



the vinebranch

a monthly publication of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

May 2021

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Pentecost Celebration Worship and Church Picnic

Sunday, May 23rd

Outdoor Worship

10:00 am

Picnic

11:00 am

Everyone welcome!
Invite a friend or neighbor
for this special day!

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.

Join us for Outdoor Worship

Jesus tells us in the Gospel of Matthew, *"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."* Jesus never said where we were called to gather, just that we are together in his name. I have gathered for worship in many amazing locations: St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, Canterbury Cathedral in England, Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem, and of course, in the beautiful Sanctuary at Abiding Savior.



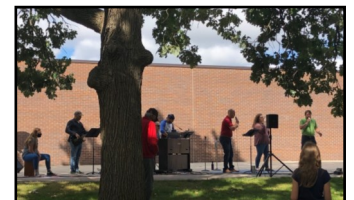
I have also gathered in Christ's name for worship outside of many buildings: on the Shores of the Sea of Galilee, the beaches of the Gulf of Mexico, the mountains of Peru, on a coffee plantation in Nicaragua, beside a newly constructed home in Mexico and in many different campsites up in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area.

At Abiding Savior, we will continue to gather in Jesus' name knowing that Christ is present with us. This summer that gathering will take place in the church's backyard (weather permitting). As much as we might want it to be true, we are not quite done with this pandemic. Many people are not comfortable coming indoors for worship. Although we have been and can worship inside, worshipping outside is a way for more people to feel safe coming together for worship and fellowship.

Last summer we worshipped outside and it was a huge success. How festive to see people gathered together, yet safely spread out, worshipping and praising God in the beauty of the church yard. What a blessing to have such a perfect place to come together for outdoor worship.



Beginning Sunday, May 2nd, and continuing through the summer, we will be worshipping together outside (weather permitting) in the backyard of the church each Sunday at 10:00am. For these outdoor worship services, please bring your own lawn chairs, blankets, coffee and masks and spread out by Brad's Pad (on the east side of the building) in the shade of our beautiful oak trees. If we cannot worship outside due to weather or other issues we will gather for worship in the Sanctuary.



All services, outside or inside, will be continue to be livestreamed on Facebook Live and accessible through our Facebook Page (www.facebook.com/abidingsaviorlc/) or on our website (www.abidingsavior.org) any time after the service.

See you in worship!

Pastor Ryan



Stewardship Corner

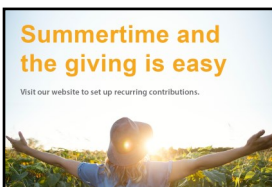
Pastor Ryan Brodin

EFT Giving is Regular and Intentional Giving

In his book, "Ask, Thank, Tell," Pastor Chick Lane describes what it means to be a biblical giver. He says biblical givers are:

- Intentional: They have a plan for their giving
- Regular: They follow that plan
- Generous: Of course!
- First: Giving out of our first fruits, not from what is leftover
- Proportional: Giving according to your means
- Cheerful: Not paying taxes or fees, but sharing joyfully to make a difference!

intentional
giving



Summer is short in Minnesota, and we usually fill our weekends with adventures. Many of those adventures take place up north in the wilderness or by a lake. That sometimes means that we do not see you here for worship on Sundays at Abiding Savior. I am not trying to put a guilt trip on you, I just want to offer a way for you to live out two of the characteristics of a biblical giver: to be intentional and to be regular (especially during the summer months).

That solution is to sign up to share your offerings with the church through an automatic electronic funds transfer (EFT). No more filling out checks, licking envelopes, paying for stamps, or remembering to make your gift. You can set up your EFT to be given weekly, monthly, or at whatever interval you would prefer and it is at no cost to you.

By using this EFT method of sharing, you automatically are giving first and not from what is leftover, and your giving is intentional as you will be making a plan and deciding what to give ahead of time. Through EFT you will also be regular with your giving as you determine when your gift will be given every month or week. You will avoid the embarrassment and guilt of falling behind in your giving as your gift will automatically be given.

