



the vinebranch

a monthly publication of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

November 2022

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Jesus the True Vine



With mixed emotions, I'm writing to let you know that my time as your ordained Deacon will be shortly drawing to a close. Above and beyond anything else, I want you to know that I love and care deeply for this church community, and hold you all in my heart. Please know that I had not been looking to leave Abiding Savior; I was approached by our nearby congregations, Cross of Glory and Atonement, and was presented with an opportunity to help them out. As you may know, Cross of Glory and Atonement are a two-point parish that currently shares one pastor, and they were looking for additional ministerial assistance. This is a growth opportunity for me, as I will be transitioning away from a role as youth director and into a role as part-time associate minister. This is not something I would have been prepared to do without your love and support of my growth as a Deacon, and I am grateful. Through much discernment, I have felt called to take on this opportunity to further use and develop my gifts. Any hesitation I felt in making this decision was due to how much I love you all; in the past decade, you have not only supported my growth as a church leader, but you have literally watched and supported the growth of my family.

My wife, Karen, and our girls will be transitioning with me to the new churches. Karen will be stepping down from her role as council member. Karen wants you all to know that she has loved sharing her time with this community. We both feel honored and blessed for all the years together; you have all loved on our kids and have given them a safe, welcoming environment to grow knowing both our community and God.

I am grateful in knowing that I will remain nearby; our churches have historically been involved in partnership, and I look forward to that continuing. Most specifically, the El Salvador trip will be a partnership of Abiding Savior, Cross of Glory and Atonement with the partner church in Chicago, IL; please consider praying about this opportunity and joining us all.

Transitions are hard, even when good, but with them comes growth. I would like to leave you with the words from John where we get our name. My fervent hope is that this call for me and transition for me and my family will also bring new opportunities for you all.

Much love — *Deacon Brad*

John 15:1-12 - Jesus the True Vine: *"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.*

**Join us for an
Election Night
Meal**
Tues., Nov. 8th
4:00—6:30pm
**Tickets on sale
now!**

**THANKSGIVING
EVE SERVICE**
Wed., Nov. 23rd
6:30pm
**followed by
a pie social**

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

Stewardship Corner



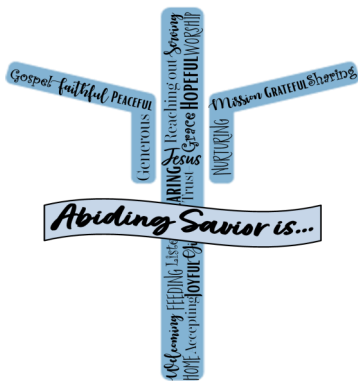
Trusting in a God of Abundance in Uncertain Times

By Rev. Dr. Ryan Brodin

No doubt these are uncertain times. There is deep political division in our nation, a war in the Ukraine increasing the cost of food and energy, the aftereffects of the pandemic have caused a global supply chain shortage, there are deep political divisions in our own nation and we are bracing for a possible recession. We are concerned about our world and our nation as well as our retirement accounts and pocketbooks.

These times of uncertainty in life are when we are faced with a choice. We can either give in to the fear, or we can lean into our faith and trust in God. Stewardship and generosity are really acts of faith. Do we believe in a God of abundance who continues to provide for us? Or do we believe in the myth of scarcity, that there is not enough, and we must keep what we have to ourselves?

We know that our God is a God of abundance and the more we share of our time, talents and resources, the more joy we have in our lives and the more God continues to provide. In these uncertain times, we can trust in the abundance of God as we live as cheerful givers sharing what we have out of love for our neighbors and to further the work of God done in and through Abiding Savior.



Stewardship 2022

Abiding Savior is ... Stewardship Campaign

There has been a tremendous response so far to our "Abiding Savior is..." fall stewardship campaign. Thank you to those who have already returned their pledge card indicating their desired sharing in 2023 toward the work of God done in and through our congregation. There is still time for you to return your pledge card and participate in the campaign. Through your generosity, God can and will continue to make a difference in and through Abiding Savior. Thank you for your continued support!

