



the vinebranch

a monthly publication of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

November 2025

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Makungu Tanzania Water Project Dedication



Last November, Abiding Savior started raising funds to install a water system in Makungu, Tanzania to bring clean, sustainable water to over 1000 people in the village. On Friday, October 17, that water system was dedicated at a ceremony attended by the nine travelers from Abiding Savior.

The water project was a partnership with the University of Minnesota School of Engineering (who designed the water system), St. Paul Partners (who drilled the wells and oversaw construction), the citizens of Makungu Village (who will provide the in-kind labor to build the water system) and Abiding Savior Lutheran Church. We have improved the lives of the people of Makungu by reducing water borne illness and saving the women and children over three hours a day that they used to spend carrying water back to their homes.

The whole village was at the water project dedication ceremony and many Lutheran dignitaries from the Iringa Diocese made the trek out to Makungu. We were also joined by two of the University of Minnesota engineering students who designed the water system. The elected Makungu officials thanked Abiding Savior for the water. There was dancing and singing and speeches and finally, a ribbon cutting.

Thank you all for your support of this water project. Come to worship on Sunday, November 23 to hear more about the water project and the amazing experiences with our sisters and brothers of the Makungu Parish. The group that travelled to Tanzania cannot wait to bring Makungu back to Abiding Savior!

What a joy for Abiding Savior to be a part of this exciting water project in Makungu. Together, we are joyfully and abundantly sharing the love of God to others.

God's blessings! ~ Pastor Ryan and Pastor Katie



Join us for an
Election Night
SMORGASBORD
Tues., Nov. 4
4:30—7:00pm
Tickets on sale now!

THANKSGIVING
EVE SERVICE

Wed., Nov. 26
6:30pm
*followed by
a pie social*

Living in God's love,
Abiding Savior
Lutheran Church
is a *welcoming*
and *caring* family
that *nurtures*
spiritual growth,
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Congregational Survey

As we near the end of the church year, the Congregational Council is taking time to reflect on where we've been and prayerfully consider where God is leading Abiding Savior Lutheran Church in the year ahead. In November, the Council will gather for a retreat focused on planning and visioning for the future of our congregation. To help guide that important work, we want to hear from you — the members of our church family. There are two simple ways to share your thoughts:

1. [Online Survey](https://abidingsavior.org/OutreachPro/fall-2025-congregational-survey/) – Complete the Fall 2025 Congregational Survey on our web-site: <https://abidingsavior.org/OutreachPro/fall-2025-congregational-survey/>. Your responses will be sent directly to the Council President.
2. Paper Survey – Pick up a printed survey in the narthex and drop it in the collection box located nearby.

Please complete your survey by November 10. Your input will play a vital role in shaping our retreat discussions and helping us plan for the continued growth and vitality of Abiding Savior. Together, we move forward with purpose, guided by our mission.

Dawson Blanck, Congregational Council President

Rooted in Generosity Stewardship Campaign

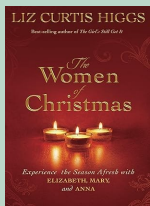


We have had great response to our fall stewardship campaign “Rooted in Generosity”. THANK YOU to all of you who have returned your pledge card for 2026. It is not too late to prayerfully consider you sharing with Abiding Savior in 2026 and fill out a pledge card. Your sharing can and does make a difference!

As Psalm 24 verse 1 says, “The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it.” In other words, everything belongs to God! And if everything belongs to God, then we are just here to take care of what belongs to God, we are stewards!

Just as God has been generous with us and we are blessed to be generous with our church and those in need. May God continue to bless us richly as we bear good fruit in the world. Thank you again for your continued generosity as we live together in God’s love as a welcoming and caring family that nurtures our spiritual growth, shares our Christian faith, and serves all creation.

Women’s Bible Study *The Women of Christmas* Thursdays at 10AM

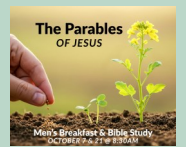


A sacred season is about to unfold for three women whose hearts belong to God. Elizabeth is barren, yet her trust in God remains fertile. Mary is betrothed in marriage, yet she is willing to bear God’s Son. Anna is a widow full of years, yet she waits patiently, prayerfully for the Messiah to appear in the temple courts.

Following in their footsteps, you too can prepare for the Savior to enter your heart, your mind, and your life in a vibrant, new way. Best-selling author Liz Curtis Higgs explores the biblical stories of Elizabeth, Mary, and Anna, unwrapping each verse with tender care and introducing you afresh to *The Women of Christmas*.

Men’s Breakfast and Bible Study Tues., Nov. 4&18 at 8:30AM

Men’s Bible Study, led by Pastor Ryan, will meet on November 4 and 18 at 8:30 in the morning in the Fellowship Hall. Come enjoy a hot breakfast and a time of fellowship and learning. We will be studying the Parables of Jesus. *No Bible experience necessary!* This Bible study is non-threatening, enjoyable, and informative. Men’s Bible Study meets the first, third, and fifth Tuesdays of the month through May. Come and join us!



