

the vinebranch

a monthly publication of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

2

3

4

6

7

October 2024

in this issue

Makungu Water Project
Special Events
Youth Updates
God's Work. Our Hands.
October Calendar



MY GENEROSITY JOURNEY 2024 Stewardship Campaign Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

2024 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Sunday, October 6 Kickoff Sunday

10am: Worship

Campaign Kickoff

Week of October 7

Watch for materials in the mail

Sunday, October 13

10am: Festive Worship

Sunday, October 20 *My Generosity Journey* 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!

My Generosity Journey

Generosity is at the heart of what it means to be a Christian. The sharing of our resources as well as our time and talents is one of the ways that God works in the world. Without sharing, the church and all that God accomplishes through the church



would not exist. It takes volunteers and it takes resources to run a church. It is only through your sharing that God accomplishes so much through Abiding Savior.

Generosity fuels the weekly worship services, Bible studies, youth and children's programming, fellowship, and caring ministries that you and your family have experienced here at Abiding Savior. Generosity fuels the work God has done and will do in the lives of so many people that have grown in faith through this place. Generosity also fuels the work God is doing through Abiding Savior out in the world through partnerships with Community Partners with Youth (CPY), Irondale Pantry, the St. Paul Area Synod, numerous mission trips, and our companion congregation in Iringa, Tanzania to name just a few.

This Fall, the Stewardship Committee is asking each of us to look deeper at our generosity journey by completing a short assessment called a Generosity Autobiography. A Generosity Autobiography challenges us to explore the past to see how our attitudes, assumptions, and values concerning money and wealth were formed. Writing a Generosity Autobiography helps us understand our actions and feelings evoked by money and how those feelings, attitudes, assumptions, and values shape our approach to generosity.

Watch for a mailing coming to your home with materials for the My Generosity Journey fall stewardship campaign. Included in this mailing will be the Generosity Autobiography as well as a pledge card for the upcoming year. I encourage you to take the Generosity Autobiography and to pray about your generosity toward the work of God done in and through Abiding Savior in the coming year.

Wherever you are at on your generosity journey, God can and will use the gifts of your time, talent, and resources to make a difference in the world.

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/adult ed opportunities / Sunday evening worship

Makungu Water Project Update Sunday, October 6 @ 9AM



We are honored to have with us at Abiding Savior Peter Mwakatundu, the lead employee for St. Paul Partners water projects in Tanzania. Abiding Savior is in the middle of partnering with St. Paul Partners to bring fresh water to the village of Makungu. Peter is working on

that project and can bring us a firsthand update on the project as well as life in the village of Makungu. Peter knows Abiding Savior because back in 2012, Peter worked as the bus driver for the first group Abiding Savior sent to visit our companion congregation in Makungu. Peter will be bringing a greeting in worship that day as well. Come and hear more about our exciting partnership and water project in Makungu.

Messy People: Women's Bible Study with Pastor Marla

Life gets messy sometimes! All of us deal with the messes of life – illness, grief, conflict, family concerns, work issues, and more. Throughout the Bible God works in and through messy people in

meaningful ways – people like Rahab, the prodigal son, Josiah, Mary, David, and Daniel. As we delve into their stories, we will see how God worked in their lives for good. It may even prompt us to notice how God is at work helping tidy up the messes in our lives as well.

Pastor Marla will lead this study based on the book, *Messy People: Life Lessons from Imperfect Biblical Heros* by Jennifer Cowart. Books will be distributed at the Women's Bible Study on Thursday September 26, or through the church office. We'll introduce the topic on September 26 and work through this series a chapter a week on Thursdays at 10 AM October 3 through November 7.

The Women's Bible Study is a warm and caring group who welcomes new members. We gather around God's word, music and prayer, and we enjoy good food and fellowship. It is a time for lifting one another up and growing in faith. We hope you'll be part of it. If you can't be there in person, participate through Facebook. Wednesday Ed. Series: What it Means to be Lutheran: Then & Now



Oct. 23, 30, Nov., 6 & 13 5:30—6:30PM in Coffee House

Whether you have been a Lutheran your whole life, or you are new to the Lutheran Church, join Pastor Ryan for an overview of what it means to be a Lutheran. This course will look back at the origins and history of the Lutheran Church, the theology and teachings of Lutheranism, and discuss what it means to be a Lutheran in the twenty-first century. There will be no homework for this class, and no one will be forced to answer any questions. Come and enjoy a time of fellowship and learning as together we look at what it means to be Lutheran.

