



the vinebranch

a monthly publication of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

April 2026

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Easter Gives Us Hope!

The hope of Easter meets us where we are: sometimes weary, sometimes wondering, always longing for God to make all things new. In the story of the empty tomb, we remember that nothing can stop God's love from breaking into the world. not fear, not grief, not even death on the cross. At Abiding Savior, we hold tightly to this promise. It reminds us that God is still at work restoring, healing, and surprising us with grace in ways we never expect.



This Easter, we gather as a community of resurrection people who believe that God brings life out of places that once felt lifeless. Whether you come with joy, questions, gratitude, or a heavy heart, there is a place for you at Abiding Savior. The good news of Easter is for all of us, and it has the power to lift our spirits, renew our faith, and send us out with courage to love our neighbors and serve the world.

You are invited to celebrate Easter with us at Abiding Savior Lutheran Church. Worship services will be held at 8:00 and 10:00 on Easter morning, April 5. Come and experience the beauty of the music, the joy of community, and the hope that Christ is risen indeed. At Easter, Jesus sends us "On our Way Rejoicing" as together we sing "Jesus Christ is Risen Today, Alleluia!"

May the light of the risen Christ fill your heart, strengthen your spirit, and guide your steps in the days ahead.

Happy Easter!

Pastor Ryan



Living in God's love,
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is a *welcoming*
and *caring* family
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spiritual growth,
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HOLY WEEK AT ABIDING SAVIOR

Maundy Thursday, April 2, at 4:00 and 6:30 we will hear Jesus' command for us to love one another and celebrate Holy Communion with those children receiving their First Communion. There will be a soup supper between the services served 4:30 to 6:00.

Good Friday, April 3, we will hear the Passion, the last hours before Christ's crucifixion, told from the Seven Stations of the Cross. The service ends with the closing of the tomb as we await the Easter Celebration. Good Friday services are at 4:00 and 6:30.

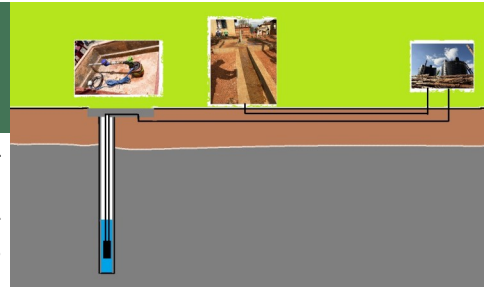
Easter Sunday, April 5, we will join in festive worship at 8:00 and 10:00 as together we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior! Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Please come between services for a delicious breakfast served by our youth!

Tanzania Mission Trip Reflections

Contributed by Ron Wendel

The water project was a collaboration of Abiding Savior, Saint Paul Partners, the University of Minnesota School of Engineering, and the village of Makungu. Five students from the School of Engineering went to Makungu to design a gravity-fed water system. There are two 10,000 liters tanks stationed at the top of a hill where the primary school is located.

The first attempt to drill a well failed. The second well went 180 meters deep with a 1.5 hp pump lowered into the well to a depth of 150 meters. Additional piping can drop the pump lower if the water table drops in the well. The distribution piping, which the members of the village of Makungu buried at a depth of one meter using shovels and hoes. They buried about eight kilometers of pipes creating nine distribution points for about 1,000 people in the village. The families each pay about \$2 a month for water access. The funds are used to pay for the maintenance of the water system.



Spring New Member Class

Wednesday April 22, 5:30—7:30pm

Coffee House

If you are interested in joining the family of faith at Abiding Savior, or just learning more about Abiding Savior, you are invited to **our Spring New Member Orientation Class on Wednesday, April 22 from 5:30 to 7:30** in the Coffee House. We will be talking about Abiding Savior, ways new members can get involved, and best of all, you will meet other new members. All new members will have a congregational sponsor to answer questions and help them feel welcomed. For those who choose, dinner is served on Wednesday evenings in the Fellowship Hall and you are welcome to grab dinner before the meeting or bring your dinner with you to the meeting. New members will be received at worship on **Sunday, May 3**, with a welcome reception to follow worship. If you would like to attend, or you have any questions, please talk to one of the pastors or call the church office.