OK, I admit, this sounds a little like an infomercial! But EFT is a convenient and even biblical way to make your gifts. If you have any questions or would like to sign up for EFT for your giving toward the work of God done in and through Abiding Savior, please visit the **Give to Abiding Savior** page of our website at <http://abidingsavior.org/OutreachPro/give-to-abiding-savior/> (you can use the Mobile App or the VANCO payment portal to set up the recurring payment and select 'GENERAL FUND' for regular giving) or call the church office at 763-784-5120.

Thank you in advance for your continued generosity!

Take Me Out to the Ball Game! Mark Your Calendar!



Abiding Savior at Target Field
Tuesday, August 10th—7:10pm
Twins vs. Chicago White Sox

Abiding Savior was able to secure 131 tickets in the wonderful outlook section of Target Field for the Minnesota Twins vs. Chicago White Sox on Tuesday, August 10th at 7:10pm. We are excited to be able to get to watch a ball game in-person this summer! Mark your calendars and watch for more information and a sign-up to come!



Mission

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Growing Through Loss

A grief support series

Tuesdays through May 11th
Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

Registration: 6:45 - 7:00pm
Speaker: 7:00 - 7:45pm
Small Groups: 8:00 - 9:00pm

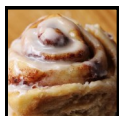
- May 4** *Complicated and Cumulative Grief*
Jack Hinrichs, M.A., L.M.F.T—Psycho Therapist,
Nystrom & Assoc.
- May 11** *Where is God in Our Suffering*
Pastor Lisa Richardson Engen

2021 High School Graduates: Apply Now for ASLC Scholarships



Abiding Savior is pleased to offer 2 scholarships this year! Please stop by the office to pick up an application or email Katie. **Applications are due Sunday, May 16th!**

Mark your calendars for **Graduation Sunday, June 13th!**



Youth Fundraiser Cinnamon Roll Sale Mother's Day—Sunday, May 9th



Due to plant shortages at our supplier, we won't be having a plant sale fundraiser this Mother's Day. However, we will be selling yummy cinnamon rolls following the church service on Mother's Day!



Pentecost Celebration Worship and Church Picnic Sunday, May 23rd at 10:00 am



Join us on Sunday, May 23, as we celebrate Pentecost together with a special worship service celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost through special music and scriptures. We will be worshipping outside that day (weather permitting) and worship will be followed by a church picnic. What a wonderful celebration of Pentecost and a return to fellowship as we worship and share a meal together with our loving family of faith at Abiding Savior!

Blood Drive



Join us **Thurs., May 6th from 1:30pm—6:30pm** for our blood drive! Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)

or visit redcrossblood.org and enter: Abiding to schedule an appointment. Masks are required!

Meals on Wheels



We will be delivering
Meals on Wheels
May 10th—14th



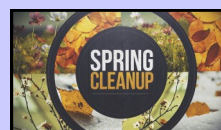
If you are available to help
any day from approx. 11am—1pm,
please let Fern Fisher know (763-786-1044).



Get some fresh air and exercise! Volunteer to help mow this summer!

We are looking for some volunteers to help mow the church lawn this summer! Team up with a friend or family member and sign up! To sign up call the office or click here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080548ACAA2EA1FF2-lawn>

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR HELPING!



Spring Clean Up Saturday, May 1st starting at 9am

Let's get our grounds looking great as we prepare for outdoor worship and the upcoming summer! There will be tasks for all ages! Bring along rakes, gloves, or anything else you feel would be helpful to use outside as we brush off winter and look forward to warm, sunny days ahead! *Youth—this is a great way to earn some service hours. Bring a parent and make it a family event!*

Middle School and High School Youth News

Confirmation Wraps Up in May

Confirmation will continue meeting in-person 6:30 to 8:00pm on Wednesdays continuing to study the Old Testament. Confirmation Students will go directly to their small groups. **We will end the year with a celebration party on Wednesday, May 12th.**



Cinnamon Rolls for Mother's Day

We will be serving cinnamon rolls on Mother's Day, May 9th. Contact Brad if you're available to help prep and sell the rolls!

