

# the vinebranch

a monthly publication of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

October 2023

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2023 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN
ABIDING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

#### 2023 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Sunday, October 8 Kickoff Sunday

10am: Worship

• Campaign Kickoff

#### Week of October 9

Watch for materials in the mail

Sunday, October 15

10am: Festive Worship

Sunday, October 22 Spirit of Sharing Celebration Sunday

10am: Festive Worship with processional offering and return of pledge cards.

11am: Celebration Brunch in Fellowship Hall offered free of charge as a thank you for your generosity of your time, talents, and resources!

# Spirit of Sharing

Our Fall Stewardship Campaign this year is called "Spirit of Sharing." When we hear the word "share" and we are at church, we often think about sharing our financial resources. Sharing our resources is terribly important. It takes money to carry out the



ministries of the church that God has called us to carry out together.

But equally as important, when it comes to sharing, is that people share their time and talents, that they volunteer at church and in their community. The church needs volunteers, the church needs people with a variety of skills, the church needs you.

The Apostle Paul writes in I Corinthians 12, "Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."

Each one of us has unique talents we can share for the good of the community, the good of all. These are called our spiritual gifts, the ways that we are equipped to volunteer, to get involved, and to serve God and our neighbor by sharing of ourselves. A church cannot exist without volunteers who share their time, their talents, and their financial resources joyfully.

You might be asking yourself, "What are my spiritual gifts?" During this year's Spirit of Sharing Stewardship Campaign, you will have the opportunity to take a short spiritual gifts assessment. Through this simple tool you can identify some of your gifts for ministry and how you can share those gifts in and through Abiding Savior.

Watch for a mailing coming to your home highlighting the ways your sharing, and the sharing of others, makes a difference at Abiding Savior. Thank you for your past support of the work of God done in and through Abiding Savior. Thank you for volunteering, thank you for your financial support, and thank you for your prayers as together we live in God's love as Abiding Savior.

God's blessings!

Pastor Ryan

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.

# page 2 / tree of sharing / communion server training

# Introducing the *Tree of Sharing*



The Tree of Sharing is a way for volunteer opportunities at Abiding Savior to be posted and for you to be able to find places to volunteer. The Tree of Sharing will be in the Narthex Area outside the Sanctuary and on the tree will be little tags with volunteer opportunities for you and your family. You are invited to look over the many volunteer opportunities and to choose how you want to share your talents.

Each volunteer opportunity on the tree has two separate tags stapled together. One tag has a description of the volunteer opportunity and the contact person for that volunteer opportunity. The second tag has a place for you to fill in your name and contact information and that second tag can be placed in the box provided by the tree. You are encouraged to visit the tree, check out the volunteer opportunities, and choose how you will joyfully share your time and talents at Abiding Savior.

# WANTED: Thrivent Action Team Grants

Abiding Savior loves to utilize Thrivent Action Team Grants as much as possible to support a number of our ministries. The \$250 seed money provided by these grants can help with advertising of a community event and to help purchasing food to be served at the events!

If you are a Thrivent member with a life insurance policy, you are eligible to apply for two Thrivent Action Team Grants each year in the amount of \$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. We are in need Thrivent Action Team Grants for the following upcoming events:

- Wednesday Night Suppers
- Trunk or Treat
- Election Night Meal
- Election Night Bake Sale (Preschool)
- Preschool Marketing TShirts
- Youth Gathering Cookie Sale Supplies

# El Salvador Sunday



During worship on Sunday, October 1, you will have the opportunity to be whisked away to El Salvador! OK, not literally, but

figuratively as the El Salvador Mission Trip participants share with you their experiences of faith, fellowship and sharing. Don't miss this exciting worship service filled with music, pictures, stories, and heartfelt greetings from our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of El Salvador.

# Communion Server Training Sunday, October 1 @ 11am

We are in need of additional communion servers. Come learn more about this important ministry and share of your time!

# Wednesday Worship New Location and Format!

Wednesday Worship is a worship service on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm starting September 13th. This exciting worship service is less than half an hour long, family and kid-friendly, and totally relaxed. We will be singing songs, praying together, hearing God's Word and a short reflection from one of the pastors, and sharing communion every other week. We will be meeting in Mod 2 for worship. All are welcome, come and see! NOTE: no Wednesday Worship on October 18 due to MEA weekend.