You're invited
NEW MEMBER
Class

Adult Education

Christian Nationalism: America as a "Christian" Nation

Wednesdays April 29, May 6 and May 13

5:30 to 6:30 in the Coffee House



We hear a lot about Christian Nationalism in the news lately. But how much do we really know about Christian Nationalism? This class will dig deeper into the beliefs of Christian Nationalism and answer questions like: What is Christian Nationalism? Who are the Christian Nationalists? Is Christian Nationalism dangerous? How is the theology of Christian Nationalism similar or different from my own? And why is separation of church and state important?

Join us! No prior experience is necessary, no homework is assigned, and no one must answer questions in front of the class. Join Pastor Ryan for this discussion as together we learn more about the most talked about movement in Christianity today.

Mission

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EASTER EGG HUNT APRIL 4 @ 9:30a ABIDING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Wednesday Night Schedule Starting April 8

4:30—6:15pm Dinner served
(\$5 suggested donation per meal)
Apr. 2: Final Lenten Soup Supper (Maundy Thurs)
Apr. 8: Hamburger Gravy & Mashed Potatoes
Apr. 15: Chicken ala King
Apr. 22: Tator Tot Hotdish
Apr. 29: Chicken Salad
6:00—7:00pm ASK (Abiding Savior Kids)
6:30—8:00pm Confirmation
6:30—8:00pm New Member class (04/22)
7:00—8:00pm Adult choir practice
8:00—9:00pm Reigning Grace practice

Growing Through Loss

All of our lives are touched by the experience of grief of some kind. We know the pain of loss, of sickness, of death, of separation, of changes in our lives. Grief is hard. We need to know we are not alone in grief.



Growing Through Loss, an excellent series of grief support, will be held **Thursday evenings, April 9 through May 14 from 7—9PM at Centennial United Methodist Church, 1524 County Rd C2 W in Roseville.** Each session begins with a speaker on an aspect of grief. Then there will be an opportunity to meet in a small group with those experiencing a similar loss (loss of parents, loss of spouse, loss of child, separation or divorce, suicide loss, and transitional loss (empty nest, moving, job loss). Please help spread the word! Visit www.growingthroughloss.com for the schedule.

Easter Breakfast

Served by Abiding Savior Youth

Sunday | April 5 | 9-10 AM

Join us between services on easter sunday for a delicious Easter Breakfast served by our youth group from 9-10:00 am. The breakfast will include Egg Bake, French Toast Bake, Pastries, Bacon, Fresh Fruit, Milk/OJ/Coffee. All proceeds will benefit our youth!

MV LIONS WAFFLE BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 19 following worship

Come enjoy a delicious waffle breakfast on Sunday, April 19 following worship that will be put on by the Mounds View Lions. Proceeds will benefit their programs supporting our local community!

Mark Your Calendars Saturday, May 9 Show and Dinner El Salvador Fundraiser

ABIDING SAVIOR PRESENTS:

Hollywood REVUE

Saturday, May 9
Show - 6:00 pm | Dinner - 5:00 pm

TICKETS: \$20 - SHOW ONLY | \$30 - DINNER & SHOW

JOIN US FOR A MAGICAL NIGHT OF LIVE MUSIC FROM YOUR FAVORITE HOLLYWOOD HITS! MAKE IT A FULL NIGHT OUT BY ENJOYING A DELICIOUS ITALIAN DINNER BEFORE THE SHOW!

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT OUR
2026 EL SALVADOR MISSION TRIP!



Abiding Savior Preschool

How are we this far into the school year already?!

Thank you to all that participated in our Heggie Pizza Fundraiser this year! It was a HUGE success! As always, I and our program appreciate your support!

We had a very fun in-house guest visit us this month! They are called Creature Feature, and they brought in animals ranging from a African gray parrot to a red footed tortoise! The kids had a blast!

