



the vinebranch

a monthly publication of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

August 2023

in this issue

Special Events	3
VBS and Youth News	4
Help Our Neighbors	5
Financial Updates	6
August Calendar	7

Trust in the Lord

It's getting hard to watch the news. Mass shootings, war in Ukraine, refugees fleeing their homeland, politics dividing our country, community, and families. There is a lot to worry about and if we chose to do so, we could end up letting that worry overcome our lives. Worry can lead us to fear and fear leads us to actions that are not in the best interest of our neighbor. Instead of coming together, we draw lines of division sometimes fueled by hate instead of love.



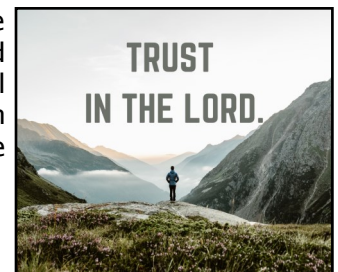
But we are called by God to love, not to hate. We are called to trust, not to worry. IN Matthew Chapter Six Jesus teaches us, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life?...Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?...But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own."

There is a certain comfort in trusting in God instead of worrying. There is so much in this life we cannot control no matter how hard we try. When we admit we are not in control and we turn over our worry to God, we experience relief that can lead to empathy, caring, and respect instead of resentment, jealousy and worry. God loves us, God knows what is best for us, and God will care for us and our needs in this world.

Instead of giving in to worry, fear, or hatred, we can instead turn to God and learn to love, care and trust. As Proverbs says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Blessings to you!

Pastor Ryan Brodin



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

**Abiding Savior's
FAMILY FUN NIGHT
Wednesday, August 9
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, fire trucks, BINGO, music, popcorn, snow cones, and more. Invite your friends and neighbors and join us for an evening of fun and getting to know one another.



**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 as an Investment (Not Just Giving)

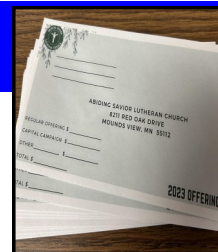
Stewardship is often thought of as giving money to the church or other organizations. But what if we thought about our stewardship more as an investment instead of a gift. This investment does not bring us a financial return, but instead pays off in other ways. Through our sharing, our investment in Abiding Savior, we are rewarded by seeing our children grow to feel know and share God's love. We are paid back over and over through weekly worship services and Bible study opportunities. We see a return on our investment knowing that the sick are visited, the elderly cared for, and those in our community are provide with food, shelter, and other basic needs. We share together in the loving fellowship provided through our congregation.

Investing, or giving, to your church is a response to the many blessing God has given to us. God created us, sustains us in this life, has given us everything we call your own, sent Jesus to die for our sins, forgives us when we don't deserve to be forgiven, and grants us eternal life in Heaven with God. How can we not want to give back to God?

One way to give back is to make an "investment" in the work of God done in and through Abiding Savior. As together we live in God's love, we will continue to mold our congregation to be a welcoming and caring family that nurtures spiritual growth, shares our Christian faith, and serves all creation.

Where are My Offering Envelopes?

That is a good question that we have been asking for the past seven months! Last winter our envelopes were shipped to the wrong location and never arrived at Abiding Savior. We expected the company to get us our envelopes, but it appears they are not able to do so. There will be no "official" offering envelopes for 2023.



That being said, you can still make your gifts to the congregation in several different ways:

1. We have printed temporary offering envelopes that are available at every worship service. You can place your offering in the envelope and write your name on the outside. **NO ENVELOPE NUMBER IS NEEDED!** With just your name we can be sure to track your giving appropriately for your annual statement.
2. We will have bundles of the temporary envelopes available that you can take home with you to mail in your offering or prepare your offering at home before coming to church.
3. Electronic giving is a great way to share! You can choose to make a gift from your checking account or on your credit card. Your gift can be set up to be given automatically monthly, weekly, or annually. You can also make a one time electronic gift through our website or by using your phone and the QR code provided.
4. The church receives several gifts of stocks, IRA's, and other securities throughout the year. This can be a great way to avoid paying taxes on the earnings from your investments while making a gift to Abiding Savior.

If you would like to set up automatic giving or want more information on how to make a stock gift, please contact the church office at 763-784-5120. Thank you for your continued generosity!

Men's Fishing Trip | September 22-24 | NEW location!