Youth Communications over Summer

We are planning some safe events for youth yet this May and over the summer. We'll communicate with youth the following ways:

1. **FACEBOOK** ([abidingsaviorlc](#))
2. **EMAIL:** Church emails (make sure to give us your email and ask to be put on the constant contact list)
3. **TEXT:** Remind texts (send a text to 81010 with the message @8211redoak if you haven't)



VBS 2021—Plans underway!

We are exploring options as we try to plan for a safe and meaningful VBS experience this summer. Please look for more specific information to come, as well as the opportunity to register online.



During this year of online programs, I've found I may not have contact info. to keep everyone informed of updates.

If you have children ages 3 (by Sept. 1) to fifth grade (2021/22 school year) and have not been receiving emails from me this year, **please visit the [Children and Families](#) page** of our website to complete a contact information form.

Don't be left out—get on the list!

Thanks! Patty

Abiding Savior Preschool Register for Fall Classes! *Spread the word!*

As you may know, Abiding Savior Preschool suspended classes this school year due to the health and safety of our staff, students and families. However, we are getting ready for the 2021-2022 school year in the hope the COVID-19 pandemic will be over.

Registration is available online <http://abidingsavior.org/OutreachPro/preschool/>

Help spread the word about our preschool!



Children's Ministry

Family Sunday School

Join us for Family Sunday School following outdoor worship on

May 2nd, 9th, and 16th.

We will begin around 11am near the gaga pit for approximately 20-30 minutes. Join Deacon Brad for our first session. Patty will return on May 9th and 16th. We look forward to seeing you!

POWER Up

Younger children are invited to join Patty for a prerecorded video devotion on YouTube each Wednesday evening any time after 5:00pm. Links to the videos and any downloadable materials are emailed to registered families and are also accessible via our [website](#).

Older children meet with Patty via Zoom for devotions, sharing, and music.

****Our last POWER Up session this spring will be Wednesday, May 12th****

Coupon Ministry Outreach

The Coupon Ministry has donated personal care items in the past to Hope 4 Youth, a non-profit working with homeless youth in Anoka County. Recently, Hope 4 Youth received a large quantity of items from Target Corp. that they shared with us to distribute:

- Irondale Food Pantry: 10-30 items each of toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, hand lotion, chapstick, nail clippers, lightweight caps, 10 pk paper masks, bandaids, metal water bottles, tote bags
- Pinewood Elementary: 16 flashlights/batteries for a 1st grade spring project
- Boy Scouts: 20 10-pack hand warmers to be used for winter camping

Thank you to Hope 4 Youth for remembering us and allowing us to share with others!

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Roy Andermann Memorial Men's Fishing Trip June 25-27



Mark your calendars now for the Twelfth Annual Men's Fishing Trip to be held on June 25th-27th at Green Lake Lutheran Bible Camp in Spicer, MN, on the shores of Green Lake. Invite your friends and neighbors, sons and sons-in-law for a weekend of fishing and fellowship. We will leave Friday morning and be back Sunday evening. 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 \$200 per person. As of now the camps policy due to COVID requires that we each have our own individual rooms unless you are staying with someone in your family. We will be bringing our own boats to use over the weekend so if you have a boat, bring it along. If you don't have a boat, don't worry, others will share! Please sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office. Pastor Ryan leads this trip and offers evening devotions and Sunday morning worship. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Ryan.

God's Work. Our Hands. Helping Others.

Are You a Good Listener?

The Community Support Center is always looking for volunteer listeners to help hear the stories of people seeking assistance at the CSC. You will receive instruction/training, you never meet alone, appointments are only scheduled on Tuesdays and Thursdays via Zoom, emails will be sent when listeners are needed and you only reply if you are available, you choose if you are interested in working long-term with someone (always in partnership with CSC staff) to set goals, budget, strive for financial stability. If interested, call Karen at the CSC 651-387-8050 or email staff@communitysupportcenter.org

March FoodShare Month

Heartfelt thanks to everyone for donations of money and food for Ralph Reeder Food Shelf during the March drive. Your generous support makes a difference in the lives of our neighbors.