Wednesday Schedule

4:30—6:15pm Oct. 2: Oct. 9: Oct. 16: Oct. 23: Oct. 30: 5:30—6:30pm 5:30—6:30pm 6:30—8:00pm 6:30—8:00pm	Dinner served Grilled hamburgers & tuna salad Pork chow mein Chicken ala king & biscuits Tator tot hotdish Scalloped potatoes & ham POWER Up Adult Education (starting 10/23) Confirmation New Member class (10/23) Adult Choir
7:00—8:00pm	Adult Choir

NEW! Sunday Evening Youth-Led Worship

Starting on October 20 at 5:30pm, the youth of Abiding Savior will be offering an exciting new worship opportunity <u>for people of all ages</u>! On the 3rd Sunday of each month (except December, February, and April), members of our youth program will be leading a relaxed, contemporary worship service in the evening followed by dinner and fellowship. These services will be planned and led by youth (with some help from adult leaders) and will feature Bible stories, skits, faith stories from members of our community, and more! We hope to see you there!

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



Abiding Savior Lutheran Church Newsletter | October 2024 | abidingsavior.org

It's time to order your

Christmas wreaths!

for preschool wreath order

forms!

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

Sunday Morning Children's Time

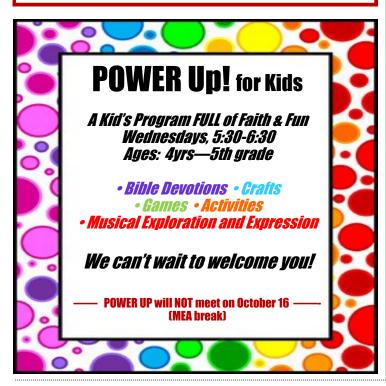


We are excited to welcome all **3-yr-olds (by 9/1 & potty-trained) thru 5th-graders** to join us for Bible stories, music, crafts and activities each Sunday morning.

- 9:30-9:55: Classroom time. Parents are encouraged to enjoy fellowship in the library.
- Pam, Laney and Emmie Flint are welcoming 3-year -olds through 1st graders in the first classroom area. 2nd-5th graders will join Patty in the classroom at the end of that same hallway.
- The weekly children's sermon will focus on the Bible story from the morning's class. Children are then invited to join Patty to walk to the chapel for music/worship time led by Barb Wolter. They will be escorted back to the sanctuary during the Hymn of the Day.

Please join us! Invite friends and neighbors! Families do not need to be members of Abiding Savior to participate in our programs.





Preschool News

We are off to a great start! The air is buzzing with excitement as the kiddos have entered back into the building! We are a busy program with a total of 35

ABIDING SAVIOR kids enrolled between the preschool and PRESCHOOL toddler classrooms! The teachers and kids have been busy getting to know each other or for our returning families getting reacquainted!

I know that Christmas seems like it is far away but be on the lookout for information about our Annual Mickman Brother Wreath Fundraiser!

Check out the new photo opportunity wall down outside of my office:) Snap a picture and post on social media to help spread the word about Abiding Savior!

As always thank you for your continued support of our program!

Jen Boog, Preschool Director preschool@abidingsavior.org

MS/HS Youth News

Sunday, October 20 Evening Youth Worship 3rd Sundays at 5:30PM

Starting on October 20, the youth of Abiding Savior will be offering an exciting new worship opportunity for people of all ages! On the 3rd Sunday of each month (except Dec., Feb., and Apr.), members of our youth program will be leading a relaxed, contemporary worship service in the evening followed by dinner and fellowship. We are excited to see how these services develop over time!

Waldoch Farms - Corn Maze & Pumpkin Patch

Sunday, October 13 after church

Join us for an afternoon at the farm! Waldoch Farms, located in Lino Lakes, is a fun spot for a fall outing! They have a corn maze, animal barn, hayride to the pumpkin patch, and more! Check out their website for details (www.waldochfarm.com)!

Outdoor Movie Night: Hocus Pocus Friday, October 18 at 7PM

"Sistaahhhs!!!" Join us on Brad's Pad for our final movie of the year as we ring in Spooky Season with everyone's favorite sisters, the Sandersons! The movie will start at 7 pm, but feel free to come as early as 6:30 to hang out and get settled! Bring a chair, a blanket, and a friend! Free popcorn!

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.

financial updates / benevolence task force / bells / page 5

•	ust 2024 Il Highlight	s
2024	Monthly	YTD
INCOME		
Current gifts and giving	52,686	326,780
Festival giving	—	15,957
SUBTOTAL	52,686	342,737
Other income	4,870	50,446
TOTAL INCOME	57,556	393,183
EXPENSES		
TOTAL EXPENSES	47,696	401,253
NET INCOME OVER EXPENSES	9,860	(8,070)
Benevolence paid	2,390	29,766

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.