# Wednesday Schedule

4:30—6:15pm Dinner served

Oct. 4: Scalloped potatoes & ham

Oct. 11: Tator tot hotdish

Oct. 18: Goulash

Oct. 25: Pork chow mein

5:30—6:00pm POWER Up

6:00—6:30pm POWER Up

6:30-7:00pm Wednesday Worship

6:30—8:00pm Confirmation

7:00—8:00pm Adult Choir

#### 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.

# October special events / page 3

## Pastor Christian Chavarria to speak at Bible Study Thursday, October 5 at 10:00am



We are honored to have Pasto Christian Chavarria from San Salvador El Salvador as our guest at Bible Study on Thursday, October 5, at 10:00 AM in the Coffee House.

Pastor Christian is one of the Lutheran Pastors that hosted the El sion Trip participants. Pastor Chris-

Salvador Mis- sion Trip participants. Pastor Christian has an amazing life story of growing up in war torn El Salvador, being a refugee is Sweden, and becoming a world renown artist. You are invited to meet Pastor Christian, hear his stories, and learn more about the Lutheran Church in El Salvador.

# TRUNK-OR-TREAT

#### Saturday, October 28 10:30am-noon Abiding Savior Lutheran Church Parking lot

Celebrate fall with a fun trick-or-treat experience.

- Costumes encouraged (and fun!)
- Stop by each trunk full of treats

#### Trunk hosts needed!

Please consider hosting a trunk to make this event a success. Décor can be as simple or elaborate as you wish. Come in costume to match your theme or just come as you are.

Anyone interested in hosting a trunk may sign up here: <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080548ACAA2EA1FF2-44335610-trunk">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080548ACAA2EA1FF2-44335610-trunk</a>

or contact Patty Mesenbring or the church office.



# It's time to order your Christmas wreaths!

Watch your October bulletins for preschool wreath order forms!



#### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8 11AM - 12:30PM

Join us for a fall festival after worship and enjoy some time enjoying God's beautiful creation with friends and family! We'll have a food truck, hay rides, pumpkins and backyard games.



#### Usher Training Monday, October 9 @ 6:30pm

We are in need of additional ushers! Come learn more about this important ministry and share of your time and talents!!!

Fall Clean-Up Saturday, October 14 9:00 AM





Sunday, October 29 10:00am

Confirmation Service for our 9th graders will be on **Sunday, October 29** during worship.

Please keep these young persons in your prayers: Brett Bakeberg, Jacob Bankston, Kylin Blanck, Ryan Clausen, Noah Gunderson, Sarina Haas, Courtney Hoffman, Jaya Holmquist, Ben Lundgren, Nathan Olson, Leslee Page, and Torren Schultes



Abiding Savior's Election Night Meal and Bake Sale Tues., Nov. 7th



Abiding Savior's Election Night meal is back with a bake sale and music! Come enjoy a 'mini' Smorgasbord! Tickets will be available for purchase soon!

We will have more details about the evening available in the days ahead, but mark your calendar and look for more information to come!

# page 4 / kids are invited to get involved! / preschool news

# 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.

#### New this year:

- 3-year-olds through 1st grade will meet in the 1st mod in a wonderful new space created by teacher Pam Flint. Children will find a variety of activity options for exploring Bible stories and getting to know one another.
- The 2nd mod space for 2nd-5th graders has a new look, as well. Changes to the area to accommodate Wednesday evening Family Worship have given us a comfy place to gather, including a couch and bean bag cushions. It's going to be a great place to learn and share.

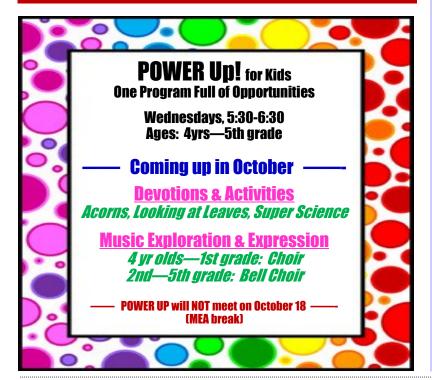
#### On the Calendar:

October 22: Children sing during 10:00 worship service.

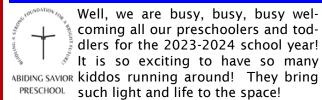
Even if you can't make it every week, please come when you can. And remember—friends are always welcome.