Wednesday Hot Meals to Go

Many thanks to our faithful kitchen crew for adapting to a new format for Wednesday suppers. Take out meals have been a big hit and will continue through mid-May. If you could lend your masked smile and two feet to help with greeting and running meals out to cars between 4:30 and 5:30, please let the office know. If you'd like to enjoy a hot meal, reserve by noon Mondays by calling the office or sign up online.

Garden of Grace Needs You



You may have read about the need for helpers in the last Vinebranch. You've had a month to mull it over and NOW is the time to act. You know you'll enjoy the fresh air and good company. The Garden of Grace is ready for another year of produce for the food shelf. Plan in May, plant early June, weed, water, and harvest, usually just once a week after established. We'll teach you everything you need to develop a green thumb. Creative thinking is encouraged: adopt a bed, adopt a vegetable, or put your own fun twist on gardening. Any and all help is needed. Let the office know that you are willing to join the crew.

Walk a Mile For Our Neighbors

The Community Support Center is hoping to *Walk A Mile For Our Neighbors* this July 25th at Silver View Park in Mounds View. A walk in the park would be a delight after this past year! The Walk will be the major source of fundraising for the year for the CSC's work with to help neighbors facing eviction and homelessness.

Love Your Neighbors

Again, we are brought face to face with the extreme difficulties our fellow humans endure because of senseless and systemic barriers developed over decades and centuries of bias and racism. May God open our eyes and our hearts that we may see injustice and indifference and act to overpower animosity with love. We are called to make a difference.

Fall Coat Drive—Start Collecting Now

Sorting through your winter things? If you have gently used coats to donate, please drop them off at church!



March 2021 Financial Highlights

2021	Monthly	YTD
INCOME		
Current gifts and giving	45,329	121,500
Festival giving	4,753	6,326
SUBTOTAL	50,082	127,826
Other income	3,099	7,535
TOTAL INCOME	53,181	135,361
EXPENSES		
TOTAL EXPENSES	47,806	141,096
NET INCOME OVER EXPENSES	5,375	(5,735)
Benevolence paid	4,673	13,082

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

If you are a Thrivent member, check to see if you receive Thrivent Choice dollars. If so, you are able to direct where your Thrivent Choice dollars will go each year. You can direct yours to Abiding Savior. It's easy! Just log in to www.Thrivent.com or call 800-847-4836 and when prompted, say "Thrivent Choice®." You have the power to recommend where Thrivent Financial gives back!



Upcoming Celebrations of Life

The past year has been difficult for many reasons, but most especially for family and friends who have lost loved ones and weren't able to hold a funeral service due to COVID-19 restrictions. There are a number of Celebrations of Life scheduled for the months ahead that we would like to share with you:

- **Eric Hansen**—Friday, April 30th at 11am with visitation at 10am
- **Tillie Birdsall**—Monday, May 10th at 11am with visitation at 10am
- **Michael Cox**—Monday, May 17th at 11am with visitation at 10am
- **Mary Lou Oblender**—Sunday, June 6th (time and location TBD)
- **Don Rost**—Wednesday, June 16th at 11am with visitation at 10am
- **Janet Wilcox**—Wednesday, June 23rd at 11am (date and time tentative as of printing)
- **Lesley Schmid**—Thursday, August 12th at 2pm

Other services that are pending:

- Irv Bader
- Alice Lisell

Please keep the families and friends of these special people in your prayers.



Calling All Quilters!

We are hoping to resume our quilting group in the weeks ahead, pending COVID concerns staying low.

If you are interested in participating OR WOULD BE WILLING TO LEAD this group, please let the office know!