We are in full swing for registration for the 2026-2027 school year! If you know someone who has toddler and/or preschool age children, please have them email me at preschool@abidingsavior.org and/or visit our website at www.abidingsaviorpreschool.com.

Thank you for your continued support of our program!

Jen Boog

Preschool Director

preschool@abidingsavior.org

763-784-5326

www.abidingsaviorpreschool.com



Faith-based activities, games, crafts, and more! All students elementary aged and younger are welcome to join!

Resumes April 8

Wednesday Nights

6-7pm



Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

ASK

ABIDING SAVIOR KIDS

4:30-6:15PM
COMMUNITY DINNER
ALL AGES - FELLOWSHIP HALL

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS @ ASLC

6-7PM:
"ASK" ACTIVITIES (MOD 1)

ELEMENTARY STUDENTS AND YOUNGER ARE INVITED TO JOIN ABIDING SAVIOR KIDS (ASK) FOR FAITH-BASED FUN! GAMES, CRAFTS, STORIES AND MORE!

Resumes
April 8

6:30-8PM:
CONFIRMATION

6-8TH GRADERS: MEET IN THE YOUTH ROOM EACH WEEK FOR ACTIVITIES, LEARNING, SERVICE PROJECTS, AND MORE!

JOIN US!

April MS/HS Youth Events - Join Us!

Maundy Thursday—April 2

This is the last Lenten service to attend with your mentor. Help serve at the soup supper between services (4:45—6:30). Your help is needed (and you earn service hours!).

Easter Egg Hunt—Saturday, April 4 (arrive around 8:30AM)

We need help hiding eggs, checking people in, handing out prizes and treats, and getting things cleaned up after.

Easter Breakfast Prep—Saturday, April 4 (10:30AM—1PM)

Stay after the Easter Egg Hunt and help prep for Easter breakfast!!

Easter Breakfast—Sunday, April 5

Arrive at 7:30 to help set up and get things ready and we'll serve from 9-10AM. For any help with the Easter Breakfast, you'll earn \$ for your individual youth account!

Confirmation Resumes Wednesday, April 8

Love your neighbor! That's the theme for the first night back at Confirmation and we can't wait to see you! Invite a friend for an evening of connecting, laughs, and learning! See you at 6:30PM in the Youth Room!

Mark Your Calendars—Spring Clean Up on May 2, 9AM—Noon

Come help clean up the church backyard and earn service hours! Free LUNCH afterward!!

MAUNDY THURSDAY

ATTEND WITH YOUR MENTOR
&
HELP AT THE FINAL SOUP SUPPER

EASTER EGG HUNT

APRIL 4 @ 9:30a
ABIDING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Easter Breakfast
Served by Abiding Savior Youth
Sunday | April 5 | 9-10 AM
Join us between services on Easter Sunday for a delicious Easter breakfast served by our youth group from 9-10:00 am. The breakfast will include Egg Bites, French Toast Bites, Potatoes, Bacon, Fresh Fruit, and Coffee. All proceeds will benefit our youth.

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Garden of Grace

Now taking plot reservations!
Don't miss out!

GARDEN OF GRACE RESERVE YOUR BED!

If you, or someone you know, would like a bed (or two) in the Garden of Grace this summer, please contact Vickie Wendel. We know there are some people who want one (or two) every year and we want to ensure beds aren't assigned to more people than we have beds! Vickie can be reached by calling 612-240-9031 or emailing vwendel@comcast.net.

thank you

to everyone who volunteers
with their time and talents
at Abiding Savior

You are appreciated!

God's Work. Our Hands.

Bread Volunteers: Thanks to everyone who makes our weekly bread giveaways happen! We appreciate the dedication of our drivers, receivers, and set-up folks for making this just appear to happen. And a special welcome to the new crew of HyVee drivers! Gracias!



