



the vinebranch

a monthly publication of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

February 2023

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ANNUAL MEETING

All members of
Abiding Savior
Lutheran Church
are encouraged
to attend our

**Congregational
Annual Meeting**
Sunday, February 12
at 11:30am

Soup & sandwich lunch
served before the meeting!

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.

Lent 2023: Who Do You Say That I Am?

The Season of Lent is almost upon us. Lent is the forty days before Easter (not counting Sundays) commemorating the 40 days Jesus spent fasting and praying in the desert before he began his public ministry. During Lent Christians around the world prepare themselves for the Easter celebration through prayer, worship, sacrifice, and acts of love.



Wednesday, February 22 is Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. On Ash Wednesday we will gather for worship at 4:00 and 6:30 for the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion. The ashes remind us that we are created by God from dust and that after we leave this world, our bodies will return to dust. Without God, we are nothing, but with God, we live forever in heaven.

The following five Wednesdays in Lent we will be having worship at 4:00 and 6:30*. Our theme for these Wednesday services is "Who Do You Say That I Am?" This is the question that Jesus asked Peter and it is a question for all of us to contemplate as we journey through the Season of Lent. Jesus is many things: Prince of Peace, Bread of Life, Son of God, The Lord of My Life, Savior, Friend.

Who is Jesus to us and how does knowing Jesus change the way we live our lives? Join us this Lent as we explore that question and journey together toward our Easter celebration.

God's blessings!

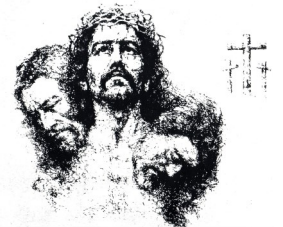
Pastor Ryan

*No 6:30 service on Wednesday, March 29 due to the Augustana Choir Concert.

Lent:
A Season of
Prayer, Worship,
Sacrifice,
and Acts of Love

Share Your Voices in the Musical!

YOU are invited to join an important tradition at Abiding Savior: presenting the musical, "Who Is It That You Say I Am," written by Pastor David Rogge.



Musicians of all ages from Abiding Savior Lutheran Church, along with musicians and friends from the community will present the musical "Who Is It That You Say I Am?" Palm Sunday, April 2.

The one hour musical will be presented for personal pondering through music, motion, dance and cameo scenes of the disciples. You will find yourself involved in the betrayal of Jesus, in the crowd at the crucifixion and at the tomb with the joy of the resurrection.

—Continued on pg. 5

Stewardship Corner— Electronic Giving: Regular & Intentional

Electronic giving is simple, easy, regular and intentional giving. Through electronic giving, you can choose to have your sharing with Abiding Savior done directly from your checking account or credit card*. With electronic giving you choose the date and the amount that you would like to share and this sharing is done automatically. Your giving can be done weekly, monthly, quarterly or annually, however you choose to set up your sharing. Electronic giving is secure and safe from any threats. There are already many families giving electronically in our congregation.

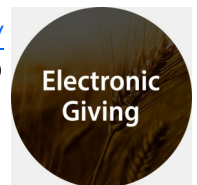
In his book *Ask, Thank Tell*, Pastor Chick Lane explains what it means to be a biblical giver. He says that biblical givers are first of all intentional. To be intentional means to make up your mind, to develop a plan for giving, and then to “walk the walk” as you turn that plan into action. Biblical givers are also regular in their giving. To be regular in giving means to establish a pattern and to follow that pattern.

Electronic giving helps us to be intentional and regular givers. Electronic giving is also beneficial to the church, especially in the summer months and when people are away for the winter.

Signing up for electronic giving is free, and easy, simply visit our secure website at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z00G/home>. If you have any questions about setting your giving up online, feel free to contact the office.

Thank you for your continued generosity!

*Credit Card gifts are asked to also cover any service charges associated with using their card.



Mission Endowment Fund Grant Applications Available



The Endowment Committee is thrilled to again be awarding grants for mission and ministry in 2023! The Mission Endowment Fund accepts applications from committees, staff, Council members, ministries of Abiding Savior, individual church members, and community non-profit organizations. This year there will be over \$7,300 available for distribution!

