



the vinebranch

a monthly publication of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

May 2024

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“Neighborhood” Church



After worship one Sunday morning I was approached by someone who lives in the neighborhood surrounding Abiding Savior, but was not a member of the church. This was someone I had spoken with before and who was familiar with ministries both inside and outside the walls of our congregation. After our conversation this person handed me an envelope a thanked me for worship that day.

Later when I opened the envelope, I found a check for \$2000 and on the memo line was written the words, “neighborhood church”. Not only was I amazed at the act of generosity from this person, I was also struck by their understanding of Abiding Savior as the “neighborhood” church. To me, this meant that those living in the community see that we are not an inwardly looking church, but a church that is reaching out into this community. We are not only a place to gather for worship and fellowship, but also a center for mission and ministry from which we are sent to spread God’s love in Mounds View and beyond.

The person who gave this generous donation, and many others in the area, noticed Abiding Savior and the work that we are doing in this community. They certainly notice our family fun night in August when the backyard is filled with neighbors enjoying time together. They notice our Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat in October. This March there were about 120 kids from the area at our Easter Egg Hunt. We are known as a place for families to gather and a place that loves and appreciates children.

Not only do those in the community notice the events that bring us together, they also notice the love and care we send out from this place. They see our support of the Irondale Pantry, Community Partners with Youth, the Community Support Center, Ralph Reeder Food Shelf and Quincy House. They see our Wednesday Night Dinners bringing nutrition to seniors and others in the community. They know we are a “neighborhood” church doing amazing things in God’s name both inside and outside our walls.

Our neighbors see us reaching out in love and our neighbors see us bringing people together. As we live together in God’s love, may we continue to be a place where faith is nurtured, and we live out that faith in love and service to this community and beyond.



God’s blessings! — *Pastor Ryan*



Music Sunday
“Beauty Around Us”
Sunday, May 5
10AM

Join us for a beautiful service filled with wonderful music (and cinnamon rolls to enjoy!)



Pentecost Sunday
and Lutheran Luau
Sunday, May 19

Worship at 10am
Lutheran Luau/Potluck
at 11am

Our annual Lutheran Luau will feature pulled pork, BBQ sauce, buns, lemonade, coffee and water (all provided). The “potluck” will be the side dishes. We ask that everyone please bring a dish to share.

A-H: Salads
I-O: Fruit
P-Z: Desserts
 (or anything you wish to bring)

All are welcome to eat even if you aren’t able to bring anything to share.
 A free will offering will be gladly welcomed to help cover the cost of the pork, buns and drinks.

Special Congregational Meeting - Sunday, May 5 @ 11am

A Special Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 5, in the Sanctuary following the 10:00 am worship. During this brief meeting, we will discuss the position of Associate Pastor, the work of the Call Committee, the strategic goals of the congregation, and a proposal to amend the 2024 budget to increase the compensation range to accommodate the possibility of increasing the Associate Pastor position from half-time to three-quarter time.

Sunday Globe Offering REMINDER



Hopefully you have seen the globe on the front steps of the church where the children can come up and give an offering. Sometimes the children put in a handful of change, sometimes they put in a \$20 bill! Watching these children joyfully bring forward their offerings and placing them in the globe is one of my favorite parts of worship. It not only teaches us the joy of giving, but it plants a seed of generosity in our youngest members.

All of the funds received in the globe offering go to support our companion congregation in Makungu, Tanzania. With the help of the funds coming in through the globe we sustain our partnership and have been able to help Makungu parish to build a parsonage, purchase a motorcycle, and send students to secondary school.

I want remind you and encourage you to seek out the children who are at church and slip them some cash to bring down to the globe. I guarantee it will make you happy to be sharing and bring you joy when you see the smile on the child's face as they run down to the front of the church to make their gift. Thank you for your continued generosity!