March Food Shelf Collection: A huge round of applause and thanks to everyone who donated to Ralph Reeder Food Shelf during March's big FoodShare drive. Local food pantries and churches have been extremely busy caring for our neighbors during the first quarter of 2026. Bless you all for keeping families fed during difficult times. Merci!



Meals on Wheels April 6-10: Fern's finding drivers for our next delivery week. You're more than welcome to join in or ride along to try it out. If not this time, maybe June 1-5 fits your schedule. An hour or 90 minutes is all it takes and you'll be home in time for lunch with smiles and gratitude from those you've served. Tack så mycket!



Blood Drive: We were honored to host another life-giving blood drive March 19. Heartfelt thanks and appreciation to our volunteers and donors – you're the best! Asante!



Community Support Center: If you'd like to hear about the CSC's work preventing evictions in our area, please consider attending the annual luncheon April 30 at North Church in Mounds View. Other church and community CSC supporters will be there for a free lunch and short program. We'd love to fill a table so please let Linka Holey or Lynn Isaacson know if you'd like to attend. Danke!



Garden of Grace New Coordinator: Three cheers for Vickie Wendel's willingness to host this year's garden beds! If you're an interested gardener, please let her know and she'll get beds assigned. It's a great way to satisfy your green thumbs and get some fresh air and fresh produce. Kiitos!



Global Health Infant Kits: A big project and big thanks to everyone who had a hand in making this happen! We're delighted to contribute to Global Health's goal of 20,000 kits in 2026. These kits provide not only new baby care but contribute to relationships with new mothers, hoping for continuing health care as children grow. Thank you to Katelyn Sandgren for helping Mission Outreach and to everyone who donated and helped pack kits. Good job loving these new little humans! Grazie!



Women's Bible Study "Proverbs"

You're invited to join the Women's Bible Study on Thursdays at 10AM as we begin our next topic studying the book of Proverbs. Found in the Old testament and often connected to King Solomon, Proverbs looks at simple, practical wisdom for everyday life and is full of short sayings that teach us how to make good choices, treat others well, and trust God. We'll talk about what it means to live with wisdom and how these lessons can guide us in our daily lives. Study guide books are available in the office with a suggested donation of \$8. Don't forget your Bible!

Give to the Mission Endowment Fund

Giving to the Mission Endowment Fund of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church is Simple and Joyful! You are encouraged to make a gift to Abiding Savior through your estate planning. 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.*

It's that easy! If you have any questions or need help planning your gift to the Endowment, please talk to Pastor Ryan Brodin at (763) 784-5120.



February 2026 Financial Highlights

2026	Monthly	YTD
INCOME		
Current gifts and giving	31,612	76,595
Festival giving	1,405	1,405
SUBTOTAL	33,017	78,000
Other income	12,779	20,057
TOTAL INCOME	45,796	98,057
EXPENSES		
TOTAL EXPENSES	61,587	117,155
NET INCOME OVER EXPENSES	(15,791)	(19,098)
Benevolence paid	5,860	8,779

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.

Notes of Appreciation

Dear Saints of Abiding Savior,

I want to express gratefulness for all the efforts and measures you took to make Maxine's life meaningful and especially the efforts you made to make her Celebration of Life service so beautiful (the pop up choir, the luncheon, the placemats with pictures, etc.). Our family appreciated the friendship and the time you shared with us.

—Elaine Hilscher (Makie's sister)