Abiding Here for 50 Years Capital Campaign Update

The *Abiding Here for 50 Years Capital Campaign* has been a great success! **Thank you** to all those who have made a pledge or a gift already. The new lighting has been installed throughout the building and Sanctuary as well as on the exterior of the building. Work will begin soon on the installation of our new electronic reader board sign on Red Oak Drive. More projects will take place over the winter months and into the spring including updating our phone system, cleaning and repairing the exterior of the building, and updating our HVAC system. We look forward look as well to sharing the 10% benevolence from these projects to share God's love in this community and beyond. It is not too late to participate in the campaign and your gift can help us complete our upcoming projects. You can [make a pledge or gift online by visiting our website](#) or stopping by the church office. If you have any questions about this campaign, please talk to Pastor Ryan Brodin.



Mission

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Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

Election Night Meal

Tuesday, November 8 | 4 - 6:30pm

Get out and vote and then join us for our Election Night Meal. We'll have 3 meal options: Scandinavian meal, BBQ pork meal & kid's meal. Get your tickets in the church office!

GALATIANS

GALATIANS BIBLE STUDY
Wednesday Night Adult Education
November 2, 9, and 16 | 5:30-6:30pm
Coffee House

Join Pastor Ryan for a journey through the book of Galatians. Galatians is short, but it provides a powerful message about putting faith into action. This class will dive into Galatians and the culture surrounding this ancient letter while also looking into how this book of the Bible speaks to us and our modern world today. No prior knowledge of the Bible necessary to attend and no one will be asked to answer any questions if they do not wish to do so! Come early and have dinner in the Fellowship Hall and feel free to bring your dinner to Bible Study as well. See you then!

NERF NIGHT!

Saturday, November 12 | 6-8:00pm

FREE event for all youth. Bring nerf equipment. Pizza and treats provided. We will take over the church and play organized nerf tournaments.



You're invited to come help us decorate the church on **Sat., Nov. 26 at 9am** for the Advent/Christmas season! Many hands make light work. Come for as long as you're able. Treats and coffee provided.

Election Night Bake Sale

Tues., Nov. 8 | 4 - 6:30pm



In conjunction with our Election Night Meal, we'll be having a wonderful Bake Sale! We're looking for baked items or other tasty goodies to sell that evening. If you're willing to make something, please drop it off

Sunday after church or Monday & Tuesday during church office hours. All proceeds will benefit Abiding Savior Preschool.



Rain Garden Clean-Up Days:
Saturdays, Nov. 5th & 12th
9:00 AM

Wednesday Night Schedule

- 4:30—6:30pm Dinner served
 - Nov. 2: Chicken Hot Dish
 - Nov. 9: Goulash
 - Nov. 16: Hamburger Gravy & Potatoes
 - Nov. 30: Chicken Chow Mein
- 5:00—5:30pm Celebration Ringers (grades 3-12)
- 5:30—6:00pm King's Msgs Choir (3yrs-1st grd)
- 5:30—6:00pm POWER Up (grades 2-5)
- 6:00—6:30pm WWJD Choir (grades 2-5)
- 6:00—6:30pm POWER Up (4yrs - 1st grade)
- 6:30—7:00pm Wednesday Worship
- 6:30—8:00pm Confirmation
- 6:30—8:00pm High School Youth Group

Thanksgiving Eve Worship



Wednesday, November 23 | 6:30pm
PIE SOCIAL FOLLOWING THE SERVICE

You're invited to worship on Thanksgiving Eve and stay after for a pie social. Come enjoy this fellowship!

If you'd like to bring a pie, please sign up at church or click here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080548ACAA2EA1FF2-thanksgiving4>



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.

Coming Up:

November 13: Sunday school children sing during 10:00 worship service

November 27: No Sunday school

Please see article to the right regarding the Children's Christmas Program rehearsals.

There is no fee for Sunday school, but we do ask that you [register your child](#) to ensure we have contact information, and are aware of any allergies/medical concerns. [Visit our website](#) or complete a registration form at church.

