



the vinebranch

a monthly publication of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

June 2026

in this issue

Celebrating Our Grads	2
Special Events	3
Preschool is Hiring	4
God's Work. Our Hands.	5
Mini Grant from Synod	6
June Calendar	7

Graduate Recognition Sunday

Please join us on **Sunday, June 14** at 10:00am as we celebrate our 2026 ASLC high school and college graduates! They will be recognized during the church service and everyone is invited to a cupcake reception in their honor following the service!



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.

Experience the Light & Life of ASLC

It's hard to believe my one year anniversary at Abiding Savior is just a few days away! I've had the opportunity to experience a number of new-to-me events and ministries in my first year at Abiding Savior and look forward to continuing in this work together with each one of you!



It was a successful program year for Children and Youth Ministries, which concluded on Wednesday, May 13th. In October 2025, we confirmed eight 9th graders who have continued to gather together monthly with their small group leaders. 12 students in grades 6-8 participated in confirmation, and four of those students will affirm their faith in the fall. Children's Ministry experimented with new Wednesday night programming, ASK (Abiding Savior Kids), and welcomed a total of nearly a dozen different families over the course of the year. We are excited to continue welcoming children and youth to experience the depths of God's love and community that you have helped foster here at Abiding Savior.

Adult education and Bible Studies have hosted a number of gatherings covering topics including End of Life Planning, Parables in the Bible, The Gospel of Luke, The Women of Christmas and the Book of Proverbs. Most recently, Pastor Ryan hosted a three-week series on Christian Nationalism - it was one of the best attended adult education series in years at Abiding Savior. Thanks to all who were able to attend in person and online!

This summer, the fun continues with a number of activities for all ages. Mark your calendars and get ready to enjoy each others' company at the following events:

- **June 14:** Outdoor Worship with Graduate Sunday & Camp send off
- **June 14-19:** ASLC Youth at Camp Wapo
- **June 19-21:** ASLC Seeds at Camp Wapo
- **June 21:** Father's Day and Root Beer Floats after Worship
- **July 12:** All Church Picnic after Worship
- **July 18:** Youth Overnight Lock-In
- **Aug 10-14:** Vacation Bible School at ASLC
- **Aug. 12:** Neighborhood Family Fun Night
- **Aug. 16:** VBS Sharing in Worship
- **Aug. 23:** Last Outdoor Worship

Be sure to watch for additional opportunities throughout the summer to experience the light and life of the Abiding Savior community!

Peace,

Pastor Katie



Bishop's Election at Synod Assembly

The St. Paul Area Synod recently held their annual synod assembly - a gathering for rostered leaders and members from each of the synod's 106 congregations to come together to complete business items of the church. This year's synod assembly was largely focused on electing a new bishop. On the third ballot, The Rev. Justin Grimm was elected to a six-year term as bishop of the Saint Paul Area Synod!



Justin currently serves as the synod's director for evangelical mission and assistant to the bishop for congregational vitality, a position he's held since 2015. He previously served as lead pastor at Advent Lutheran Church in Lake Ann, Mich., after first serving as the mission developer. He is a graduate of Northwestern College (Iowa) and Luther Seminary (St. Paul), and was ordained in 2005. Bishop-Elect Grimm will succeed The Rev. Patricia Lull, who is completing her second term as bishop. He will take office on August 1, and an installation service will be held Sept. 13 at Shepherd of the Valley in Apple Valley.

Celebrating Our Graduates!



Landon Blanck
Irondale HS
Future Plans:
Attend Columbia College in Chicago to study Musical Theater



Maggie Burgers
Irondale HS
Future Plans:
Attend MN State—Mankato to study Education (History & Social Studies)



Izzy DeCosse
Gateway to College
Future Plans:
Attend North Dakota State University to study Finance



Wade Miller
Irondale HS
Future Plans:
Attend Anoka Ramsey for the Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA) program



Morgan Syverson
Coon Rapids HS
Future Plans:
Attend Rasmussen University for Radiology Technician

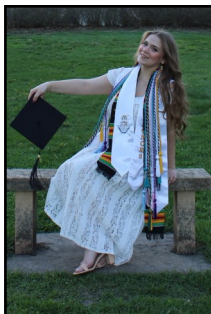
Congratulations to all our graduates! Those we know of include:

High School:

Landon Blanck, Maggie Burgers, Izzy Decosse, Ava Haugen, Madison Johnson, Wade Miller, Jillian Proell, Anna Schwientek, and Morgan Syverson

Post Secondary:

