an evening of fun and getting to know one another.

ASLC Community VBS 2022 August 8-12, 9:00-noon

UNSTOPPABLE

After two summers of trying to offer a VBS program while responding to the challenges of a pandemic, we are looking forward to once again opening our doors and welcoming children to participate in our traditional VBS format, complete with activity centers, stories, music, snacks and games. But, while it's exciting to think of being back to a more "normal," and it's tempting to shut the door on all the weirdness, inconvenience and struggle of the past two VBS programs and say, "good riddance," I encourage you to remember the experiences and instead say, "Thank you, God."

Because we could have just stopped. We could have decided that since we couldn't do VBS in our traditional way, then we just couldn't do it. What we shouldn't ever forget is that God *can* do it.

"...the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world."

1 John 4:4

Our unstoppable God didn't let us stop. Our unstoppable God, **the one who is in you**, sustained us in our commitment to provide this program of love and outreach to the children and families of our community, looking to what was possible, instead of becoming disheartened by our limits. Thank you, God.

Now that you know the inspiration for this summer's VBS: "**Unstoppable**," I invite you to join us in exploring and celebrating God's unstoppable power and love working for, in and through us. There are so many opportunities to participate:

- [Register online](#), preferably by August 1st. Not a kiddo, but still want in on the fun? Sign up to volunteer online, or on the VBS sign-up board.
- **Family Fun Night - Wednesday, August 10** - Activities include a climbing wall, bounce house, bean bag toss and bingo. There will also be a meal with pulled pork, hot dogs, chips, lemonade, popcorn and shaved ice.
- **Feed My Starving Children "Field Trip" - Thursday, August 11** - We will leave church at 1:30 to pack meals from 2-3:45. [Sign up online](#) or in church.
- **Family Program - Friday, August 12, 11:30-noon** - Families can learn about our week together as children share songs and more.
- **VBS Sunday Sharing - Sunday, August 14** - Children will be a part of the morning's message during the 10:00 service.
- **Festival in the Park Parade - Friday, August 19, 6pm** - Parents and children (wear your VBS t-shirt!), please join in the fun as we march in this community parade.

VBS 2022-We still haven't stopped. Come be a part of what God is up to.

Living in God's love, Abiding Savior Lutheran Church
is a *welcoming* and *caring* family
that *nurtures* spiritual growth,
shares our Christian faith, and *serves* all creation.

Stewardship Corner

**Sharing is Regular and Intentional
(even in the summer!)**

BE
Intentional

MATTHEW 28:19

It's August and we are trying to enjoy every minute of our precious Minnesota summer! Minnesotans go up to the lakes or pile the family in the car for a cross country adventure. Although we might miss a few Sunday worship services while on the road, we can still make a plan to remember Abiding Savior in our sharing.

Pastor Charles Lane writes about the characteristics of a biblical giver in his book, *Ask, Thank, Tell*. Two of those characteristics are that a biblical giver gives intentionally and gives regularly. An intentional giver has a plan for their sharing. They make generosity a part of their overall financial plan and then they live out that plan of sharing. A biblical giver also gives regularly. They do not share only when they feel like sharing, or only when they attend worship services. Instead, they share as a practice of their faith.

One easy way to ensure that our giving is regular and intentional is to set up an automatic giving plan where our gifts to Abiding Savior are automatically given through electronic funds transfer every month. This method of giving is intentional because we have to choose an amount to give monthly, and it is regular because this giving happens whether we are at church, the cabin, or on the beaches of Florida. If you are interested in signing up for this service, please [contact the church office](#).

We are called by God to give intentionally and regularly. Practicing generosity in this way is helpful to Abiding Savior, especially as we are in the middle of these summer months. As people are busy with cabins, vacations, and summer activities, church attendance dips and so do offerings. I encourage you to make a plan for sharing and to follow that plan regularly this summer and every season of the year.

Finally! A New Church Directory

Tues., August 16 and Wed., August 17

***Wed., September 28—Sat., October 1**

2:00—8:30pm



We have found a NEW church directory company to update our directory photos for a brand new, up-to-date directory of our members!

We are very excited as we realize our current directory of members is outdated. Please take the time to register for photos, as it is so helpful for people to be able to put a face with a name! It is also a great time to order family photos or Christmas cards. We have a wonderful committee working on this project: Trisha Bourassa, Linda Weiner-Herman, and Sandra LaCroix. Please speak with any of them if you have questions!