Families do not need to be members of Abiding Savior to become a part of our Sunday school program.



MS/HS Youth News Get Involved!

Election Night Meal

- **When:** Tuesday, November 8th from 4—6:30pm
- **What:** This all church event is made possible by volunteers - especially youth volunteers!!! We need your help setting up, busing tables, and cleaning in the kitchen.

Nerf Event *(see more info on pg 3)*

- **When:** Saturday, November 12th from 6-8:00pm
- **Who:** Middle and High School Youth

Cinnamon Roll Sale—Before/After Worship

Join us at 8:30am on Sunday, November 20th to help bake cinnamon rolls to sell before/after worship! This is a great fundraiser for our Youth activities!



Looking Ahead: Children's Christmas Program

Just an early reminder—rehearsals are as follows:

- **Saturday, 12/3, 9:30-11:00:** Grades 2-5 and anyone with a costumed or speaking part
- **Saturday, 12/10, 9:30-11:00:** All children
- **Saturday, 12/17, 9:30-11:00:** All Children

The program will be **Sunday, December 18** during worship.



P  **WER Up! Wednesday Night
Kid's Devotions**
Where faith meets fun in a powerful way.

What: Kids 4 years old through 5th grade meet to explore God's word and the powerful ways He is present in our lives. We share, play, experiment, craft, dance, concoct, create . . . come join us.

Schedule:

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

* **POWER Up will NOT meet on November 23 ***

These times are coordinated with children's choir & bell choir times, so it's convenient (and fun) to be a part of both POWER Up and music programs if you'd like. Try it. You'll like it.

- 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 -

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Abiding Savior Preschool Happenings



Preschool is in full swing! We have had a new friend join us in the month of October which is always exciting to have a new preschooler! The kiddos continue to be busy learning their letters, shapes, and colors amongst so many other skills!!! They have already grown so much academically and socially during our first few weeks!

We had our annual Halloween Party which is always so much fun to see them all dressed up in their favorite costume!

We will be wrapping up our annual Preschool Wreath Fundraiser here in the next few days so I would like to thank everyone that supported our preschool program with a purchase of a wreath, swag, or decorating item! *Just a reminder that items will be available for pick up the Wednesday before Thanksgiving which is Wednesday, November 16th.*

As always thank you for your continued support of our wonderful preschool program! We absolutely love every single one of our preschoolers and are thankful that their parents have chosen our program as the one for their precious children!

Jen Boog, Preschool Director
preschool@abidingsavior.org



God's Work. Our Hands.

Coat Update: Your gifts of coats for the October 15th coat drive have been most appreciated by neighbors needing some winter warmth and care. *157 children and 184 adults received coats. Regrettably, 41 children and 24 adults could not find what they needed. The Salvation Army also gives out coats so we hope for the best there.* Warm thanks for thinking of others!



Giving Tree: Coming soon to a narthex near you - the Christmas giving tree! You will have the opportunity to brighten someone's Christmas by choosing an ornament and returning the requested gift or gift card for distribution. We'll be collecting for Irondale students, Quincy House, the Community Support Center, Mounds View Police food boxes for neighbors, and local families needing a boost. Let's love our neighbors!



Coupons Needed: If you have unused coupons (groceries, personal hygiene, laundry) from mailings or the newspaper, please bring them to the office in a timely manner. We are able to stretch our giving budget and let more folks know they have caring friends at ASLC.



Disaster Relief: Do you know about the ELCA's Lutheran Disaster Response? Donations are used for hurricane, drought, flooding, earthquake, war, refugee, and humanitarian crises around the country and world. Our congregation has donated \$1500 this year for Ukraine and Hurricane Ian relief. [Their website](#) is very informative if you'd like to know more.



Lutheran Disaster Response

Interested in Outreach? If you'd like to be involved in ASLC's Mission Outreach activities, the committee would love to have you join us, as much or little time as you care to spend. Pastor Lisa or Linka Holey can give you more information. Thanks for considering this rewarding opportunity.