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

You are WELCOME You are VALUED You are LOVED You BELONG



## Preschool News



We spent the month of September getting reacquainted with friends and making new ones! The toddlers are learning the ropes quickly too. Such an exciting time for our program and our wonderful teaching staff! Could not do it without them.

October will be filled with all things fall and a little bit of spooky fun as we approach Halloween. If this school year goes as fast as the summer, we will blink, and it will be over.

Please continue to spread the word about our program. We still have a few spots available for this school year! As always thank you for your continued support of our program!

Jen Boog, Preschool Director preschool@abidingsavior.org

## MS/HS Youth News

**Sunday, October 1** - Cinnamon Rolls Meet in kitchen at 8:30am to help bake & frost rolls and stay to help sell after church!

#### Sunday, October 8

- Heggies Fundraiser Kick-Off: Help raise
   \$ for the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering
- Fall Festival: Join us 11am—12:30pm for our 3rd Annual Fall Festival! Come for food trucks, fall fun, and fellowship together as a church.

Fri.—Sun., October 13 - 15 - HS Fall Retreat Join Josh and Alex on a fun fall retreat in the Duluth area! Click here more info and to sign up : <a href="https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSd0Pa\_JMYJt3Gn2MaUe0kMna7D96">https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSd0Pa\_JMYJt3Gn2MaUe0kMna7D96</a> OhTGaoaBB41-P7tATaFKQ/viewform

Saturday, October 28 - Trunk or Treat
Sign up to host a trunk from 10:30am—noon,
decorated in the craziest way you can come
up with, for little kids to come and trick or
treat in our church parking lot.

#### Mission

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# financial updates / thank you! / endowment fund / page 5

August 2023 Financial Highlights											
2023	Monthly	YTD									
INCOME											
Current gifts and giving	28,257	313,282									
Festival giving	80	11,548									
SUBTOTAL	28,337	324,830									
Other income	18,962	42,355									
TOTAL INCOME	47,299	367,185									
EXPENSES											
TOTAL EXPENSES	64,301	429,309									
NET INCOME OVER EXPENSES	(17,002)	(62,124)									
Benevolence paid	9,045	32,722									

# **Notes of Thanks**

#### Filling the Irondale HS Pantry

Thank you so much to Gary E, Keith P, Richard H for packing and driving (along with Dawn G, Pastor Lisa and Gene H for



helping pack/load) two and a half truck loads of items to the Irondale Pantry! The winter apparel, school supplies, food and snacks will all go to students in need in the Irondale HS community. See the article on pg 6 for more details about the items donated to Irondale.

#### Retirement appreciation from Pastor Lisa

How can I begin to thank you as a congregation for all the kindness, generosity, prayers, encouragement and well wishes for my retirement celebration. Thank you for all the preparations that were made for the beautiful worship celebration with so many who came, and the delicious lunch. Thank you for the beautiful words you wrote for my memory book and for the generous gifts and cards you hared. Thank you for the gift of luggage and the gift certificate to the Aurora Staples Inn bed and breakfast in Stillwater from the congregation. Thank you for everything. Takk for alt. You will always be in my heard an din my prayers and will always be family a brothers and sisters in Christ.

—Pastor Lisa

# **Thrivent Choice Dollars**

If you are a Thrivent member, check to Thrivent Choice see if you receive Thrivent Choice dollars.

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!

# 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.



# New Intergenerational Handbell Choir Sundays through November 12: 9:05—9:30am

Have you ever wanted to play handbells? Now is your chance. Join us Sunday mornings 9:05-9:30 beginning October 1.



We will practice for about 6 weeks and then share our gifts in church on November 12. This choir is open to all ages from 6th grade up through adults. No experience necessary and no music reading required. Just a willing spirit and the ability to count to 4. If you have any questions, please contact Paul Weller.

# page 6 / helping others / adult education opportunities

## God's Work. Your Hands.

Coat Drive: The annual collection is on now and the give-away is scheduled for October 21st at Christ the King in New Brighton from 10am - 2:00 pm. We have already collected many items, but please remember: WARM coats with



working zippers are needed, especially in schoolage children's sizes. Gloves, boots, snowpants, and NEW hats are also accepted. Look for a volunteer sign-up genius for set-up Friday the 20th (takes about an hour), and for two shifts assisting with the give-away on Saturday the 21st. This is a rewarding volunteer opportunity for anyone from 12 to 100 and a great collaboration with many area churches.

