



the vinebranch

a monthly publication of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

September 2024

in this issue

CPY Partnership—15 Years!	2
Special Events	3
Fall Children’s Activities	4
Financial Updates	6
September Calendar	7

Fall Programming Kicks Off and Pastoral Coverage Update

Fall is an exciting time in the life of the church as we boldly enter into a new programming year. This edition of the Vinebranch is filled with information about how you can get involved in the mission and ministry of your congregation. Please read through these pages carefully and join the fun and learning!



This Fall we once again look forward to Wednesday Evening Dinner, Confirmation, PowerUp, Adult Education and Bible Studies, Sunday Children’s Time, High School Youth Group, Adult Choir and Bells, and more exciting ministries that are happening this September and throughout the programming year.

As we enter the Fall, we do not yet have in place an Associate Pastor as we had hoped. The Call process continues! Pastor Marla completed her interim role at the end of June and for the past two months we have been down to one pastor. As we await the calling of a new Associate Pastor, we have a plan to help cover the pastoral needs of the congregation.

Unfortunately, the synod does not have another interim pastor to replace Pastor Marla at this time. Pastor Marla has agreed to return to teach the Women’s Bible Study in the Fall. In addition, Abiding Savior is blessed to have many retired pastors that can help us out this Fall. Pastor Lisa Engen, Pastor Dave Rogge, and Pastor Elaine Silpala will be helping with visitation, worship leadership, and preaching as needed. As always, please reach out to the church office if you or a loved one are in need of pastoral care.

God is moving in and through Abiding Savior. We look forward to a wonderful year of programming as together we grow through worship, education, fellowship, and faith!

God’s blessings!

Pastor Ryan



COMING SOON
FALL PROGRAMMING

Fall Kick-Off Sunday
September 8
9:30am
Children’s Time (aka Sunday school) families (and others!) invited for fellowship/registration

10:00am
Worship with *Blessing of Backpacks*

11:00am
Brunch

Wednesday Programming
Begins September 11

Sunday, September 15
Children’s Time & Fellowship at 9:30am
Worship at 10:00am

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.

Call Committee Update



The call committee is trusting the Synod to help us find the right candidate for Abiding Savior. We are currently awaiting new candidates to interview. This waiting period is hard, but we are trusting in God. We ask for your prayers in finding the right person for our church.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out to any member of the Call Committee: Brea Schulte, Christina Larson-Dickson, Dawson Blanck, Ellen Zimmerman, Kathie Anderson, Megan Sangren, and Sandra LaCroix.

Exciting New Worship Opportunity on the Horizon!

Watch for more information in the October Vinebranch for an exciting new worship opportunity that is in the works! In the meantime, join us on Sundays at 10AM for a mix of our traditional and contemporary worship services. (Note we will not be having Wednesday evening services in Sept.)

MEALS ON WHEELS DELIVERY

September 23—27

Contact Fern or the office if you are able to help any of the days!

Stewardship Corner

Community Partners with Youth and Abiding Savior-15 Years Together

For the past fifteen years Abiding Savior has partnered with Community Partners with Youth (CPY) to serve at risk kids in our community. Every summer Abiding Savior has hosted the elementary program of CPY. Because of the generosity of Abiding Savior and others in our community, the summer program can be offered free of charge.

If not for CPY, these kids might not have a warm meal or a safe place to hang out for the summer. Through CPY the kids are able to take field trips together, do arts and crafts projects, and learn life skills like mela planning and cooking. Over the fifteen years of the program at Abiding Savior, easily over 1,000 kids have been served by CPY. That means tens of thousands of meals served out of our kitchen, hundreds of hours of playing games in the church yard, and so many lives that have been touched by CPY.

CPY is just one of many examples of how Abiding Savior is serving this community and beyond. Your generosity to Abiding Savior not only helps to support weekly worship, Bible Study, and pastoral care, but also outreach into the community where we continue partnering and working to share God's love. Thank you for your past generosity and know that as we move forward together, God can and will use your continued generosity to make a difference in our congregation and beyond.



Growing Through Loss Support for Those Experiencing Loss



Growing Through Loss is a grief and loss support ministry jointly sponsored by the North Suburban Grief Support Coalition, of which 18 churches and organizations in our area are members. The coalition hosts two six-week series each year at various locations that address both the educational as well as support aspects of a variety of loss and grief issues.

The fall series will be held on Thursday evenings, September 5th through October 12th from 6:45 - 9:00 pm, at Nativity Lutheran Church, 3312 Silver Lake Road NE, St Anthony, MN 55418.