Mark your calendars now for the Fourteenth Annual Men's Fishing Trip on Friday, Sept. 22 to Sunday, Sept. 24. This year we will be going to Camp Hiawatha on the Shores of Deer Lake just north of Grand Rapids, MN. Invite your friends and neighbors, sons and sons-in-law for a weekend of fishing and fellowship. The cost, including housing and all of our meals while at camp, bait, and gas for our boats and cars is only \$170 per person. We will be bringing our own boats to use over the weekend. If you don't have a boat, don't worry, others will share! Please sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Ryan at 763-784-5120 or pastorryan@bidingsavior.org.

Mission

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.

Our El Salvador Mission Trip participants will be gone July 31—August 7. Please keep them in your prayers!

Summer Worship Indoors & Outdoors

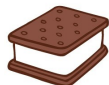
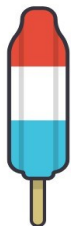
We're nearing the end of our summer worship schedule. Please join us!

- On Communion Sundays (1st & 3rd Sunday of the month), we will worship inside.
- On non-communion Sundays (2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays of the month), we will worship outside (weather permitting).

MS/HS Youth Group August Events Wednesdays 6:30-8pm

- Aug. 2 & 9: No activity (Alex&Josh gone)
- Aug. 16: Game Night
- Aug. 23: End of Summer Bonfire

Popsicle-Ice Cream Treats Sunday, Aug. 13 following worship



On Sunday, August 13, we will be serving up various ice cream/popsicle treats following the 10:00am worship service. Worship that day will be outside, weather permitting. Join us as we enjoy a tasty summer treat and fellowship.

You're invited to
**NEIGHBORHOOD
FAMILY FUN NIGHT**
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9 - 5-7PM
*Free! Food - Fun - Games
Everyone welcome!*



Everyone loves
a parade!
Come walk with us!
Mounds View Parade
Fri., August 18 @ 6pm



Join us as we walk the parade, greet our neighbors and share info about Abiding Savior! We'll also have a table near the splash pad after the parade. Stop by for a FREE icee!

Meals on Wheels Delivery



We will be delivering Meals on Wheels
Mon., Aug. 28 — Fri., Sept. 1



Get Your Tickets to
the Twins Game!



Tuesday, August 29
Twins v. Cleveland Guardians



You're invited to the Twins game! Get your tickets NOW! \$40 for a ticket, tailgating meal before the game & snacks for the game (or \$55 with coach bus ride to/from the game). Sign up at church (payment due when you sign up).

COMMUNITY
End of Summer
BONFIRE
WITH PIZZA, POPCORN & POPSICLES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23
6:30 - 8PM

DO GOOD **Come to Abiding Savior's Community VBS 2023!** DO GOOD
August 7-11, 9:00-noon

All children ages 3 (and potty-trained) through those entering 5th grade in the fall are invited to a week of Bible stories, music, games, crafts – it will be packed with fun! [Register today](#) on the church website.

Please note: The registration deadline for ensuring a child receives a t-shirt was July 24. Although extra shirts were ordered, we can't guarantee a shirt for children registered after that date.

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?
[Contact Patty Mesenbring](#)

Trust in the LORD and DO GOOD.

Abiding Savior Preschool Help Spread the Word!

I can't believe how fast the summer has gone! Our teachers have been hard at work getting classrooms ready! Our toddler room is being accepted with huge success! It is such an exciting addition to our programming! We are all very excited to welcome our kiddos back into the building in a few short weeks! The beginning of the school year will be here before we know it!

Look for Abiding Savior Preschool walking in the **Mounds View Parade** on Friday August 18. We'll be handing out pinwheels and information about our program. If you're a preschool graduate or family, we'd love to have you come walk with us!



As always thank you for your continued support of our program!

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



ENROLL TODAY!

DO GOOD **Keep the GOOD Going!** DO GOOD

The fun's not done when VBS week is over:

- All participants are invited to be a part of **outdoor worship on Sunday, August 13**. We will share music and scripture, and let the congregation know a bit about our week.
- **Join us as we march in the Mounds View Festival in the Park parade on Friday, August 18, 6:00pm**. Make sure to wear your VBS t-shirt! More information will be provided during VBS week.

Please join us for these special events!

End of Summer Fun MS/HS Youth!