Community Support Center News: 43 families are currently waiting to get into homeless shelters in Ramsey County. This number has been growing every week. The county estimates that it will take 4-6 weeks for a family to get into shelter. Once they have been evicted, what happens to them while they wait? The lack of shelter space is a major reason why preventing homelessness is so important. In September CSC helped 4 families stay in their homes by helping them pay overdue rent. Thank you for your support in continuing this effort to help our neighbors.



September 2022
Financial Highlights

| 2022 | Monthly | YTD |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| INCOME | | |
| Current gifts and giving | 28,905 | 326,405 |
| Festival giving | - | 16,936 |
| SUBTOTAL | 28,905 | 343,341 |
| Other income | 4,717 | 46,971 |
| TOTAL INCOME | 33,622 | 390,312 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 49,373 | 484,891 |
| NET INCOME OVER EXPENSES | (15,751) | (94,579) |
| Benevolence paid | 2,676 | 33,044 |

**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.

**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



- A wonderful Fall Festival enjoyed by so many!
- The Rite of Confirmation celebrated by Landon Blanck, Magdalen Burgers, Ava Haugen, Wade Miller, Jillian Proell, Anna Schwientek, and Morgan Syverson.

Notes of Thanks

We'd like to share a message of thanks and gratefulness to Abiding Savior for the prayers, messages, and cards when Jim's sister passed away this summer. We truly are blessed by our church family.

—Jim & Rita Kenyon

We want to reach out and say thank you so much for all you did to make Sue Tipler's Celebration of Life so wonderful. We all appreciate you so much, for not only providing food, but also for joining us.

--The family of Sue Barb, Jo & Michele, and Michael

**November Lydia Circle
Date/Time Change!**

PLEASE NOTE: The November gathering of Lydia Circle will be on November 15 at 5:30pm. (We are adjusting the date due to the Election Night Meal and the time due to the Church Council Meeting.) We will be using the 3rd lesson in the "Gather" magazine. You don't need to have or receive the magazine to participate! Come and share the evening with us!