Each session offers an educational presentation by a professional from the community, followed by peer support groups facilitated by leaders who understand the grieving process. Each session is complete in itself, so you may attend any or all sessions. Registration takes place the evening before each session. There's no cost. Child care will not be provided. Call 763-755-5335 or visit www.growingthroughloss.org for more information.

Mission

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WELCOME!

Fall Kick-Off Sunday

SO LONG SUMMER



We're glad you're here!



ABIDING SAVIOR
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, September 8



REGISTER FOR CHILDREN'S TIME & FALL PROGRAMMING

We'll have registration open for Children's Time (aka Sunday school), Wednesday night POWERUp, and Confirmation



WORSHIP AT 10AM WITH BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

We're returning to worship inside our beautiful sanctuary! All students are invited to wear their backpacks and receive a blessing!



BRUNCH FOLLOWING WORSHIP

You're invited to a delicious brunch following Sunday's worship service! Enjoy this time of fellowship and food!



Important Upcoming Confirmation Dates

- Sept. 4: 6th-8th grade Orientation at 6:30pm
- Sept. 11: First class for all grades at 6:30pm
- Oct. 27: Rite of Confirmation for 9th graders



Women's Gathering

You are invited to join in on a monthly "meet-up" for the Women of ASLC at Moe's in their main dining room **on Monday Sept. 9 at 5:30pm** (come and stay as long as you're able).

Blood Drive - Sept. 26



Join us **Thursday, Sept. 26 from 1:30 pm—6:30pm** for our blood drive! Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org and enter: Abiding to schedule an appointment.

Wednesday Nite Schedule

Starting September 11

- 4:30—6:30pm Dinner served
 - Sept. 11: Tacos
 - Sept. 18: Hot Dogs, Potato Salad and Beans
 - Sept. 23: Cold Chicken Salad
- 5:30—6:30pm POWER Up
- 6:30—8:00pm Confirmation
- 7:00—8:00pm Adult Choir

Lydia Circle



You're invited to Lydia Circle on **Tuesday, Sept. 10 at 5:30!** The Lydia Circle meets in the evening in order to provide access for women with professional duties during the day. The Bible study is taken from the Gather magazine, an ELCA publication (gather@elca.org or gathermagazine.org).



YOUTH CINNAMON ROLL SALE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Meet in the church kitchen at 8:30AM to bake help sell after church

Fall Children's Activities

Come be a part of it and invite a friend!



Wednesday POWERUP+

- **Wednesdays starting September 11**
- **For children ages 4 years through 5th grade**
- **5:30—6:30PM**
POWER Up is a kid's devotion and music time on Wednesday evenings offering activities, musical experiences, friendship and faith-building.



Sunday School

- **Sundays starting September 15**
- **For children 3 years (and potty-trained) through 6th grade**
- We're excited to offer a new format to serve our families.
9:30—9:50AM: Children's Bible story followed by an opportunity to participate in related crafts and activities.
10AM Worship with children's time (aka Sunday school): During the worship service the Sunday school experience continues. As a part of worship, there will be a children's Bible story followed by an opportunity to sing songs and do activities before returning to worship after the sermon.



Sunday Family Fellowship

- **Sundays before worship in the Library**
- **9:30—9:50AM**
Spend some time connecting with other parents, sipping coffee, tea or your favorite beverage. No programs, no lessons, no structure—just parents meeting to laugh, talk and share stories from your week!

HAVE FAITH THANK YOU!

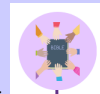


So many people contributed to making this year's VBS possible, and we are grateful for each and every one of you. Whether you donated funds or supplies, volunteered in any way, or kept us in your prayers, your kindness & generosity are appreciated.

Volunteers Needed for Children's Programs

It's a joy to share God's word and love with the children of Abiding Savior, and you are invited to be a part of it!

Children's Time (aka Sunday School) Opportunities:



- Help during the Children's Time (aka Sunday school) opening by supervising and assisting children with activities until worship begins
- Help during the children's time away from worship and assist in accompanying them back to the service after the sermon. Because this would involve missing part of worship, it is hoped a group of volunteers can be compiled so that they can serve on a rotating basis.
- Accompany children on the piano or guitar during the time following the children's sermon through the end of the main sermon.

POWER Up Opportunities:



- Help with activities from 5:30-6:30 each Wednesday

If you would like to volunteer for any of these opportunities or for more information, please contact Patty Mesenbring (patty@abidingsavior.org).