**August
Middle & High
School
Youth Events**



All events are Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8 PM and free Parents are welcome! *Invite a friend!!*

- August 2: No activity (El Salvador Mission Trip)**
- August 9: Family Fun Night**
- August 16: Game Night**
- August 23: Community End of Summer Bonfire with Pizza, Popcorn & Popsicles**

Sign Up For "Remind"

Keep Up-to-Date on Youth Activities!

Text: @8211redoak
To: 81010

Remind allows you to receive Text and/or E-mail notifications for all of our youth events, volunteer/fundraising opportunities, and any important updates regarding the youth program! Parents and Students are welcome to join as long as you have a cell phone number and/or e-mail address! Remind also allows you to reply directly to our messages if you have any questions or need to reach Alex/Josh!

Mission

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.

Women's Bible Study *When Bad Things Happen to Good People*

When
Bad Things
Happen to
Good People

THE INSPIRATIONAL #1 BESTSELLER
OVER 4 MILLION COPIES SOLD

HAROLD S.
KUSHNER

Did you ever wonder why bad things happen to good people? It's a question most of us ask from time to time as we look around the world and see things that just don't seem fair. The women's Bible study group will be exploring this question in more depth this summer as we read and discuss the classic book by Rabbi Harold Kushner.

Rabbi Kushner's son, Aaron, was born with a debilitating illness that caused much suffering and resulted in Aaron's death at age 14. This personal experience of family suffering, combined with Rabbi Kushner's pastoral role in accompanying people in his congregation through many life challenges, prompted him to delve into the question of where God is at when bad things happen to good people. He looks to Old Testament scriptures, prayer, and his relationship with God to guide his consideration of this difficult life reality.

Our study of this book continues in August and September! Any women in the congregation who would like to participate in this study are welcome! The Women's Bible Study group meets each week on Thursday mornings from 10:00 to about 11:30 in our church Coffee House, led by Pastor Marla. The chapters of the book are short. It's an easy read. It helps to read it, but you can participate even if you don't read the book since the questions it addresses are common to all of us and our discussion will draw heavily on our own life experiences. We hope you'll join us!

God's Work. Your Hands. Helping Others.

Coat Collection — The 24th Coat Drive and Give-away is scheduled for October 21 at Christ the King, New Brighton. We'll be collecting gently used or new warm winter coats until October 19. Mittens, scarves, snowpants and boots are also accepted, but hats must be new. Items for school age children are most needed — last year we ran out of these sizes. Please place donations in the Social Concerns trunk in the Narthex near the preschool. 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 who participated in the Community Support Center's fundraising walk on July 30. 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 busy assisting neighbors facing eviction, working with landlords to catch-up back rents, helping with resumes and finding steady employment, and supporting sustainability with long-term goals and skills like budgeting and savings. Your support helps build a stronger community!




School Supplies — If you run across some good back-to-school bargains, we will coordinate with Edgewood, Sunnyside, and Pinewood to distribute what is collected at church. Thank you for thinking of our young friends in the area.



You Good-hearted 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!





Get some fresh air and exercise! Help mow at church this summer!
We are still looking for some volunteers to help mow the church lawn this **August — October!** Team up with a friend or family member and sign up (either for the month, a particular week, or as a sub.) To sign up call the office or click here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080548acaa2ea1ff2-20232#/>

June 2023
Financial Highlights

2023	Monthly	YTD
INCOME		
Current gifts and giving	38,628	255,334
Festival giving	-	11,468
SUBTOTAL	38,628	266,802
Other income	268	22,399
TOTAL INCOME	38,896	289,201
EXPENSES		
TOTAL EXPENSES	46,525	320,944
NET INCOME OVER EXPENSES	(7,629)	(31,743)
Benevolence paid	2,229	20,314

Notes of Thanks

All of us here at Community Partners with Youth (CPY) are incredibly grateful for your ongoing support. With your help, we have reached over 13,000 youth in our community. We continue to rely on our partners to ensure that every child has opportunities to thrive in our community, no matter their financial status. You have not only welcomed us in your space with open arms but continue to go above and beyond with your most recent gift of \$1,500 from your Endowment fund as well as individual giving from the congregation and we are so grateful!

—Mary Stewart, Executive Director—CPY

Continued thanks to those who have brought in used ink cartridges! We've been able to purchase an additional 2 new backpacks with the credits we've received from the cartridges! Keep bringing them in!