Benevolence Task Force Recommendations

Abiding Savior's Task Force members (Andy Clausen, Tonya Cox, Gary P. Engen, Pastor Lisa Engen, Linka Holey, and Pastor Ryan Brodin (convener)) recently made recommendations to the Church Council on how to donate the funds designated for benevolence from the *Abiding Here for 50 Years Capital Campaign* and any benevolence dollars not yet distributed from past capital campaigns.

The committee sought congregational input for the organizations that could benefit from these funds through a Mission Minute Presentation on May 19, during which a survey was distributed and articles were included in Sunday Bulletins. The criteria for distribution include: congruence with the mission of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church, providing a mechanism for congregational to engage beyond funding, have a potential to impact those served, represent local, regional, national, and/or global ministries.

The committee brainstormed organizations from other funding sources, reviewed returned surveys, discussed direct requests from congregation, and assigned Task Force Members to review specific organizations. The task force decided on recommendations for \$24,000 of the \$39,000 to the following organizations/projects with amounts distributed on a timeline up to three years from initial distribution:

- Makungu, Tanzania water project: \$7,500
- Cathedral Church Partnership in El Salvador: \$5,000
- Hosting another refugee family (LSS): \$3,000
- Global Health Ministries: \$2,500
- Bridging congregational service project: \$2,000
- Crescent Cove Family Respite Care (paper products): \$2,000
- ASLC Preschool fence project: \$2,000

Intergenerational Handbell Choir Short-Term Opportunity

Have you ever wanted to play handbells? Now is your chance. We would like to assemble a short-term intergenerational handbell choir to play at our Advent Lessons and Carol service on December 22.

We would most likely practice for about 6 weeks leading up to the December 22 service. This choir would be 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. Sign up <u>HERE</u> if interested!

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church Newsletter | October 2024 | abidingsavior.org

page 6 / helping others / action team grants wanted / thanks

God's Work. Your Hands.

Coat Drive: The 24th Coat Drive is on now through Oct 17th and the give-away is sched-uled for October 19th at Christ the King, New Brighton from 10am – 2 pm. We have collected many items already, but please remember:



warm winter coats with working zippers, especially in school-age children's sizes. Mittens, scarves, snowpants, and boots are also accepted, but hats must be new. We're looking for volunteers to help with set-up Friday the 18th (takes about an hour), and for two shifts assisting with the give-away on Saturday the 19st. Sign up HERE to help! This is a rewarding volunteer opportunity for anyone from 12 to 100 and a great collaboration with many area churches. Thank you for caring for our neighbors.

School Supplies: School supplies were delivered to Edgewood and Pinewood. They are grateful for these necessities, helping children be ready for success. Thanks everyone!



Irondale Pantry: We are working with Irondale to see what is most needed to have on hand. In the meantime, a certain 50th IHS class reunion collected \$600 for current student support. This will be turned into Aldi and Target gift cards for students, and Amazon credit for IHS to order specifically needed items. What a lovely, caring legacy by the Class of 1974!

Volunteer Opportunities: With fall programming back in action, there are numerous ways to let your hands do God's work. Please throw your hat in the ring when you see a request for volunteers that interests you. No one here bites (many are even nice),



you'll most likely be fed, and your work will be appreciated! Come join in the fellowship.

Note of Thanks

Dear Abiding Savior Members and Friends,

Our mom Donna Mae Schwab passed away on May 23, 2024. She joined Red Oak Lutheran Church (Abiding Savior Lutheran Church) in 1958 when our parents moved to New Brighton. Donna Mae was a longtime member who served as a Sunday School teacher, worked in the nursery and supported the funeral lunch crew.

On Friday, June 7th Pastor Lisa Schafer Engen officiated mom's funeral service and celebration of life at Abiding Savior. She was in contact with us and helping to make plans over Memorial Day weekend. Her compassion and empathy made a very tough situation manageable. Pastor Lisa did an amazing job in sharing family reflections, memories and tributes while leading the service. Gary Peterson played the piano as the accompanist and sang mom's favorite hymns and songs as the soloist. Our mom enjoyed piano music and Gary's singing. The funeral crew greeted our guests with a friendly smile and treated them with kindness. It was the perfect farewell celebration! Our mom would have been so happy on a job well done!

Thank you to the members and friends of Abiding Savior. We have heard your words of encouragement, felt your support and have been embraced by your prayers. God has lifted us up and carried our family during this difficult time in the loss of our mother. Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we move forward.

Peace be with you our brothers and sisters in Christ. God bless you all!

—The Schwab Family

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 purchase 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 T-shirts, and Youth Christmas Cookie Sale Supplies.

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.