Mission

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 APRIL	26 APRIL	27 APRIL	28 APRIL	29 APRIL	30 APRIL	1
10:00 Worship Service (in-person or via Facebook Live) Sunday School (pre-recorded session online)		10:00 Staff Meeting via ZOOM 6:45 – 9:00 Growing Thru Loss	4:30 – 5:30 Meal to Go (sign up req.) 5:30 POWER Up! Online/ Via ZOOM 6:30 – 8:00 Confirmation 6:30 – 8:00 HS Youth Group	10:00 Bible Study (in-person or via Facebook)		Spring Clean Up 9:00am
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10:00 Outdoor Worship (in-person or via Facebook Live) 11:00 Family Sunday School		10:00 Staff Meeting via ZOOM 6:30 Committee meetings (as needed) 6:45 – 9:00 Growing Thru Loss	4:30 – 5:30 Meal to Go (sign up req.) 5:30 POWER Up! (Online/Via ZOOM) 6:30 – 8:00 Confirmation 6:30 – 8:00 HS Youth Group	10:00 Bible Study (in-person or via Facebook) BLOOD DRIVE 1:30 – 6:30PM 6:00 Jubilation Ringers		
9 MOTHER'S DAY	10 MEALS ON WHEELS	11 MEALS ON WHEELS	12 MEALS ON WHEELS	13 MEALS ON WHEELS	14 MEALS ON WHEELS	15
10:00 Outdoor Worship (in-person or via Facebook Live) 11:00 Family Sunday School	Tillie Birdsall funeral Visitation at 10; Service at 11	10:00 Staff Meeting via ZOOM 6:45 – 9:00 Growing Thru Loss	4:30 – 5:30 Meal to Go (sign up req.) 5:30 POWER Up! (Online/Via ZOOM) 6:30 – 8:00 Confirmation & Youth Group EOY Party	9:00 Work Crew 10:00 Bible Study (in-person or via Facebook)		
16 SCHLRSHPP APPS DUE	17	18	19	20	21	22
10:00 Outdoor Worship (in-person or via Facebook Live) 11:00 Family Sunday School	Michael Cox funeral Visitation at 10; Service at 11	10:00 Staff Meeting via ZOOM 6:30 Council Mtg via ZOOM	4:30 – 5:30 Meal to Go (sign up req.)	10:00 Bible Study (in-person or via Facebook)		
23 PENTECOST SUNDAY	24	25	26	27	28	29
10:00 Outdoor Worship (in-person or via Facebook Live) 11:00 Church Picnic		10:00 Staff Meeting via ZOOM	4:30 – 5:30 Meal to Go (sign up req.)	9:00 Work Crew 10:00 Bible Study (in-person or via Facebook)		
30	31 MEMORIAL DAY	1 JUNE	2 JUNE	3 JUNE	4 JUNE	5 JUNE
10:00 Outdoor Worship (in-person or via Facebook Live)	OFFICE CLOSED	10:00 Staff Meeting via ZOOM 6:30 Committee Meetings (as needed)		10:00 Bible Study (in-person or via Facebook)		

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
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TWIN CITIES MN
PERMIT NO. 4987

May Vinebranch Newsletter Volume 21 Number 05 Date 2021



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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 May

- May 1: Spring Clean Up
- May 2: Outdoor Worship at 10:00am
Family Sunday School
- May 4: Committee Meetings (as needed)
Growing Through Loss
- May 5: Wednesday Night Meals to Go (sign up required)
POWERUp (online)
Confirmation & Youth Group
- May 6: Bible Study (in-person or online)
Blood Drive (1:30—6:30pm)
- May 9: Outdoor Worship and Family Sunday school
- May 10—14: Meals on Wheels Delivery
- May 11: Growing Through Loss
- May 12: Wednesday Night Meals to Go (sign up required)
POWERUp (online)
Confirmation & Youth Group (LAST NIGHT)
- May 13: Work Crew
Bible Study (in-person or online)
- May 16: Outdoor Worship and Family Sunday school
- May 18: Council Meeting
- May 19: Wednesday Night Meals to Go (sign up required)
- May 21: Bible Study (in-person or online)
- May 23: Pentecost Sunday + Music Sunday + Church Picnic
- May 26: Wednesday Night Meals to Go (sign up required)
- May 27: Work Crew
Bible Study (in-person or online)
- May 30: Outdoor Worship

Pastors & Staff

Ryan Brodin, Senior Pastor
Lisa Richardson Engen, Associate Pastor
Brad Mills, Deacon & Director of Youth Ministries
Patty Mesebring, Dir. of Children's Ministries
Janelle Schauer, Organist
Paul Weller, Bell Choir Director
Katie Brouillard, Office Manager
Amy Haugen, Office Assistant
Connie Clausen, Office Assistant
Steven Hill, 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!