To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to www.ucdir.com, click on **Photography Appointment Scheduling Login** on the right side, enter **mn274** in the **Church Code** field and enter **photos** in the **Church Password** field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family please use 2 consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday. **Appointments will fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.** *Note that Sept./Oct. dates will be open for scheduling once the August dates are full.

Abiding Here for 50 Years Capital Campaign Update



The Abiding Here for 50 Years Capital Campaign is off to a great start! We have almost reached our goal of \$250,000. Thank you to all those who have made a pledge or a gift already. It is not too late to participate in the campaign and your gift can help push us over our goal. Your gift is needed and your gift can and will make a difference for years to come.

As our church building turns fifty, there are some needed improvements and maintenance to be done. For details on the proposed projects, please visit our website. The Abiding Here for 50 Years Capital Campaign is a two-year campaign with a goal of raising \$250,000. If you have not already done so, you are invited to make a gift or a pledge toward the Abiding Here for 50 Years Capital Campaign. You can make a pledge or gift online by visiting our website or stopping by the church office. If you have any questions about this campaign, please [talk to Pastor Ryan](#).

Mission

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Meals on Wheels Delivery



We will be delivering
Meals on Wheels
Mon., Aug. 1st — Fri., Aug. 5th



If you are available to help
any day from approx. 11am—1pm,
please let Fern Fisher know (763-786-1044).

Men's Fishing Trip



The Thirteenth Annual Men's Fishing Trip will be held on **August 5th-7th** at Green Lake Lutheran Bible Camp in Spicer, MN, on the shores of Green Lake. We'll be leaving Friday morning and be back Sunday afternoon. The cost, including housing in hotel style rooms each with their own bathroom, all of our meals while at camp, bait, and gas for our boats and cars will be \$155 per person. Sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office. If you have questions, [contact Pastor Ryan](#).

Youth Group August Events

- **Block Party at church—August 10 from 5-7pm:** Come help run games and events!
- **Bonfire—August 24 at 6:30pm:** Bring your friends for a campfire at church

SPECIAL EVENTS

- **VBS—August 8 -12:** We need youth 6-12th grade to help volunteer to be group leaders and run crafts, take photos, etc. [Email us](#) if interested.
- **Summer Stretch—August 15 - 19:** Details and register at <https://incarnationmn.org/middle-school-summer-2022/>
- **Bunker Beach Event—August 21 from 11:15am-4pm:** Bunker Beach - Carpool after church, pack lunch or bring food \$. Tickets are \$16. Bunker details can be found at <https://www.bunkerbeach.com>

You're invited to NEIGHBORHOOD FAMILY FUN NIGHT

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10 - 5-7PM

*Free! Food - Fun - Games
Everyone welcome!*

ABIDING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
8211 RED OAK DR - MOUNDS VIEW
WWW.ABIDINGSAVIOR.ORG

FEED MY
STARVING
CHILDREN



FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN
Thursday, August 11th
2pm - 3:45pm

Join us during VBS week at Feed My Starving Children! We will meet at church at 1:30 and carpool over. You can also meet us at FMSC (401 93rd Avenue NW Coon Rapids, MN 55433). Please sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office or click [HERE](#) for an electronic sign up.



**Everyone loves
a parade!
Come walk with us!
Mounds View Parade
Fri., August 19 @ 6pm**

Join us as we walk the parade,
greet our neighbors and share info about
Abiding Savior!

UNSTOPPABLE

THE ONE WHO IS IN YOU IS GREATER
THAN THE ONE WHO IS IN THE WORLD.

1 JOHN 4:4

We're planning to be back to a more "normal" Vacation Bible School this summer, complete with stories, music, games, crafts, and a daily snack, for an experience sure to be fun for all.

[Register online](#), or in the church office. This is a **free program**, with donations gratefully accepted.

Come to Abiding Savior's
Community VBS 2022!
August 8-12, 9:00-noon

Welcoming ages 3 (by 9/1 and
potty-trained) to those entering
5th grade in 2022/23

BE A VBS VOLUNTEER!

Adults and youth entering
6th grade or older are
needed to guide groups,
lead activities, help with
snack and more. Please sign
up on the VBS bulletin board
or [contact Patty Mesenbring](#).