Grant Applications are available in the church office or by contacting the office if you would prefer an electronic copy of the application. Applications must be received by February 28, 2023. The application process is simple. Criteria for grant funding is explained further on the application form. If you have a new ministry idea or know of a worthy organization, please consider applying for a grant from Mission Endowment Fund of Abiding Savior.

As the Mission Endowment Fund grows, the Endowment will be able award more and more grants to be used in sharing God's love in the world. If you haven't done so already, please prayerfully consider including the Abiding Savior Endowment in your estate planning. This can be done in a variety of ways including life insurance and IRA beneficiary designations, annuities, and simple language added to your will. All gifts, big or small, are appreciated and will be used to further the work of God done in the world. For more info [contact Pastor Ryan Brodin](#).

Meals on Wheels 2023 Schedule

March 13—17

May 8—12

July 5—7

August 28—September 1

October 23—27

December 18—22

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



**AUGUSTANA
CHOIR**

**Wednesday, March 29 @ 7pm
Abiding Savior Lutheran Church**

The Augustana Choir, from Rock Island, Illinois, will present a concert at Abiding Savior Lutheran Church at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 29. We are truly blessed to have this top notch Lutheran Choir performing in our Sanctuary.

Mission

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Souper Bowl Sunday



February 12 is Souper Bowl Sunday. Please consider a donation of your spare change and dollars to help ease hunger right in our community.

Collection will take place in the Narthex after worship. Thank you for caring for your neighbors!

Annual Meeting Sunday, February 12 11:30AM

Register for Bible Camp!

- SEEDS (2nd – 3rd grade): June 16-18
- WAPO Youth (4th – 8th grade): June 18 - 23

*If these dates don't work for your family,
you're welcome to go whenever
it works best for you!*



SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE!
To register <http://lwlhci.com/abidingsavior>

Confirmation Retreat

Sunday, Feb. 19 - Monday, Feb. 20
Camp WAPO

All Confirmation students and High Schoolers are invited to our Confirmation Retreat!

Registration materials were mailed to Confirmation families in mid-January and are also available [on our website](#).

Be sure to turn in your paperwork to the office **ASAP**.

*It will be an awesome weekend
growing in faith and having
fun together!*



Super Bowl SUB SANDWICH Fundraiser

FULL 10" \$8
HALF 5" \$4.50



TURKEY, HAM OR ROAST BEEF
PICK UP ON SUNDAY, FEB. 12TH

All proceeds will go towards the El Salvador trip this summer. Please get an order form from the office or find the google link on our website.
Orders due February 8th. Thank you!



Women's Gathering Mon., Feb. 13

You are invited to join in on a monthly "meet-up" for the Women of ASLC at Moe's (Hwy 10, Mounds View) in their main dining room at 5:30pm (come whenever you can and stay as long as you're able).

Wednesday Schedule

4:30—6:30pm Dinner served

- Feb. 1: Tator Tot Hotdish
- Feb. 8: Pork Loin with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
- Feb. 15: Pizza Casserole
- Feb. 22: Ash Wednesday Soup Supper

5:00—5:30pm Celebration Ringers

5:30—6:00pm King's Msgs Choir/POWER Up

6:00—6:30pm WWJD Choir/POWER Up

6:00—7:00pm Reigning Grace

6:30—7:00pm Wednesday Worship

6:30—8:00pm Confirmation

6:30—8:00pm High School Youth Grp

BRING a
FRIEND



SUNDAY SCHOOL

All children 3 years old (and potty trained) through 5th grade are invited to join us for Bible stories, songs, crafts and activities from 9:00-9:50 each Sunday. There is no fee for Sunday school. [Visit our website](#) or complete a registration form at church.

For Your Calendars:

February 12:

Sunday school children sing during 10:00 worship.

Families do not need to be members of Abiding Savior to become a part of our Sunday school program. Visitors are welcome any time, and we encourage families to invite friends and neighbors.