Janelle – Sanctuary 3-5PM	OFFICE CLOSED	10:00 Women's Bible Study	 9:30 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 5:30 - 6:30 Adult Education: Beind Lutheran 	8:30 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10:00 Staff Meeting		 9:30 Sunday School and Fellowship 10:00 Worship Service with
2 NOVEMBER	1 NOVEMBER	31	30	29	28	27 CONFIRMATION SUN
Janelle – Sanctuary 3-5PM		Ringers	6:30 – 8:00 Confirmation 6:30 – 8:00 New Mbr Class 7:00 – 8:00 Adult Choir		Confirmation Dinner & Pictures 6:00	11:00 Brunch 5:30 Youth Led Worship
Trunk or Treat 10:30 – Noon		7:00 Jubilation	Being Lutheran 5:30 – 6:30 PowerUP	12:00 Benedictine Service		
rail Clean up 9:00	OFFICE CLOSED	9:00 Work Crew 10:00 Women's Bible Study	 Y.30 CUB FOODS GEIVERY 4:30 – Wed. Night Supper 5:30 – 6:30 Adult Education: 	10:00 Staff Meeting		7:30 Sunday School and Fellowship 10:00 Worship Service
26	25	24	23	22	21	20 Stewardship Campaign
	Coat Drive Set Up				D 2 2 2	
Janelle – Sanctuary 3-5PM	Hocus Pocus Movie Night 7:00	7:00 Jubilation Ringers	NO YOUTH ACTIVITIES (MEA BREAK)	Ŭ	5:30 Women's Gathering	
Coat Giveaway at Christ the King	OFFICE CLOSED	10:00 Women's Bible Study	9:30 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 – Wed. Night Supper 7:00 – 8:00 Actuit Choir	8:30 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 9:00 Quilting		9:30 Sunday School and Fellowship 10:00 Worshin Service
19	18	17	16	15	14	13 Stewardship Campaign
		7:00 Jubilation Ringers	6:30 - 8:00 Continmation 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir	Meening 5:30 Lydia Circle		and Fellowsnip 10:00 Worship Service with Holy Communion 11:00 FALL FESTIVAL
Janelle – Sanctuary 3-5PM	OFFICE CLOSED	9:00 Work Crew 10:00 Women's Bible Study	9:30 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 5:30 - 6:30 PowerUP	10:00 Staff Meeting 2:00 Caring Visitors		9:00 Makungu Water Project Update 9:30 Sunday School
12	11	10	6	8	7	6 Stewardship Campaign
Janelle – Sanctuary 3-5PM	OFFICE CLOSED	10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Jubilation Ringers	9:30 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 5:30 - 6:30 PowerUP 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir	 8:30 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 Committee Meetings 		 9:30 Sunday School and Fellowship 10:00 Worship Service with Baptisms 11:00 Cinnamon Roll Sale
5	4	3	2	-	30 SEPT	29 SEPT
Saturday	Friday	Thursday	Wednesday	Tuesday	Monday	Sunday
October 2024	_					

Confirmation

with

7:00 Jubilation Ringers

Being Lutheran 5:30 - 6:30 PowerUP 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir

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/

October Vinebranch Newsletter Volume 24 Number 10 Date 2024

Go Paperless

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

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

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Events in October

- Oct. 1: Men's breakfast and Bible study
- Wednesday evening programming (see pg. 2) Oct. 2:
- Women's Bible study Oct. 3:
- Stewardship Campaign Kick-Off Oct. 6: Children's Time/Sunday school & Fellowship Worship with Holy Communion Fall Festival with food truck and activities
- Oct. 8: Lydia Circle
- Oct. 9: Wednesday evening programming (See pg. 2)
- Oct. 10: Work crew and Women's Bible study
- Oct. 13: Children's Time/Sunday school & Fellowship Worship
- Youth Outing to Waldoch Farm Oct. 14: Women's Gathering
- Oct. 15: Men's Bible study, Quilting & Council meeting Oct. 16: Wednesday night supper & Adult choir (MEA Break)
- Oct. 17: Women's Bible study
- Oct. 18: Hocus Pocus Movie Night at 7PM
- Oct. 19: Coat Drive at Christ the King
- Oct. 20: Children's Time/Sunday School & Worship Stewardship Celebration Brunch Youth-Led Worship at 5:30PM
- Oct. 21: Confirmation Pictures and Dinner
- Oct. 23: Wednesday evening programming (See pg. 2) Adult Education & New Member Class
- Oct. 24: Work crew and Women's Bible study
- Oct. 26: Fall Clean Up & Trunk or Treat
- Oct. 27: Children's Time/Sunday school & Fellowship **Reformation Sunday with Confirmation**
- Oct. 29: Men's breakfast and Bible study
- Oct. 30: Wednesday evening programming (See pg. 2) Adult Education
- Oct. 31: Women's Bible study

Pastors & Staff

Ryan Brodin, Senior Pastor

Josh & Alex Ertz, 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

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