Mission Endowment Fund Awards Grants

The Abiding Savior Mission Endowment Fund is pleased to announce the 2024 grant recipients. The Endowment was able to gift \$8,620 in 2024! Thank you to those who have generously donated to the Endowment. If you have any questions about how to include the Abiding Savior Mission Endowment Fund in your estate planning or will or have any questions about the Endowment Fund, please talk to Pastor Ryan Brodin.

The 2024 Abiding Savior Mission Endowment Fund grant recipients are:

- **Abiding Savior Preschool:** Our church's preschool serves children ages 16 months to 5 years in our Toddler and Preschool Programs. Their grant will go toward a fund being established to help replace the wooden fence structure surrounding the preschool playground.
- **Community Partners with Youth: Summer (CPY):** CPY works with at risk children and youth in our school district and uses our building for their elementary school program during the summer. Their grant will be used to go toward the purchase of a mini-bus.
- **Community Support Center (CSC):** The CSC supports individuals and families that are near homelessness in our community. Abiding Savior is a founding congregation of the CSC. Their grant will help to sponsor their annual luncheon.
- **Garden of Grace:** The Garden of Grace is the collection of Abiding Savior's garden beds that individuals and families maintain over the summer, using the gifts of land, sunshine, and other resources God has given us to grow healthy food! The grant will be used for some much needed renovations.
- **Humble Walk Lutheran Church:** Humble Walk is a big hearted community in the heart of the West 7th Neighborhood in St. Paul. They reach people on the margins through art projects, music and community meals. Their grant will be used toward summer programming as an opportunity to elevate community care and build connection.
- **Quincy House:** Quincy House works with at risk teens in our community through their house on Red Oak Drive. Their grant will help to provide meals for the teens.
- **Shobi's Table Food Truck:** Shobi's Table is a feeding ministry of the St. Paul Area Synod. Their grant will help them purchase a fridge for their 'Love Made Edible' food truck.



welcome
NEW MEMBERS



Tom and Faye Majkozak
Jack (not pictured),
Thomas & Sebastian



Sandra
(Sandy)
Spector

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.

Growing Through Loss Grief Support Series

All of our lives are touched by the experience of grief of some kind. We know the pain of loss, of sickness, of death, of separation, of changes in our lives. Grief is hard. We need to know we are not alone in grief. Abiding Savior joins with several area churches to offer an excellent series of grief support called Growing Through Loss. These sessions will be on Monday evenings through May 13 from 7:00—9:00pm at Christ the King LC in New Brighton.

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

- May 6:** **Recalibrating Your Life After Loss**
Jill Johnson, MBA—President & Founder, Johnson Consulting Services
- May 13:** **Prayer and Healing Service**
Pastor Sarah Anderson—Christ the King

Wednesday Nite Schedule

Note: Activities end May 1

- 4:30—6:15pm Dinner served
5/1: Potato Salad
5/8: Hamburger Gravy and Potatoes
5/15: Tacos
(last Wed. dinner until fall)
- 5:30—6:30pm POWER Up *(ends May 1)*
- 5:30—6:30pm Adult Ed: *Holy Spirit (ends May 1)*
- 6:30—7:00pm Wednesday Worship *(ends May 1)*
- 6:30—8:00pm Confirmation *(ends May 1)*
- 7:00—8:00pm Adult Choir *(ends May 1)*



Saturday May 11th 2024 9 AM - 3 PM



Free Entry
Abiding Savior Lutheran Church
8211 Red Oak Drive | Mounds View, MN
www.facebook.com/abidingsavior
www.abidingsavior.org



FAMILY MINISTRY: EVENTS

Family Fun at the Craft Fair
Saturday, May 11

There will be family-friendly craft activities available from 10:00-1:00. You'll also want to be sure to stop by the petting zoo!



Music Sunday “Beauty Around Us” May 5



Blood Drive - May 16



Join us Thurs., May 16 from 1:30pm—6:30pm for our blood drive! Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org and enter: Abiding to schedule an appointment.