Ally Brodin, Aaron Clausen, Alex Ertz, Abbey Johnson, Martin Monn



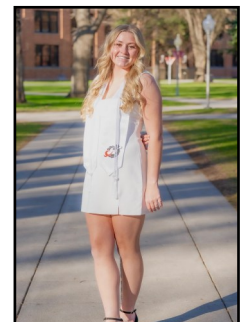
Ally Brodin
Gustavus Adolphus
Future Plans:
Attend St. Thomas School of Law



Aaron Clausen
U of MN—Carlson School of Mgmt
Future Plans:
2nd Lieutenant in the US Marine Corps—Aviator



Alex Ertz
Augsburg University
Future Plans:
Attend Luther Seminary



Abbey Johnson
MN State Moorhead
Future Plans:
Attend Augustana University as a doctor of physical therapy student.

Mission

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Summer Worship

Summer is here! Like last year, we plan to alternate Sundays worshipping both outside and inside.

- On Communion Sundays (1st & 3rd Sunday of the month), we will worship inside.
- On non-communion Sundays (2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays of the month), we will worship outside (weather permitting).

We hope this gives everyone the opportunity to enjoy the different settings for worship and helps make it easier for those helping with set up/distribution. Invite a friend or neighbor and see you at worship!

Father's Day Celebration "Dad's Root Beer Floats" Sunday, June 21



On Father's Day, **Sunday, June 21**, we will be having Dad's root beer floats and coffee following the 10AM indoor worship service. Join us in honoring and celebrating

the important men in our lives as we enjoy a treat and good fellowship.

Graduate Recognition Sunday, June 14 @ 10AM

Please join us on **Sunday, June 14** at 10AM as we celebrate our 2026 ASLC high school and college graduates! They will be recognized during the church service and a cupcake reception will be held in their honor following the service!



Women's Bible Study: Variety of Topics this Summer

Women's Bible Study will take a short break as we transition into a summer schedule. This group gathers every Thursday at 10am in the coffee house - all are welcome to join! Please see the schedule below for weeks when Bible Study will **not** meet over a formal topic this summer:

- May 28 (Memorial Weekend break)
- June 4 (social hour only)
- July 2 (4th of July weekend)
- August 14 (Vacation Bible School)
- August 21 (no gathering)
- September 4 (Labor Day weekend)

Please contact Pastor Katie with any questions!

ABIDING SAVIOR YOUTH
SUMMER 2026

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

CAMP WAP0
JUNE 14 - 19

VOLUNTEER AT VBS
AUGUST 10 - 14

JUNE		JULY	
6TH 12 PM	LAKE OF THE ISLES PENCIL SHARPENING	8TH 6:30 PM	SERVICE PROJECT & DINNER
24TH 6:30 PM	BIKE RIDE TO CANDY SHOP	18-19TH 6:30 PM	OVERNIGHT LOCK-IN
28TH 11:30 AM	BUNKER BEACH WATER PARK	26TH AFTER CHURCH	MOVIE OUTING - MINIONS & MONSTERS

AUGUST

12TH 5-7 PM
16TH 11:30 AM
21ST 5:30 PM

NEIGHBORHOOD FAMILY FUN NIGHT
AFTER CHURCH TIE DYE PARTY
WALK IN THE PARADE

Celebrating Special Birthdays



Ina Mae Glommen (left) and Margaret Larson (right) recently celebrated their birthdays together at church during Music Sunday and the Lutheran Luau. Margaret turned 95 on May 17th and Ina Mae turned 98 on May 18th. It was an honor to celebrate with Ina Mae, Margaret, and their families!

Abiding Savior Preschool

As we move through the summer please share information about our program. We have openings in all three of our classes which are toddlers (16 months - 32 months), preschool (33 months - 4 years old) and Pre-K (4 years old - 5 years old).

We are going through some staffing transitions but our program remains as amazing as always! We have very dedicated teachers that make the children's happiness and early educational experience their priority!

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

preschool@abidingsavior.org

763-784-5326

www.abidingsaviorpreschool.com



Preschool is Hiring!

Our lead PreK teacher is retiring and our director is moving on to new opportunities next fall! If you know of anyone who would be interested in applying for these positions, please let the office or Linda Weiner Herman know!



The books in the Narthex Children's Area are due for a refresh and we'd love your help!

- 1 purchase new or donate a gently used copy of your favorite kids' book*
- 2 leave a note from your family on the inside cover (if desired)
- 3 place it in the black bin in the church office

titles on the topics of faith, diversity, justice, and inclusion (or similar) are highly desired

June's Middle & High School Youth Events

June 6 (12 - 3 PM)

Lake of the Isles Pencil Sharpening

In May 2017, a sudden and violent windstorm swept through the Lakes regions of Minneapolis blowing over numerous massive trees. One lost tree was a 180-year-old bur oak. Rather than cutting it down, it was made into a giant sculpture of a #2 Pencil. As the Pencil is a "living" installation, it is sharpened annually with fanfare. Expect t-shirt giveaways, the University of Minnesota Pep Band, ice cream and music.