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November 2022

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|----------|
| 30 OCT. CNFRMTN SUN. 9:00 Sunday School & SS Family Fellowship 10:00 Worship Service (also available via Facebook Live) Cinnamon Roll Sale | 31 OCTOBER 8:30 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 Committee Meetings | 1 ALL SAINTS DAY 9:45 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 5:00 - 5:30 Celebration Ringers 5:30 - 6:30 Galatians Bible Study 5:30 - 6:00 PowerUP/King's Msgr 6:00 - 6:30 PowerUP/WWJD 6:00 - 7:00 Reigning Grace 6:30 - 7:00 Wed. Worship 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation & YGrip 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir | 3 10:00 Women's Bible Study (in-person or Facebook) 7:00 Jubilation Rgrs | 4 OFFICE CLOSED | 5 Rain Garden Clean Up 9am | |
| 6 COMMUNION SUNDAY 9:00 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY Sunday School & SS Family Fellowship 10:00 Worship Service (also available via Facebook Live) | 7 8 ELECTION DAY 10:00 Staff Meeting Election Night Meal and Bake Sale 4:00 - 6:30 | 9 9:45 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 5:00 - 5:30 Celebration Ringers 5:30 - 6:30 Galatians Bible Study 5:30 - 6:00 PowerUP/King's Msgr 6:00 - 6:30 PowerUP/WWJD 6:00 - 7:00 Reigning Grace 6:30 - 7:00 Wed. Worship 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation & YGrip 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir | 10 9:00 Work Crew 10:00 Women's Bible Study (in-person or Facebook) 7:00 Jubilation Rgrs | 11 OFFICE CLOSED | 12 Rain Garden Clean Up 9am Nerf Event for Youth 6 - 8pm | |
| 13 Deacon Brad's last Sun. 9:00 Sunday School & SS Family Fellowship 10:00 Worship Service (worship also available via Facebook Live) & SS Singing 11:00 Brunch honoring Deacon Brad & Family 3-5pm Girl Scouts | 14 8:30 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 9:00 Quilting 10:00 Staff Meeting 5:30 Lydia Circle 6:30 Council Meeting | 16 9:45 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 5:00 - 5:30 Celebration Ringers 5:30 - 6:30 Galatians Bible Study 5:30 - 6:00 PowerUP/King's Msgr 6:00 - 6:30 PowerUP/WWJD 6:00 - 7:00 Reigning Grace 6:30 - 7:00 Wed. Worship 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation & YGrip 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir | 17 10:00 Women's Bible Study (in-person or Facebook) 7:00 Jubilation Rgrs | 18 OFFICE CLOSED | 19 Council Visioning Session 8:30-11:30am | |
| 20 COMMUNION SUNDAY 9:00 Sunday School & SS Family Fellowship 10:00 Worship Service (also Facebook) Cinnamon Roll Sale | 22 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 Benedicline Service | 23 6:30 Thanksgiving Eve Worship followed by Pie Social | 24 THANKSGIVING DAY | 25 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 Faith & A Pint Men's Outing | 26 Decorate the Church for Advent/Christmas 9:00 | |
| 27 1st SUNDAY IN ADVENT (NO SUNDAY SCHOOL) 10:00 Worship Service (worship also available via Facebook Live) | 29 8:30 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10:00 Staff Meeting Outing to Church Basement Ladies (Performance at 1pm) | 30 9:45 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 5:00 - 5:30 Celebration Ringers 5:30 - 6:00 PowerUP/King's Msgr 6:00 - 6:30 PowerUP/WWJD 6:00 - 7:00 Reigning Grace 6:30 - 7:00 Wed. Worship 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation & YGrip 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir | 1 DECEMBER 10:00 Women's Bible Study (in-person or Facebook) 7:00 Jubilation Rgrs | 2 DECEMBER OFFICE CLOSED | 3 DECEMBER Sunday School Christmas Program Practice 9:30 - 11:00 (2nd-5th graders & costumed/speaking parts) | |

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

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

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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 November

- Nov. 1: Men's Breakfast and Bible Study
Committee Meetings
- Nov. 2: Wednesday Evening Programming (See pg. 3)
- Nov. 3: Women's Bible Study
- Nov. 5: Rain Garden Clean Up
- Nov. 6: Sunday School & Family Fellowship
All Saint's Sunday Worship
- Nov. 8: Election Night Meal & Craft/Bake Sale
- Nov. 9: Wednesday Evening Programming (See pg. 3)
- Nov. 10: Work Crew and Women's Bible Study
- Nov. 12: Rain Garden Clean Up & Youth Nerf Event
- Nov. 13: Sunday School & Family Fellowship
Deacon Brad's Last Sunday—Worship & Brunch
- Nov. 14: Women's Gathering at Moe's
- Nov. 15: Bible Study, Quilting, Lydia Circle & Council
- Nov. 16: Wednesday Evening Programming (See pg. 3)
- Nov. 17: Women's Bible Study
- Nov. 20: Sunday School & Family Fellowship
Worship with Holy Communion
- Nov. 23: Thanksgiving Eve Worship and Pie Social
- Nov. 24: Thanksgiving Day
- Nov. 26: Decorate the Church for Christmas
- Nov. 27: 1st Sunday in Advent
No Sunday School — Worship
- Nov. 29: Men's Breakfast and Bible Study
Outing to Church Basement Ladies
- Nov. 30: Wednesday Evening Programming (See pg. 3)

Pastors & Staff

Ryan Brodin, Senior Pastor

Lisa Richardson Engen, Associate Pastor

Brad Mills, Deacon & Director of Youth Ministries

Patty Mesenbring, Dir. of Children's Ministries

Janelle Schauer, Organist

Mary Larew, Vocal Choir Director

Paul Weller, Bell Choir Director

Katie Brouillard, Office Manager

Connie Clausen, Office Assistant

Trisha Bourassa, Office Assistant

Gene Herman, Custodian

Jennifer Boog, Preschool Director

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!