You are WELCOME.

You are VALUED.

You are LOVED.

You BELONG.

Abiding Savior Preschool

2023 was off to a crazy start for us at preschool! Our classes were back in session for one day and then we were closed for a day because of snow! However, our preschoolers and Miss Neva LOVE playing out in the snow on the playground which is great because there sure is a lot out there!

We also had a couple of fun days in preschool this month! We celebrated National Straw Day on Jan. 3, National Popcorn Day on Jan. 19th and National Opposite Day on Jan. 25th! The kiddos had a blast with these fun twists on their regular preschool day!

We will be opening registration for the 2023-2024 school year in February! Please continue to spread the word about our wonderful program!

I also want to put a HUGE Thank You out there to the people that have helped to keep our preschool walkway clear and accessible for our families with all of this snow that we have been having! Thank you so much for your efforts...it does not go unnoticed!

Thank you also for everyone's continued support of our program! It means so much to our preschool to have the support that we do!

Jen Boog, Preschool Director
preschool@abidingsavior.org

ENROLL NOW



WHOO's ready for VALENTINE'S DAY?

Get set to celebrate love by joining us
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12
11:20 (approximate)

Enjoy lunch in the Fellowship Hall after worship, then head next door (2nd Sunday school mod) to make Valentines and Valentine crafts and grab a fun family devotion to take home. Families can attend together, or children can enjoy the activities while parents attend the Annual Meeting.



POWER Up!

Wednesday Night Kid's Devotions
Where faith meets fun In a powerful way.

If you haven't yet joined us this year,
we'd love to welcome you.

Hear God's word, share thoughts and ideas,
and have fun creating, playing and exploring.

Schedule through February 15:

5:30-6:00 2nd through 5th grade

6:00-6:30 - 4-year-olds through 1st grade

6:30—7:00—Family Worship for all

Schedule beginning February 22
(Ash Wednesday):

5:30-6:00 2nd through 5th grade

6:00-6:25 - 4-year-olds through 1st grade

6:30—7:00—Lenten Worship

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.

1 Timothy 4:12

MS/HS Youth Events

Sunday, January 29, 11:00 - 2:45: Ice Skating

We will meet in the youth room after the service for snacks and carpool to Super Rink (at the Blaine Sports Center). Public skate runs from 12:10 - 2:20 so we will arrive back at church around 2:45. Cost is \$7 if you have skates or \$10 if you plan to rent.

Cinnamon Roll Baking and Selling

Sunday, February 5

Come at 8:30am to bake & stay after church to sell!

February and March events

Events are still being finalized so keep an eye on the bulletin and weekly announcements for more info! If you have any questions, contact Alex and Josh!

Mission

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Who Is It That You Say I Am? Musical — cont. from pg. 1

Most rehearsals will take place on Sundays (after church) & Wednesdays (after the 6:30pm service) in March:

- Wednesday, March 15; Sunday, March 19; Wednesday, March 22; Sunday, March 26; and a dress rehearsal on Saturday, April 1.

Those who are interested in participating in any capacity should sign up outside the office and/or email Abiding Savior's Choir Director, Mary Larew - mary@abidingsavior.org.

"Who Is It That You Say I Am" is the question that reverberates in all human hearts. The presentation does not assume to answer the question for you, it simply asks, and leaves it hanging in your heart for you to draw your own conclusions.

Come and celebrate with us. Palm Sunday is also called Passion Sunday. Come experience the Passion like it was meant just for you.

El Salvador Mission Trip: July 31—August 7

Pastor Ryan and Deacon Brad are leading an inter-generational mission trip to El Salvador. The trip will be both participating in active ministry as well as learning about the culture and people. The cost of the trip, before fundraising, is approx. \$1800. If you have questions, please speak with Pastor Ryan.

God's Work. Our Hands.

Souper Bowl Sunday: As in years past, we will think of more than football on February 12 and remember those who are hungry. Please look for the collection bowls in the narthex after worship and donate to help alleviate hunger in our area. The generosity of our congregation is always a delight to behold. Thank you.