Abiding Savior Preschool

I can't believe how quickly our summer is going! It is flying by and we will be opening the doors to our preschoolers again very soon! Our teachers have been hard at work getting the classrooms organized and ready for an exciting school year! Our new playground structure should be installed in the upcoming weeks! We are so excited to have this new structure to play on this Fall!!!

Please spread the word that we are [open for enrollment](#) and that we have a wonderful caring staff that is ready for a fun and exciting school year!!!

Thank you for your continued support of our wonderful preschool program!

Jen Boog, Preschool Director
preschool@abidingsavior.org
763-784-5326



Attention: Families of College Students

Hello Abiding Savior families. Do you have a student heading off to/going back to college? If so, we'd like to know so we can send them greetings on behalf of Abiding Savior.

Many of us remember the excitement of receiving some greetings from back home. We'd love to be able to do a better job of staying connected to and reaching out to our college students when they're away from home. If you think your college student would enjoy a greeting from Abiding Savior, could you [please send us](#) the following information.

- Student Name
- Name of College/University
- Mailing Address
- Email Address
- Year (Freshman, Soph., Jr., Sr.)
- Major (what they are studying)



*Don't worry, we won't be sending them any junk mail — just a greeting on occasion to let them know they are loved and missed!

Important Upcoming Confirmation Dates

Wed., September 7 @ 6:30pm

- 6-8 grade Orientation in the Fellowship Hall (parents and students attend)

Wed., September 14 @ 6:30pm

- 9th grade Orientation (9th grade parents and students attend) and First night of classes for all grades



Church Basement Ladies "Plowin' Thru" Tuesday, November 29

Mark your calendars for a fun outing on Tues., Nov. 29th. We have 60 tickets and will take a bus. Watch for more info and a sign up in the weeks ahead!

Mission

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God's Work. Our Hands.

Coat Drive

The 23rd Coat Drive and Give-away is scheduled for October 15th at Christ the King, after a two-year Covid hiatus. We'll be collecting gently used or new warm winter coats until October 14th. Mittens, scarves, snowpants, and boots are also accepted, but hats must be new. Items for school age children are most needed. Please place donations in the Social Concerns trunk. There will be opportunities to help set-up and work at the give-away coming up. Thank you for caring for your neighbors!



Walk for Our Neighbors

Thanks to everyone participating in the Community Support Center's fundraising walk July 31st. If you couldn't attend but would like to support their work preventing evictions and homelessness, you can mail donations to Community Support Center, 1600 Silver Lake Road, New Brighton, MN 55112. They are very busy now after the pandemic eviction moratorium was lifted, working with landlords to catch-up back rents, helping neighbors find steady employment, and supporting sustainability with long-term goals and skills like budgeting and savings. Your support helps build a stronger community.



Garden of Grace


Thanks to everyone involved in the Garden of Grace busy growing fresh produce for Ralph Reeder Food Shelf. What a great gift to provide fresh food for a family in need.



You Lovely People

Bless you all for the many ways you respond to the call of "Love Your Neighbor." There are countless acts, large and small, of caring for others that occur every day. Your hands doing God's work are greatly appreciated!





FALL NEW MEMBER CLASS

Wednesday, September 21st at 6pm

Welcome to Abiding Savior A place to belong! Are you (or someone you know) interested in or curious about becoming a member at Abiding Savior? Join us for a **new members class on Wednesday September 21st** at 6:00pm to learn more about the ministries of Abiding Savior, what it means to be Lutheran, and to get to know one another! Please contact the church office at 763-784-5120 if you are interested! **New members will be received on Sunday, October 2nd.**



SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Help us collect school supplies for area kids in need!

Items include: Pocket folders, spiral notebooks, glue sticks, colored pencils, washable markers, crayons, dry erase markers, Kleenex, and sandwich sized Ziploc bags.

Stay Informed!

Help us ensure you're getting the information you need! Did you know Abiding Savior sends out weekly news via email and has a email Prayer Chain? Do you want to stay up-to-date on activities going on in our congregation? If you would like to receive electronic communications from Abiding Savior (and aren't already), please click on the following link to complete a short sign-up request. This will help ensure you're getting the information you want, when and how you prefer! <http://abidingsavior.org/OutreachPro/sign-up-to-receive-information-from-abiding-savior-electronically/>

June 2022 Financial Highlights

2022	Monthly	YTD
INCOME		
Current gifts and giving	31,470	220,221
Festival giving	967	16,901
SUBTOTAL	32,437	237,122
Other income	1,860	28,847
TOTAL INCOME	34,297	265,969
EXPENSES		
TOTAL EXPENSES	48,655	330,919
NET INCOME OVER EXPENSES	(14,358)	(64,950)
Benevolence paid	3,492	24,846

WAPO Reflection & Thanks

This year 22 kids from our congregation had attended Camp Wapo. We, as a congregation, were able to provide each and every camper with a scholarship to help offset the cost. (Did you know it costs \$545 to attend week-long camp?) Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the camperships! Contributions toward next summer's scholarships are welcome at anytime!