Pentecost Sunday and Lutheran Luau May 19



2024 High School Graduates:
Apply for an ASLC Scholarship



Graduating seniors: stop by the office to pick up an application or email Katie. Applications are due Friday, May 31st! Mark your calendars for Graduation Sunday, June 9!

Abiding Savior Preschool - Help Spread the Word!

I can't believe how fast this school year has gone! How did we get to the month of May already! Our kiddos have sure been busy this year! From Halloween parties, a visit from the Jolly Pops that got our kids moving and shaking, to our annual Christmas program, followed by valentine's day parties, spring break and our fire truck visit in April! Along with all these fun activities the kids have been learning, growing and making friends!

Our preschool classroom is almost full 3 days of the week, but please still spread the word about our amazing program! Our toddler classroom has a few openings left; however, I am confident that they will be filled by the start of the 2024-2025 school year. If you haven't already, please check out our new preschool website www.abidingsaviorpreschool.com.

As always thank you for the continued support of our program! Thank you for the continued support of our program using the space and allowing us to give the children a safe and fun environment for them to grow and learn in!



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

POWER Up! for Kids

- Devotions & Activities with Patty and Jackie
- Music with Mary

Wednesdays, 5:30-6:30
Ages: 4yrs—5th grade

Last Session: May 1

Let's celebrate all we've shared together this year! We'll plan for outdoor fun, but there will be a backup plan if we need to be indoors. Whether we're in or out, there WILL be ice cream!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday Mornings, 9:00-9:50 a.m.

Parents are encouraged to enjoy fellowship in the library during this time.

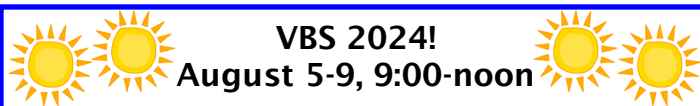
Children 3 years old (and potty-trained) through 5th grade are invited to join us for Bible stories, songs, crafts and other activities.

On the Calendar:

May 5: Children will sing during the 10:00 worship service as part of Music Sunday. They will be called forward when it's time to sing.

May 12: LAST SUNDAY SCHOOL SESSION

Thank you, kids and families. Our group was small, but mighty, and we were blessed each week by our time spent together.



VBS 2024!
August 5-9, 9:00-noon

Music - Stories - Games - Crafts - Friends & Fun
Plus, yummy snacks and the most awesome volunteers you'll ever meet!

A FREE program for all.
Register at: abidingsavior.org

Interested in volunteering to help?
It's never too early; contact Patty!

Thanks for a GREAT Sunday school year!

TEACH
encourage
instruct
MENTOR
PRAISE
influence
GUIDE
INSPIRE

As our Sunday school year draws to a close, the Children's Ministry Committee would like to acknowledge and sincerely thank those who worked so hard to make Sunday school a welcoming, loving, and faith-building experience.

- **Teachers and Leaders:** Pam Flint, Karn Matthews, Lisa Schlotterback, and Barb Wolter
- **Helpers and Volunteers:** Emmie Flint, Laney Flint, and Linda Weiner-Herman

FAMILY MINISTRY:
EVENTS

Family Fun at the Craft Fair
Saturday, May 11

There will be family-friendly craft activities available from 10:00-1:00. You'll also want to be sure to stop by the petting zoo!



Mission

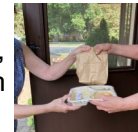
Living in God's love, Abiding Savior Lutheran Church is a *welcoming* and *caring* family that *nurtures* spiritual growth, *shares* our Christian faith, and *serves* all creation.

Mission Outreach — God's Work. Your Hands.

Blood Drive: Thanks to everyone who participated in the March 21 blood drive, either as a volunteer or donor. About half of the donors were from Abiding Savior! Your life-giving efforts are a gift indeed. The next drive is May 16.



Meals on Wheels: Another thanks to everyone who helped deliver meals the week of April 8th. Lots of regular and substitute drivers got the job done. If you're interested in future deliveries, our schedule is June 3-7, July 29-August 2, September 23-27, November 18-22. Ride along with someone if you'd like to check it out.