June 24 (6:30 - 8 PM)

Bike Ride to Grandpa Joe's Candy Shop

Meet at church for a bike ride over to the candy shop! Ice Cream included, just bring money if you'd like to buy candy or soda!

June 28 (11:30 - 3:30 PM)

Bunker Beach Water Park

After church, we're headed to Bunker Beach in Blaine for an afternoon of fun at the waterpark! Bring a bag lunch or money to purchase food at the concession stands. Admission will be covered by funds raised throughout the year (Cinnamon Rolls & Can Trailer)!

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Garden of Grace

It was suggested that there be an update on how the Gardens of Grace are doing each month, so here is the first one! Look for them each month until the first killing frost.

The gardens are all claimed! The gardeners are deep into planning their gardens—except Gary! Gary has his potatoes already planted and they are coming up. Mandy and Tristan have a trellis installed in their garden and have been plant shopping.

Now that warmer weather might finally be here, the gardens will soon be filled with flowers, fruits and vegetables. Take a walk to the back yard and see what your fellow members are growing!

TANZANIA REFLECTIONS

Shared by Mandy Wendell

Imagine giving birth, four to a room. 30 blood tests available, Creatinine not among them that day. This is daily operations at Ilula Hospital when we visited in October. The hospital was clean and well cared for, but very rural, even compared to my rotation in American Samoa. The Tanzanian government assists where they can, but don't provide much support to the hospitals and many supplies are siphoned off into the black market. Programs like Global Health Ministries are vital to operations. When we arrived, we unloaded five huge suitcases and had two open. At first, the procurement officer thought only the open ones were theirs and they were very happy. There were tears when we said all five were theirs! I wish we could have carried more! Something as small as bandages and EKG electrodes, things we take for granted, were cause for celebration. For me, this underscores our important partnership with GlobalHealth Ministries.



God's Work. Our Hands.

Quilts Delivered to Bridging: Thank you quilters for the 19 handmade quilts delivered to Bridging recently. Quilts infused with color, warmth and love – truly a gift and a blessing!

Blood Drive Thanks: Our greatest appreciation for those who gave blood on May 14 to save the lives of others, quiet heroes among us. You and our volunteer team have made amazing things happen! 30 units were donated! Amazing!!

Meals on Wheels: Our next delivery opportunity is the week of June 1-5. Please let Fern Fisher know if you'd like to join the "Hot Meals, Warm Smiles" delivery team. If not then, think about the week starting July 27. Many thanks for feeding bodies and souls.



Kitchen and Dish Crew Thanks: Three cheers and a standing ovation for our dedicated team after another season of Wednesday night suppers, soup suppers, Sunday brunches and a Luau provided fellowship and nourishment throughout the school year. Most of us cannot fathom the manhours involved in these labors of love offering us a chance to share a meal and conversation. Be sure to thank them mightily!



Food Shelf Ongoing Collection: You can drop food (with good use-by dates) for Ralph Reeder anytime. Just place in the grocery cart across from the office and our delivery man will take it from there. Thanks for remembering the hungry among us. And thanks Arne E. for delivering the goods!



Community Support Center Walk: Don't forget to mark your calendars for the new and hopefully cooler, CSC Walk a Mile for Our Neighbors on September 27, 2026. More details to come, but it's an easy, social walk around the pond at Silver View Park in Mounds View, raising funds to help prevent neighbors facing eviction from becoming homeless.



Mini Grant from the St. Paul Area Synod

Abiding Savior is thrilled to have received one of 10 \$2,500 "mini grants" from the St. Paul Area Synod's Planting Hope Campaign. Grant applications were required to fit the following proposal: "The final initiative of the campaign is to fund a variety of creative projects in congregations to serve as a springboard for inviting others into life in Christ. The projects may be traditional forms of outreach and evangelism or may reflect a serve and learn model for sharing what it means to be followers of Jesus."

Pastor Katie applied for and received this grant to support children's ministry at Abiding Savior. This grant will help ASLC continue offering VBS at no charge and will bring new aspects and activities to Neighborhood Family Fun Night.