Have some old glasses, contacts or hearing aids lying around?

Bring them in to the church office and we'll get them to those who can use them!

Get Involved: There are so many opportunities for you to be an active member, reaping the benefits of involvement, companionship, giving, and caring: committees, Sunday morning help, kitchen help, shoveling, gardening, Meals on Wheels – just to name a few! Many, many tasks require no meetings. Look at our calendar and see all that takes place and find your niche. If you're not sure, ask the office to point you to right person.



Confirmation Students/Families News

Retreat in February – Sunday, February 19 to Monday, February 20

This retreat is for all sixth, seventh and eighth graders and is a wonderful opportunity to build relationships between the kids and with the other caring adults on the trip. The retreat is held at Lake Wapogasset Lutheran Bible Camp in Amery, Wisconsin. Registration materials were sent home and are also available in the church office.



Meet with a Mentor during Lent

Each Confirmation student is asked to choose a Mentor and to attend Wednesday Lenten services in person or online with their Mentor. There will be guided discussion sheets that they must complete and turn in each week. This has proven to be a wonderful experience for the students and their Mentors.



Parent Night — Wednesday, February 15, 6:30 to 8:00

Parents join your child or children for Wednesday Night Worship followed by Parents Night. At Parents Night we will not only have important information to share, but we will also have an informational speaker.



December 2022 Financial Highlights

2022	Monthly	YTD
INCOME		
Current gifts and giving	94,474	494,206
Festival giving	10,892	29,696
SUBTOTAL	105,366	523,902
Other income	10,266	70,501
TOTAL INCOME	115,632	594,403
EXPENSES		
TOTAL EXPENSES	71,319	663,137
NET INCOME OVER EXPENSES	44,313	(68,734)
Benevolence paid	5,282	45,656

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.



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 have until March 31, 2023, to direct your choice dollars earned in 2022.

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.

Words of Thanks

We want to thank everyone who helped and supported our family through this tough time! Emma will be missed dearly—she was so special!

—Melissa, Kayla and Mason Enderle

From the bottom of our hearts we would like to thank each and everyone of you for accepting our mom, Darlene Zins, into your church and becoming like a second family to her. We know how much she enjoyed partaking in different activities in the church ...and we know she cherished and adored all the friends that she made.

—The children of Darlene Zins

On behalf of the family of Bruce Burnevik, I would like to express our thanks to all of those that helped at his memorial service. Your church took a huge concern off our shoulders. Your words and kindness at our time of need will never be forgotten. Blessings to all of you and your church.

—Karen Burnevik

Thank you once again for your partnership in providing a viewing location for the Santa Parade this year. Your location is always one of the best attended and it's always fun to see so many people. With your help we were able to collect 56,000 pounds of food, most of which has already been given out to families in need. Thank you again for your partnership!

—Katie Swanson, SBM Santa Parade Event Coord.