New Preschool Year Begins



This summer sure did fly by but here we are in September! Our program gets into full swing on September 9 with the start of our preschool class and then our toddler class will start on September 10! We have a total of 34 kiddos enrolled in the preschool and toddler programs. We are full in the preschool class two days of the week! It will be another amazing year!

We have an amazing staff of two teachers in each of the classrooms. They are warm, compassionate and knowledgeable! Our enrolled students are in great hands and I am confident they will learn and grow so much this year!

Thank you for your continued support of our programs!

Jen Boog, Preschool Director
preschool@abidingsavior.org

Mission

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We're Excited for this Year's Confirmation Classes!

We're excited to help our young people learn about their faith and strengthen their ties to church and one another! In this crazy world filled with hard choices it's important to be reminded of God's promise "You are mine!"

Sixth through Eighth Grade

Wednesday, September 4 @ 6:30PM: Orientation in the Fellowship Hall for students and parents

Wednesday, September 11 @ 6:30PM: First day of classes

Typical Confirmation Schedule:

- 6:30 Opening in the Youth Room (NOTE: No Wednesday Night Worship)
- 6:55 Large Group in the Youth Room
- 7:10 Small Group Time by Grade

Ninth Grade Confirmation

Wednesday, September 11 @ 6:30PM: Orientation and Information

- 6:30 Join opening time in the Youth Room
- 6:55 Move to Coffee House



- Ninth Grade will meet Wednesdays September 11-October 9.
- Confirmation Banquet for students and their families will on Monday, October 21 @ 6PM
- Confirmation Celebration Sunday will be Sunday, October 27 @ 10AM

God's Work. Our Hands.

Coat Drive: The 24th Coat Drive and Give-away is scheduled for October 19th at Christ the King, New Brighton. We are collecting gently used or new warm winter coats until October 17th. Mittens, scarves, snowpants, and boots are also accepted, but hats must be new. Items for school age children and XXL adults are most needed. Please place donations in the Social Concerns trunk. There will be opportunities to help set-up and work at the give-away coming up. Thank you for an excellent start on collecting!



School Supplies: Thank you to everyone who donated school supplies. We're helping Edgewood and Sunny-side students start the year with the materials they need. Smiles all around!

Outreach through Bridging: Thanks to a Thrivent grant, Mission Outreach budget and your donations, we were able to deliver 17 new, 30 used, and 3 electric blankets to Bridging. They were completely out so this was a timely and appreciated delivery. Super shopper Dawn also gathered 19 sheet sets, 5 comforters, 65 bath towels, 45 hand towels, 42 wash cloths, 3 pillows, and 2 hooded infant towels. Bridging helps people and families transitioning out of poverty and homelessness, providing furniture, household necessities, and hope. Way to show love for our neighbors!



Garden of Grace: Thanks to everyone who helped garden this year. Wasn't the rain glorious after several years without! Beds will be repaired and refurbished as they are emptied so we can be ready next spring.

Outreach to El Salvador: Allison Brodin was able to take \$250 in cash to be put toward medication for the medical mission.

Meals on Wheels: Our next delivery week is September 23-27. Please let Fern Fisher or the office know if you can assist in any way. Providing meals to shut-ins is a gift for all involved.

July 2024
Financial Highlights

2024	Monthly	YTD
INCOME		
Current gifts and giving	39,358	274,094
Festival giving	-	15,957
SUBTOTAL	39,358	290,051
Other income	10,407	45,576
TOTAL INCOME	49,765	335,627
EXPENSES		
TOTAL EXPENSES	48,832	353,557
NET INCOME OVER EXPENSES	933	(17,930)
Benevolence paid	4,211	27,376

**Thrive Choice Dollars
Thrive Action Teams**



If you are a Thrive member, you may receive Thrive Choice dollars that you are able to direct to Abiding Savior each year. Directing your choice dollars is easy. Just log in to www.Thrive.com or call 800-847-4836 and when prompted, say "Thrive Choice."

You can also apply for two Thrive 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 Thrive Action Team Grant to benefit one of the ministries of Abiding Savior, please contact the church office. We could use Thrive Action Team Grants for the following upcoming events:

- Brunches
- Wednesday Night Suppers
- Smorgasbord/Election Night Meal Bake Sale
- Preschool Wreath Fundraiser

Thank You

Thank you so very much for the \$500 Endowment Fund grant to support Humble Walk's summer camp worship and activities! It has been such a wonderful summer for our community thanks to your generosity and support and we're so grateful!