Automatic Giving-A WinWin

As we enter into the summer, life in Minnesota gets busy! We pack as much fun into three months as possible because we know that January is coming again soon. Sometimes that "fun" comes over the weekend, and we are not able to make it to Abiding Savior for worship. That means also that we might fall behind in our giving. When we go to catch up again, we have to try to remember how much we are behind. Setting up automatic giving to Abiding Savior can eliminate this problem. Electronic giving helps the church to know it has a steady stream of income to use for mission and ministry. It also helps the giver because automatic giving is both regular and intentional, two traits of a biblical giver. You can easily set up recurring gifts directly from your bank account or credit card. It is reliable, secure, and easy to manage. You can change your giving amount or end your giving at any time. Visit our website at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z00G/campaign/C-ZWC3> if you are interested in setting up automatic giving or contact the church office.

April 2026 Financial Highlights

2026	Monthly	YTD
INCOME		
Current gifts and giving	45,710	168,691
Festival giving	7,827	13,994
SUBTOTAL	53,537	182,685
Other income	10,764	39,327
TOTAL INCOME	64,301	222,012
EXPENSES		
TOTAL EXPENSES	58,362	230,536
NET INCOME OVER EXPENSES	5,939	(8,524)
Benevolence paid	5,848	17,289

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.

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, talk to Pastor Ryan!

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 MAY 10:00 Worship Service Scholarship Applications Due	1 MEALS ON WHEELS	2 MEALS ON WHEELS 10:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 Committee Meetings	3 WHEELS ON WHEELS 9:15 Cub Foods baked goods distribution	4 WHEELS ON WHEELS 10:00 Women's Bible Study 6:30 Wapo staff send off (Easter LC, Eagan)	5 MEALS ON WHEELS OFFICE CLOSED	6 Youth outing to Lake of the Isles Pencil Sharpening 12PM Janelle – Sanctuary 3-5PM
7 10:00 Worship Service with Holy Communion	8 5:30 Women's Gathering at Moe's	9 12:00 Staff Meeting 2:00 Caring Visitors Meeting	10 9:15 Cub Foods baked goods distribution	11 9:00 Work Crew 10:00 Women's Bible Study	12 OFFICE CLOSED	13 Janelle – Sanctuary 3-5PM
14 OUTDOOR WORSHIP GRADUATION SUNDAY 10:00 Outdoor Worship Service with Camp Wapo send off 11:00 Reception for graduates YOUTH CAMP AT WAPO	15 10:00 Bob Wirtz visitation 11:00 Bob Wirtz funeral YTH CAMP AT WAPO	16 9:00 Quilting 12:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 Council Mtg YOUTH CAMP AT WAPO	17 9:15 Cub Foods baked goods distribution	18 10:00 Women's Bible Study YTH CAMP AT WAPO	19 OFFICE CLOSED	20 Janelle – Sanctuary 3-5PM SEEDS AT WAPO
21 FATHER'S DAY 10:00 Worship Service with Holy Communion 11:00 Ice cream floats reception SEEDS CAMP AT WAPO	22 YTH CAMP AT WAPO	23 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 Benedictine Service YOUTH CAMP AT WAPO	24 9:15 Cub Foods baked goods distribution 12:00 Kitchen/Funeral/Work Crew lunch Youth bike ride to candy shop 6:30PM	25 9:00 Work Crew 10:00 Women's Bible Study YTH CAMP AT WAPO	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27 Janelle – Sanctuary 3-5PM
28 OUTDOOR WORSHIP 10:00 Worship Service	29 12:00 Staff Meeting	30 12:00 Staff Meeting	1 JULY	2 JULY NO Women's Bible Study	3 JULY OFFICE CLOSED	4 JULY HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!

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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or email us at office@abidingsavior.org.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Events in June

- June 3: Cub Foods bread delivery distribution
- June 4: Women's Bible study
Wapo staff send off (Easter LC, Eagan)
- June 6: Youth outing to Lake the Isles Pencil Sharpening
- June 7: Worship with Holy Communion
- June 8: Women's Gathering at Moe's
- June 9: Caring Visitors meeting
- June 10: Cub Foods bread delivery distribution
- June 11: Men's work crew
Women's Bible study
- June 14: Graduate Recognition Sunday & Camp Send Off
Outdoor Worship (weather permitting)
- June 14—19: Youth Camp at Wapo
- June 16: Quilting
Council meeting
- June 17: Cub Foods bread delivery distribution
- June 18: Women's Bible study
- June 19—21: SEEDs Camp at Wapo
- June 21: Father's Day with ice cream floats after worship
Worship with Holy Communion
- June 23: Benedictine Service
- June 24: Cub Foods bread delivery distribution
Youth bike ride to candy shop
- June 25: Men's work crew
Women's Bible study
- June 28: Outdoor Worship (weather permitting)
Youth outing to Bunker Beach Water Park

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

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!