I look forward to going to camp Wapo every year. My week at camp is always the highlight of my summer. The best part of camp is meeting new people, campfires, and connecting with God. It wouldn't be possible for me to do all these things without the help of Abiding Savior. Camp is expensive and the scholarships we get each summer help us have a great time while learning more about God. Thank you to everyone who contributes to these scholarships and supports the growing of our faith. I appreciate you!

—Taylor Brouillard

Giving to the Endowment Fund is Simple and Joyful!

When you make or revise your Will or Trust or review your life insurance contracts or retirement funds, please consider Abiding Savior as one of your beneficiaries using the following language:

I bequeath __ % (or \$ __) of my estate to Abiding Savior Lutheran Church located at 8211 Red Oak Drive, Mounds View, MN, designated for the Mission Endowment Fund of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church.

Please talk to Pastor Ryan Brodin if you have questions about making a gift to the Endowment Fund.



ENDOWMENT FUND

Thrivent Choice Dollars Thrivent Action Teams

If you are a Thrivent member, you may receive Thrivent Choice dollars that you are able to direct to Abiding Savior each year. Directing your choice dollars is easy. Just log in to www.Thrivent.com or call 800-847-4836 and when prompted, say "Thrivent Choice."

You can also apply for two Thrivent Action Team Grants up to \$250 to be used for fundraisers, volunteer opportunities, educational events, or meals. The application is simple and quick. If you would like to apply for a Thrivent Action Team Grant to benefit one of the ministries of Abiding Savior, please contact the church office. We could use Thrivent Action Team Grants for the following upcoming events:

- Rally Sunday
- Fall Festival
- Wednesday Night Suppers
- Preschool Wreath Fundraiser



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2022

Saturday

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church
8211 Red Oak Drive
Mounds View, MN 55112-5929

Phone: 763.784.5120

Email: office@abidingsavior.org

Website: www.abidingsavior.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/abidingsaviorlc/>

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Go Paperless

If you want to go paperless,
call the Church office at 763.784.5120
or email us at office@abidingsavior.org.

Reduce waste.
Reduce mailing costs.
Receive information faster!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Events in August

- Aug. 1-5: Meals on Wheels Delivery
- Aug. 2: Twins Outing
- Aug. 4: Bible Study
- Aug. 5-7: Men's Fishing Trip
- Aug. 7: Outdoor Worship with Holy Communion
- Aug. 8-12: Vacation Bible School
- Aug. 10: Family Fun Night (5-7pm)
- Aug. 11: Work Crew & Bible Study
Feed My Starving Children event
- Aug. 14: Outdoor Worship
- Aug. 16: Quilting
Council Meeting
- Aug. 16-17: Church Directory Pictures (2-8:30pm)
- Aug. 18: Bible Study
- Aug. 19: Mounds View Parade
- Aug. 21: Outdoor Worship with Holy Communion
MS/HS Youth Outing to Bunker Beach
- Aug. 24: MS/HS Youth Bonfire @ Church
- Aug. 25: Work Crew & Bible Study
- Aug. 26: Faith & A Pint Men's Outing

Pastors & Staff

Ryan Brodin, Senior Pastor

Lisa Richardson Engen, Associate Pastor

Brad Mills, Deacon & Director of Youth Ministries

Patty Mesenbring, Dir. of Children's Ministries

Janelle Schauer, Organist

Mary Larew, Vocal Choirs Director

Paul Weller, Bell Choirs Director

Katie Brouillard, Office Manager

Connie Clausen, Office Assistant

Trisha Bourassa, Office Assistant

Jen Boog, Preschool Director

Gene Herman, Custodian

UPDATE
CONTACT INFORMATION

Help keep our contact information up-to-date! If you have a new home phone, cell phone or new email address, please call the church office at 763.784.5120 or visit <http://abidingsavior.org/OutreachPro/update-my-contact-information/> so we can update our records. Thanks!