—Humble Walk Church

Thank you to everyone who donated to our "Blankets for Bridging" campaign! 18 new and 30 used blankets were collected! The day we delivered them to Bridging, the shelves were empty. They go through 300 blankets per week, and that many throws as well. Wendy, who met us, was so appreciative when she saw we had new blankets in our delivery. The need is great! Thank you to ASLC for the thoughtful donations!

—Mission Outreach Committee

Thank you so much for your Endowment Fund grant of \$1,500! Your partnership with Shobi's Table has led to so much abundance! I'm looking forward to being with you all again.

—Deacon Kari Alice Olsen

**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

**Save the date for our Fall Festival!
Sunday, October 8—following worship**

Mission

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 LABOR DAY	3	4	5	6	7
10:00 Worship Service with Holy Communion	OFFICE CLOSED	10:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 Committee Meetings	9:30 Cub Foods delivery 6:30 Confirmation Info Night (6 th -8 th graders) 7:00 Adult Choir	10:00 Women's Bible Study	OFFICE CLOSED	Janelle – Sanctuary 3-5PM
8 FALL KICK OFF SUNDAY	9	10	11	12	13	14
9:30 Fellowship and registration 10:00 Worship Service with Blessing of the Backpacks 11:00 BRUNCH	5:30 Women's Gathering	2:00 Caring Visitors Meeting 5:30 Lydia Circle	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	9:00 Work Crew 10:00 Women's Bible Study	OFFICE CLOSED	Janelle – Sanctuary 3-5PM
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9:30 Children's Time (aka Sun School) 9:30 Family Fellowship 10:00 Worship Service with Holy Communion		8:30 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 Council Meeting	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	10:00 Women's Bible Study	OFFICE CLOSED	Janelle – Sanctuary 3-5PM
22 ELCA YTH GATHERING SHARING & BAPTISM	23 MLS ON WHLS	24 MLS ON WHLS	25 MLS ON WHLS	26 MLS ON WHLS	27 MLS ON WHLS	28
9:30 Children's Time (aka Sun School) 9:30 Family Fellowship 10:00 Worship Service with ELCA Youth Gathering Sharing and Baptism		9:00 Quilting 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 Benedicotine Service	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	9:00 Work Crew 10:00 Women's Bible Study BLOOD DRIVE 1:30 – 6:30	OFFICE CLOSED	Janelle – Sanctuary 3-5PM
29	30	1 OCTOBER	2 OCTOBER	3 OCTOBER	4 OCTOBER	5 OCTOBER
9:30 1 st GRADE BIBLES 9:30 Children's Time (aka Sun School) 9:30 Family Fellowship 10:00 Worship Service with 1 st Grade Bibles 11:00 Cinnamon Roll Sale		8:30 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10:00 Staff Meeting	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	10:00 Women's Bible Study	OFFICE CLOSED	Janelle – Sanctuary 3-5PM

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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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 September

- Sept. 1: Worship with Holy Communion
- Sept. 2: LABOR DAY—OFFICE CLOSED
- Sept. 3: Committee Meetings
- Sept. 4: Confirmation Orientation Meeting (Grades 6-8)
Adult Choir
- Sept. 5: Women's Bible Study
- Sept. 8: Fall Kick-Off Sunday
Worship begins with Blessing of Backpacks
Brunch Sunday
- Sept. 9: Women's Gathering at Moe's
- Sept. 10: Caring Visitors Meeting & Lydia Circle
- Sept. 11: Wednesday Night Supper Resumes
Wednesday Evening Programming Resumes
- Sept. 12: Work Crew and Women's Bible Study
- Sept. 15: Children's Time & Fellowship
Worship with Holy Communion
- Sept. 17: Men's Bible Breakfast & Bible Study
Council Meeting
- Sept. 18: Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Evening Programming
- Sept. 19: Women's Bible Study
- Sept. 22: Children's Time & Fellowship
Worship with ELCA Youth Gathering Sharing
Baptism
- Sept. 23—27: Meals on Wheels Delivery
- Sept. 24: Quilting
- Sept. 25: Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Evening Programming
- Sept. 26: Work Crew and Women's Bible Study
Blood Drive (1:30—6:30pm)
- Sept. 29: Children's Time & Fellowship
Worship followed by Cinnamon Roll Sale

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
- Jennifer 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/> so we can update our records. Thanks!