Abiding Savior Preschool wishes to thank the amazing work crew for the various projects you help with throughout the year. Most recently, Arden E. and Jim K. helped remove an old tire from the preschool yard to help make room for the new playhouse and climbing structure sized 'just right' for the toddlers who will be coming this fall. We appreciate all you do!

—Abiding Savior Preschool Staff & Committee

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. Thank you!



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.

Looking for Irondale Clothes



Have your kids outgrown their Irondale clothing? We are looking to collect gently used Irondale High School clothing to be made available to students in need next fall.

If you have any items to donate, please drop them off in the church office.

Mission

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.

August

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 JULY	31 JULY	1	2	3	4	5
10:00 Outdoor Worship (also available via Facebook) CSC Walk for Our Neighbors 9am – 1pm	EL SALVADOR MISSION TRIP	EL SALVADOR MISSION TRIP	9:45 Cub Foods delivery EL SALVADOR MISSION TRIP	10:00 Women's Bible Study EL SALVADOR MISSION TRIP	OFFICE CLOSED EL SALVADOR MISSION TRIP	EL SALVADOR MISSION TRIP
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10:00 Indoor Worship Service with Holy Communion (also via Facebook) EL SALVADOR MISSION TRIP	VBS 9am - noon EL SALVADOR MISSION TRIP	VBS 9am - noon	VBS 9am - noon 9:45 Cub Foods delivery FAMILY FUN NIGHT 5 – 7pm	VBS 9am – noon 9:00 Work Crew 10:00 Women's Bible Study (in-person or Facebook)	VBS 9am - noon	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
10:00 Outdoor Worship Service (also via Facebook) with Baptism 11:00 Ice Cream Treats Fellowship	5:30 Women's Gathering	9:00 Quilting 10:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 Council Mtg	9:45 Cub Foods delivery 6:30 MS/HS Yth Event Game Night	10:00 Women's Bible Study (in-person or Facebook)	OFFICE CLOSED Mounds View Parade 6pm	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
10:00 Indoor Worship Service with Holy Communion (also via Facebook)		10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 Benediciftine Service	9:45 Cub Foods delivery 6:30 Community Bonfire w/ Pizza, Popcorn & Popsicles	9:00 Work Crew 10:00 Women's Bible Study (in-person or Facebook)	OFFICE CLOSED Men's Faith & A Pint	
27	28	29	30	31	1 SEPT	2 SEPT
10:00 Outdoor Worship Service (also via Facebook)	28 MLS ON WHLS	29 MEALS ON WHEELS 10:00 Staff Meeting TWINS OUTING Meet at 4:30 for meal Bus leaves by 5:30	30 MEALS ON WHEELS 9:45 Cub Foods delivery	31 MEALS ON WHEELS 9:00 Work Crew NO Bible Study	1 SEPT MLS ON WHLS OFFICE CLOSED	2 SEPT

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/>

Non-Profit Organization
US POSTAGE
PAID
TWIN CITIES MN
PERMIT NO. 4987

August Vinebranch Newsletter Volume 23 Number 08 Date 2023



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

- July 31—Aug. 6: El Salvador Mission Trip
- Aug. 3 Women's Bible Study
- Aug. 6: Indoor Worship with Holy Communion
- Aug. 7—11: Vacation Bible School (9am—noon)
- Aug. 9: Family Fun Night (5—7pm)
- Aug. 10: Work Crew
Women's Bible Study
- Aug. 13 Outdoor Worship with Baptism
Popsicles & Ice Cream Treats after Worship
- Aug. 14: Women's Gathering
- Aug. 15: Quilting & Council Meeting
- Aug. 16: MS/HS Youth Group—Game Night @ church
- Aug. 17: Women's Bible Study
- Aug. 18: Mounds View Parade (6pm)
- Aug. 20: Indoor Worship with Holy Communion
- Aug. 22: Benedictine Service
- Aug. 23: Community Bonfire & Pizza Event (6:30-8pm)
- Aug. 24: Work Crew
Women's Bible Study
- Aug. 27: Outdoor Worship
- Aug. 26: MS/HS Youth Group—Swim @ Long Lake
- Aug. 28—Sept. 1: Meals on Wheels delivery
- Aug. 29: Twins Outing
- Aug. 31: NO Women's Bible Study (Labor Day Wknd)

Pastors & Staff

- Ryan Brodin**, Senior Pastor
- Marla Amborn**, Interim Pastor
- Josh & Alex Ertz**, Interim Youth Mentors
- 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!