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 MARCH	30 MARCH	31 MARCH	1	2 MAUNDY THURSDAY	3 GOOD FRIDAY	4
9:00 Special Music Practice 10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Service Event		8:30 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 12:00 Staff Meeting	9:15 Cub Foods delivery No regular Wednesday evening activities 7:00-8:00 Adult Choir	NO Women's Bible Study 4:00 Maundy Thursday Service 4:30 Soup Supper 6:30 Maundy Thursday Service	OFFICE CLOSED 4:00 Good Friday Service 6:30 Good Friday Service	Easter Egg Hunt 9:30 Easter breakfast prep 10:30 Decorate for Easter TBD
5 EASTER SUNDAY 8:00 Easter Worship 9:00 Easter Breakfast 10:00 Worship Service with Holy Communion	6 MEALS ON WHLS	7 MEALS ON WHEELS 8:30 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 12:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 Committee Mtgs	8 MEALS ON WHEELS 9:15 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 6:00 - 7:00 ASK Kid's Activ. 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir 8:00 - 9:00 Reigning Grace	9 MEALS ON WHEELS 9:00 Work Crew 10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Jubilation Ringers	10 MEALS ON WHLS OFFICE CLOSED	11 Janelle - Sanctuary 3-5PM
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10:00 Worship Service 11:00 El Salvador Mission Trip May 9 Hollywood Dinner Planning mtg	5:30 Women's Gathering at Moe's	12:00 Staff Meeting 2:00 Caring Visitors Meeting	9:15 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 6:00 - 7:00 ASK Kid's Activ. 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir 8:00 - 9:00 Reigning Grace	10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Jubilation Ringers	OFFICE CLOSED	Janelle - Sanctuary 3-5PM
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10:00 Worship Service with Holy Communion and Holy Baptism of Harper W. 11:00 Lion's Waffle Breakfast		8:30 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 9:00 Quilting 12:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 Council Meeting	9:15 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 5:30 New Member Class 6:00 - 7:00 ASK Kid's Activ. 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir 8:00 - 9:00 Reigning Grace	9:00 Work Crew 10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Jubilation Ringers	OFFICE CLOSED Gregorian Singers TBD	Janelle - Sanctuary 3-5PM
26	27	28	29	30	1 MAY	2 MAY
10:00 Worship Service		10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 Benedictine Svc	9:15 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 5:30 - 6:30 Adult Ed 6:00 - 7:00 ASK Kid's Activ. 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir 8:00 - 9:00 Reigning Grace	10:00 Women's Bible Study CSC Luncheon 7:00 Jubilation Ringers	OFFICE CLOSED	Spring Clean Up 9AM - Noon 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
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Reduce waste.
Reduce mailing costs.
Receive information faster!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Events in April

- Apr. 2: MAUNDY THURSDAY Worship at 4:00 & 6:30
Soup between services
- Apr. 3: GOOD FRIDAY Worship at 4:00 & 6:30
- Apr. 4: Easter Egg Hunt, Easter Breakfast Prep,
Decorate the church for Easter
- Apr. 5: EASTER SUNDAY Worship at 8:00 & 10:00
Easter Breakfast served between services
- Apr. 6—10: Meals on Wheels delivery
- Apr. 7: Men's Breakfast and Bible Study
- Apr. 8: Wednesday Evening Programming resumes
- Apr. 9: Work Crew, Women's Bible Study
- Apr. 12: Worship
El Salvador Hollywood Dinner Planning Meeting
- Apr. 13: Women's Gathering at Moe's
- Apr. 14: Caring Visitors Meeting
- Apr. 15: Wednesday Evening Programming (see pg. 3)
- Apr. 16: Women's Bible Study
- Apr. 19: Worship with Holy Communion & Baptism
Mounds View Lions Waffle Breakfast
- Apr. 21: Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
Quilting
Council Meeting
- Apr. 22: Wednesday Evening Programming (see pg. 3)
New Member Class
- Apr. 23: Work Crew & Women's Bible Study
- Apr. 26: Worship
- Apr. 29: Wednesday Evening Programming (see pg. 3)
Adult Education
- Apr. 30: Women's Bible Study, CSC Luncheon

Pastors & Staff

Ryan Brodin, Senior Pastor
Katie Hendrikson, Associate Pastor
Josh & Alex Ertz, Youth Directors
Janelle Schauer, Organist
Mary Larew, Vocal Choir Director
Paul Weller, Bell Choir Director
Alex Ertz, Office Manager
Connie Clausen, Office Assistant
Jen Boog, Preschool Director
Steven Hill, Custodian

UPDATE
YOUR
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!