CSC Walk: Mark your calendars for the annual Community Support Center's Walk for Your Neighbors July 28th at Silverview Park in Mounds View. It's a great mixer with lots of walkers from lots of churches raising funds to support neighbors seeking long-term solutions to difficult financial situations.



March FoodShare: What a grand response to the annual FoodShare collection in March! We delivered 323 pounds to Ralph Reeder Food Shelf. Thank you for your gifts of nourishment.



Health Kit Update: Thank you to the helping hands that packed up our 50 newborn kits and delivered them to Global Health Ministries. The collected items donated by so many are worth about \$25 per kit, for a grand total of \$1,250. Working together we can do marvelous things!



Call Committee Update



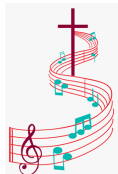
Greetings from the Call Committee! Thank you to the congregation for all of your support as we begin the process of calling an Associate Pastor. The first job for the Call Committee was to create a Ministry Site Profile (also called an MSP). This told potential candidates all about our church and what we were looking for in a pastoral candidate. We have submitted that to our Synod so that they can begin to talk with potential candidates. Those candidates would eventually meet with Pastor Ryan and potentially interview with our Call Committee.

At our last Call Committee meeting we developed a list of questions to ask candidates during the initial round of interviewing. We focused on questions in the areas of Worship Planning, Family Ministry, Teaching, Pastoral Care, and Preaching.

We look forward to continuing this process and finding a wonderful Associate Pastor for our church. Please continue to pray for this person and committee as we continue on in this journey.

The Call Committee — Ellen, Dawson, Brea, Kathy, Sandra, Christina, Megan and Pastor Ryan

May's Women's Bible Study—Singing Our Faith



Doesn't music just fill you with joy? In May the Women's Bible Study will take a musical turn. We'll be delving into the rich stories behind many of our favorite hymns and worship songs, noting the deeper meaning they evoke. Our Christian music speaks to us in heart and soul. Beloved church musician and composer, Marty Haugen, once said, "The songs that we sing repeatedly we come to know. The songs that we know from memory shape our faith. This is why what we sing is so important, because what we sing, we come to believe." So, we'll take a closer look at what we sing and we'll think about

how it connects with what we believe. We'll spend time in scripture and reflect on how it shapes our worship music, life and faith. We'll learn the real-life events, tribulations, and triumphs, that inspired the composers to put their stories to song. We'll share our stories of how this inspiring music speaks to us. And of course we'll sing! Do you need a little uplift? Come join the warm and welcoming fellowship of the Women's Bible Study. We meet each week on Thursday mornings at 10:00 in the Coffee House and all women are welcome.

March 2024
Financial Highlights

2024	Monthly	YTD
INCOME		
Current gifts and giving	\$39,832	\$124,618
Festival giving	\$12,137	\$14,343
SUBTOTAL	\$51,969	\$138,961
Other income	\$7,024	\$17,652
TOTAL INCOME	\$58,993	\$156,613
EXPENSES		
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$53,150	\$155,403
NET INCOME OVER EXPENSES	\$5,843	\$1,210
Benevolence paid	\$3,560	\$11,064

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

Attn: Thrivent Members!

thrivent 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. If you would like to apply for a Thrivent Action Team Grant, please contact the church office.

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MS/HS Youth News

Wed., May 1 — Confirmation End of Year Party Let's send out the Confirmation year with some fun! We will have some games and treats! Bring a friend and enjoy a fun evening!

Sun., May 5 — Cinnamon Roll Sale This is the last cinnamon roll sale before summer so it's the last chance to come help out and earn service hours. We're looking for extra help because it's also Music Sunday and many of our regular volunteers will be involved in rehearsal/warm-ups.