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February

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 JAN	30 JAN	31 JAN	1	2	3	4
9:00 Sunday School & SS Family Fellowship 10:00 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion (worship also via Facebook Live)		8:30 Men's Bible Study 10:00 Staff Meeting	4:30 - 6:15 Wed. Night Supper 5:00 - 5:30 Celebration Ringers 5:30 - 6:00 PowerUP/King's Msgr 6:00 - 6:30 PowerUp/WWJD 6:30 - 7:00 Wed. Worship 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation & YGrp 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir	10:00 Women's Bible Study	OFFICE CLOSED	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
COMMUNION 9:00 Sunday School & SS Family Fellowship 10:00 Worship Service Holy Communion with Baptism 11:00 Cinnamon Rolls 11:00 Coons Family-CH 3-5pm Girl Scouts		8:30 Men's Bible Study 10:00 Staff Meeting 2:45 Property Committee 6:30 Committee meetings	4:30 - 6:15 Wed. Night Supper 5:00 - 5:30 Celebration Ringers 5:30 - 6:00 PowerUP/King's Msgr 6:00 - 6:30 PowerUp/WWJD 6:30 - 7:00 Wed. Worship 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation & YGrp 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir	9:00 Work Crew 10:00 Women's Bible Study	OFFICE CLOSED	
12 SOUPER BOWL	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00 Sunday School & SS Family Fellowship 10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Sub & soup Lunch fundraiser 11:20 Valentine event for kids 11:30 Annual Meeting	5:30 Women's outing @ Moe's	10:00 Staff Meeting 6:00 Lydia Circle	4:30 - 6:15 Wed. Night Supper 5:00 - 5:30 Celebration Ringers 5:30 - 6:00 PowerUP/King's Msgr 6:00 - 6:30 PowerUp/WWJD 6:30 - 7:00 Wed. Worship 6:30 - 8:00 Parents' Night 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir	10:00 Women's Bible Study	OFFICE CLOSED	
19 COMMUNION	20	21	22 ASH WEDNESDAY	23	24	25
9:00 Sunday School & SS Family Fellowship 10:00 Worship Service with Communion Confirmation Retreat at WAPO	Confirmation Retreat at WAPO	8:30 Men's Bible Study 9:00 Quilting 10:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 Council Meeting	4:00 - 4:30 Ash Wed. Service 4:30 - 6:15 Lenten Soup Supper 5:00 - 5:30 Celebration Ringers 5:30 - 6:00 PowerUP/King's Msgr 6:00 - 6:25 PowerUp/WWJD 6:30 - 7:00 Ash Wed. Service 7:15 - 8:00 Adult Choir	9:00 Work Crew 10:00 Women's Bible Study	OFFICE CLOSED	
26	27	28	1 MAR	2 MAR	3 MAR	4 MAR
9:00 Sunday School & SS Family Fellowship 10:00 Worship Service (worship also via Facebook Live)		10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 Benedictine Service	4:00 - 4:30 Lenten Service 4:30 - 6:15 Lenten Soup Supper 5:00 - 5:30 Celebration Ringers 5:30 - 6:00 PowerUP/King's Msgr 6:00 - 6:25 PowerUp/WWJD 6:30 - 7:00 Lenten Service 7:15 - 8:00 Adult Choir	10:00 Women's Bible Study	OFFICE CLOSED	

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church
8211 Red Oak Drive
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Phone: 763.784.5120

Email: office@abidingsavior.org

Website: www.abidingsavior.org

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

Non-Profit Organization
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TWIN CITIES MN
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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 February

- Feb. 1: Wednesday Night Activities (see pg. 3)
- Feb. 2: Women's Bible Study
- Feb. 5: Sunday School & Family Fellowship
Worship with Holy Communion & Baptism
Cinnamon Roll Sale
- Feb. 7: Men's Bible Study
Committee Meetings
- Feb. 8: Wednesday Night Activities (see pg. 3)
- Feb. 9: Work Crew & Women's Bible Study
- Feb. 12: Sunday School & Family Fellowship
Worship (Souper Bowl Sunday)
Soup and Sandwich Fundraiser
ANNUAL MEETING
- Feb. 13: Women's Gathering
- Feb. 14: Lydia Circle
- Feb. 15: Wednesday Night Activities (see pg. 3)
Parents Night for Confirmation
- Feb. 16: Women's Bible Study
- Feb. 19: Sunday School & Family Fellowship
Worship with Holy Communion
- Feb. 19—20: Confirmation Retreat at WAPO
- Feb. 21: Quilting & Men's Bible Study
Council Meeting
- Feb. 22: ASH WEDNESDAY
Worship at 4:00 & 6:30
Lenten Soup Supper 4:45—6:15
- Feb. 23: Work Crew
Women's Bible Study
- Feb. 26: Sunday School & Family Fellowship
Worship

Pastors & Staff

Ryan Brodin, Senior Pastor

Lisa Richardson Engen, Associate Pastor

Josh & Alex Ertz, Interim Youth Mentors

Patty Mesenbring, Dir. of Children's Ministries

Janelle Schauer, Organist

Mary Larew, Senior & Children's Choir Director

Paul Weller, Bell Choir 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/>.