Irondale Stock-up: Thanks to a generous gift from an IHS alumna and careful, planned shopping by Dawn,



we are able to supply the following for students at Irondale: Clothing (coats, socks, leggings, sweatpants, sweatshirts, T-shirts), Couchhopping supplies (comforters, throws, pillows, plates, cups), Birthday bags (cake mix, frosting, candles, a card from ASLC, treats, gift card), Personal care items (hair brushes and accessories, Kleenex, hand sanitizer, feminine products), School supplies and backpacks, and Food for



their in-school food shelf. Students who are experiencing difficult situations can find support and care, and hopefully, brighter days ahead. May many be blessed through this outreach.

Thanks for Caring and Sharing: Heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped our school-aged friends at Sunnyside, Pinewood, and Edgewood start the year with the sup-



plies they need. May all students be blessed with learning, friendship, and success.

Disaster Response: Our congregation is making a gift to the ELCA's Lutheran Disaster Response for their work with people affected by the Maui wildfires. In conjunction with the Pacifica Synod and other partners, needs will be assessed and relief provided, immediate and longer-term. If you'd like to know more, visit the ELCA's website (ELCA.org) and look under "Our Work" then "Relief and Development."

# Living Prayer: Deepening our Communication with God

Lord, teach us to pray! Throughout the centuries, Christians have turned to God in prayer. Over this study we will be using *The Workbook of Living Prayer*, a classic prayer manual by Rev. Maxie Dunnam who served as president of Asbury Theological Seminary to guide our prayer journey. Pastor Marla will lead us as we learn about and practice praying in multiple ways. We'll meet during the education hour on **Wednesday evenings 5:30** – **6:30** according to the following schedule:

Date	Chapter	Theme
Sept. 27	<del></del>	Introduction
Oct. 4	1	Getting Our Bearings & Beginning the Adventure
Oct. 11	2	With Christ in the School of Prayer
Oct. 18	— <del>-</del>	Week off for MEA
Oct. 25	3	When All Else Fails, Follow Directions
Nov. 1	4	Basic Ingredients of Prayer
Nov. 8	5	Pray without Ceasing
Nov. 15	6	Resources for Praying

Please let the church office know if you plan to attend so that we can have enough books for everyone!

# Life Long Learning

#### **Women's Bible Study**

• Join your sisters in Christ every Thursday morning at 10:00 in the Coffee House! You'll be refreshed after a morning of fellowship, prayer, Bible study led by Pastor Marla (and great treats)!

#### Men's Breakfast & Bible Study

Men's Bible Study, led by Pastor Ryan, will be meeting on Tuesday, October 3, 17 and 31 at 8:30 in the morning in the Fellowship Hall. Coffee and Doughnuts will be available. This Bible study is non-threatening, enjoyable, and informative. Join us!

#### Lydia Circle

Looking for an evening study and fellowship option?
 Lydia Circle meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6pm! The next mtg is Tues., Oct. 10 at 6pm.