Sat., May 11 — Craft Fair There are many volunteer opportunities before, during, and after the sale (set-up, assisting with unloading, concessions, tear-down, etc.) so anyone interested in volunteering can reach out to Alex and Josh.

Wed., May 29 — Kick-off to Summer Bonfire Meet in the back yard from 6:30-8pm for a bonfire, s'mores and fun (weather permitting)

STAY IN THE LOOP! Be sure to sign up for **REMIND** to stay connected about summer activities, especially when plans change due to weather. Text **8211red-oak** to **81010** to sign up for **REMIND!**

Mission

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May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 APR Tanzania Sun 9:00 Sunday School & Fellowship 9:00 Adult Forum – TZ Water Project 10:00 Worship	29 APRIL	30 APRIL 8:30 Men's Bible Study 10:00 Staff Mtg	1 9:30 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 5:30 - 6:30 Adult Ed The Holy Spirit 5:30 - 6:30 POWER Up – Last Night 6:00 – 6:30 Intergen Choir Practice 6:30 - 7:00 Wed. Worship- Last Night 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation – Last Night 7:00 - 8:00 Intergen Choir Practice	2 10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Jubilation Ringers	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4 Spring Clean Up 9 - noon
5 MUSIC SUNDAY 9:00 Sunday School & Fellowship 10:00 Worship Service with Holy Communion 11:00 Cinnamon Roll Sale	6	7 8:30 Men's Bible Study 10:00 Staff Mtg 6:30 Committee Meetings	8 9:30 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper	9 9:00 Work Crew 10:00 Women's Bible Study	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11 CRAFT FAIR 9AM – 3PM Family Activities & Petting Zoo 10AM – 1PM
12 MOTHER'S DAY 9:00 Sunday School & Fellowship 10:00 Worship Service 5:30 Women's Gathering	13	14 10:00 Staff Mtg 6:30 Council Meeting 5:30 Lydia Circle	15 9:30 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper	16 10:00 Women's Bible Study BLOOD DRIVE 1:30 – 6:30PM	17 OFFICE CLOSED	18
19 PENTECOST SUNDAY & LUTHERN LUAU 9:00 Fellowship 10:00 Pentecost Sunday Worship with Holy Communion 11:00 Lutheran Luau	20	21 8:30 Men's Bible Study 9:00 Quilting 10:00 Staff Mtg 6:30 Council Meeting	22 9:30 Cub Foods delivery Preschool graduation 10:30 – noon Sanctuary & FH	23 9:00 Work Crew 10:00 Women's Bible Study	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 10:00 Worship Service	27 MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED	28 10:00 Staff Mtg 12:00 Benedicline Service	29 9:30 Cub Foods delivery 6:30 MS/HS Youth Bonfire	30 10:00 Women's Bible Study	31 OFFICE CLOSED	1 JUNE

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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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 May

- May 1: Wednesday evening activities (see pg 3 for schedule)
Last night of *The Holy Spirit* study
- May 2: Women's Bible study
- May 4: Spring Clean Up
- May 5: Music Sunday
Sunday school / Fellowship / Worship (Communion)
Cinnamon roll sale
- May 7: Men's breakfast and Bible Study
Committee meetings
- May 8: Wednesday night supper
- May 9: Work crew and Women's Bible study
- May 11: Craft Fair 9AM—3PM
- May 12: Mother's Day: Sunday school / Fellowship / Worship
- May 13: Women's Gathering
- May 14: Lydia circle
- May 15: Wednesday night supper (last supper until fall!)
- May 16: Work crew and Women's Bible study
Blood Drive
- May 19: Pentecost Sunday worship and Lutheran Luau
- May 14: Sunday school & Fellowship / Worship
- May 21: Men's breakfast and Bible Study / Quilting / Council
- May 22: Preschool graduation
- May 23: Work crew and Women's Bible study
- May 26: Worship
- May 27: Memorial Day—OFFICE CLOSED
- May 30: Women's Bible study

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**, Adult & 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/>. Thanks!