#### Mission

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2023	Saturday	7		14	Fall Clean Up 9am – noon HS Youth Fall Retreat	21	Coat Drive Christ the King 10am-2pm	28	Trunk or Treat 10:30 - noon	4 NOV	
	Friday	9	OFFICE	13	OFFICE CLOSED HS Youth Fall Refreat	20	OFFICE	27 MLS WHLS	OFFICE CLOSED Men's Faith & A Pint	3 NOV	OFFICE
October	Thursday		Women's Bible Study (in-person or Facebook) Jubilation Ringers		Work Crew Women's Bible Study (in-person or Facebook) Jubilation Ringers		Women's Bible Study Jubilation Ringers	MLS ON WHLS	Work Crew Women's Bible Study Jubilation Ringers		Women's Bible Study (in-person or Facebook) Jubilation Ringers
		2	7:00	12	9:00 10:00 7:00	19	7:00	26 A	7:00	2 NOV	10:00
	Wednesday	4	9:45 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 5:30 - 6:30 Adult Ed Hour 5:30 - 6:00 POWERUp 6:00 - 6:30 Powerup 6:30 - 7:00 Wed. Worship 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir	11	9:45 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 5:30 - 6:30 Adult Ed Hour 5:30 - 6:00 POWERUp 6:00 - 6:30 Powerup 6:30 - 7:00 Wed. Worship 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir	18	9:45 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir MEA Break (No Yth Actyts)	25 MEALS ON WHEELS	9:45 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 5:30 - 6:30 Adult Ed Hour 5:30 - 6:30 POWERUp 6:00 - 6:30 Powerup 6:30 - 7:00 Wed. Worship 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir	1 NOV	9:45 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 5:30 - 6:30 Adult Ed Hour 5:30 - 6:00 POWERUp 6:00 - 6:30 Powerup 6:30 - 7:00 Wed. Worship 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir
	Tuesday		Men's Breakfast Bible Study Staff Meeting Committee meetings		Staff Meeting Lydia Circle		Men's Break- fast/Bible Study Quilting Staff Meeting Council Mtg	WIS ON WHIS	Staff Meeting Benedictine Service		Men's Break- fast/Bible Study Staff Meeting
		က	10:00	10	10:00	17	8:30 9:00 10:00 6:30	24	10:00	31	10:00
	Monday	2	10:00 Greg Domino visitation 11:00 Greg Domino funeral Growing Thru Loss Cent. Untd. Mthdst in Roseville 6:45–9pm	6	5:30 Women's Gathering 6:30 Usher Training Growing Thru Loss Cent. Untd. Mthdst in Roseville 6:45 – 9pm	16	Growing Thru Loss Cent. Untd. Mthdst in Roseville 6:45 – 9pm	23 MLS ON WHLS	6:00 Confirmation Pictures and Family Dinner	30	
	Sunday	1 EL SALVADOR SUNDAY	9:00 Sunday School & SS Family Fellowship Worship with Holy Communion (also via Facebook) 11:00 Communion Serving training 11:00 Cinnamon Roll Sale	8 STWRDSHP CMPGN STRTS	9:00 Sunday School & SS Family Fellow-ship (also via Facebook)	15	9:00 Sunday School & SS Family Fellow-ship Worship with Holy Communion	22 STWRDSHP CLBRTN SUN	9:00 Sunday School & SS Family Fel- lowship 10:00 Worship (also via Facebook Live) 11:00 Celebration Brunch	29 CONFIRMATION SUNDAY	9:00 Sunday School & SS Family Fellowship 10:00 Worship (also via Facebook Live)

#### **Abiding Savior Lutheran Church**

8211 Red Oak Drive Mounds View. MN 55112-5929

Phone: 763.784.5120

Email: office@abidingsavior.org Website: www.abidingsavior.org

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

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

### October Vinebranch Newsletter Volume 23 Number 10 Date 2023



If you want to go paperless, call the Church office at 763.784.5120 or email us at office@abidingsavior.org.

> Reduce waste. Reduce mailing costs. Receive information faster!

#### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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- El Salvador Sunday, Communion server training Oct. 1:
- Men's breakfast and Bible study Oct. 3:
- Oct. 4: Wednesday evening programming (see pg. 2)
- Women's Bible study (in-person or online) Oct. 5:
- Oct. 8: Stewardship Campaign Kick-Off Sunday school

Worship

Fall Festival with food truck and activities

- Women's gathering at Moe's & Usher training Oct. 9:
- Oct. 10: Lydia Circle
- Oct. 11: Wednesday evening programming (See pg. 2)
- Oct. 12: Work crew

Women's Bible study (in-person or online)

- Oct. 13-15: High school youth retreat
- Oct. 14: Fall Clean Up
- Oct. 15: Sunday school

Worship with Holy Communion

- Oct. 17: Men's Bible study, Quilting & Council meeting
- Oct. 18: Wednesday night suppers & Adult choir No Youth Activities (MEA Break)
- Oct. 19: Women's Bible study (in-person or online)
- Oct. 21: Coat Drive at Christ the King
- Oct. 22: Sunday School & Worship

Stewardship Celebration Brunch

- Oct. 23-27: Meals on Wheels delivery (contact Fern to help!)
- Oct. 23: Confirmation Pictures and Dinner
- Oct. 25: Wednesday evening programming (See pg. 2)
- Oct. 26: Work crew

Women's Bible study

- Oct. 28: Trunk or Treat Oct. 29: Sunday School

Reformation Sunday with Rite of Confirmation

Oct. 31: Men's breakfast and 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, 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



Help keep our contact information up-to-date! If you have a new home phone, CONTACT INFORMATION cell phone or new email address, please call the church

763.784.5120 or visit abidingsavior.org/OutreachPro/update-mycontact-information/ so we can update our records. Thanks!