PUZZLES! By November 9, the winter and Christmas puzzles will be out. *Reminder: If you take a puzzle and find a piece is missing, please put a note on the box when you return it so we know and it's not put back in circulation until the missing piece is found!*

Tanzania Sunday - November 23



On Sunday, November 23, Makungu is coming to Abiding Savior! Last month nine members of Abiding Savior visited our companion congregation in Makungu, Tanzania. They had an amazing experience and thank you for your support and prayers. Knowing that all of us cannot go to Makungu, the group of Tanzania travelers is going to bring Makungu back to Abiding Savior!

On Sunday, November 23, during worship the Tanzania mission trip participants will share with you their adventures and will bring Makungu to you! Come and hear about the water project Abiding Savior helped to make a reality, see the festive worship and experience the hospitality of the Makungu Parish. You will also hear about opportunities to provide scholarships for students from Makungu to attend secondary school.

Mission

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All Saints Sunday November 2 | 10AM

During worship on Sunday, November 2, we will remember all the saints in our lives who have gone before us. There will be an opportunity to light a candle in honor or in memory of those special saints in your life before worship begins. Please join us for this special time of remembrance.

El Salvador Interest Group Meeting Sun., Nov. 2 | 11AM

Abiding Savior is planning a mission trip to El Salvador July 31—August 5, 2026. There will be a preliminary meeting on Sunday, November 2 at 11AM for anyone who may be interested in going. Members of the 2023 trip will be in attendance to answer some questions and to share information about upcoming fundraising opportunities which will help offset the travel costs!

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 26 | 6:30pm
PIE SOCIAL FOLLOWING THE SERVICE

You're invited to worship on Thanksgiving Eve and stay after for a pie social. Come enjoy this fellowship! If you'd like to bring a pie, please sign up at church or click here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080548ACAA2EA1FF2-52891913-thanksgiving>

*Decorate the church
for Advent & Christmas*
Friday, November 28 - 9AM



Election Night SMORGASBORD Tuesday, November 4 | 4:30 - 7:00pm

Get out and vote and then join us for our Election Night Smorgasbord! We have a limited number of tickets available, so you're encouraged to purchase your tickets ahead of time!

- **Scandinavian meal:** Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes, sliced turkey, gravy, dressing, cranberries, sweet corn, beet pickles, olives, dill pickles, herring, lefse, rice pudding, fruit soup, krumkake and cookies

Advanced tickets are \$18/adult, \$6 for youth ages 6—12 years, and children 5 & under are FREE. Tickets will not be guaranteed at the door.

Pastor Marla's husband, Randy, will be providing music with his band, and there will be a craft sale as well so you can get a jump start on Christmas shopping!

Invite your friends and get your tickets in the church office or before/after church on Sunday!



NERF NIGHT Saturday, November 15 6-8PM

Bring your own Nerf equipment and come for live action battles! Pizza and snacks provided. This is a **FREE event!** Please invite your friends!

Wednesday Night Schedule

4:30—6:15pm	Dinner served Nov. 05: Vegetable Beef Soup Nov. 12: Beef Stroganoff Nov. 19: Spaghetti Nov. 26: <i>No meal (Thanksgiving Eve)</i>
5:30—6:30pm	<i>What is Your Legacy?</i> Adult Education Series (through November 19)
6:00—7:00pm	ASK Children's Ministry
6:30—8:00pm	Confirmation
7:00—8:00pm	Adult Choir
8:00—9:00pm	Reigning Grace worship band practice



Kids in 4th grade and up are encouraged to come BE A LIGHT at Abiding Savior and join us for acolyte training!

- **Sunday, November 23 at 11am**

If you have any questions, please reach out to the church office at 763-784-5120.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY AND YOUTH COMMITTEES NEED YOU!

The *Hopes and Dreams Tree* in the church narthex has lots of apples with dreams for our children and youth ministries. We need you to help make these dreams come true! If you are interested in serving on either the Children's Ministry or Youth Committees, please speak with Dawson Blank or the church office!

MS/HS Youth News Get Involved!

Cinnamon Rolls (General Youth Fundraiser)

- **When:** Sunday, Nov. 2 before and after worship

Smorgasbord on Election Night

- **When:** Tuesday, Nov. 4 from 4:30—7pm
- **What:** This all church event is made possible by volunteers – especially youth volunteers!!! We need your help setting up, bus-sing tables, and cleaning in the kitchen.

Nerf Event

- **When:** Saturday, Nov. 15 from 6-8pm
- **Who:** All Youth
- **What:** Bring your own Nerf equipment and come for live action battles! Pizza and snacks provided. **Free event!** Please invite your friends!

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

**WEDNESDAY
NIGHTS @
ASLC**
STARTING 9/10

**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!

**6:30–8PM:
CONFIRMATION**

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

**Join
US!**

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

September–May

Wednesday Nights

6–7pm

ABIDING SAVIOR KIDS



Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

Sunday Children's Activities in November

Sundays during worship

We love to see children of all ages join us on Sunday mornings! This year, there will not be Sunday School before worship, but we will continue on with Children's Time during the worship service. After the children's message, all ages are welcome to join adult leaders to engage a bit more with the readings for the day. Activities may include but are not limited to storytelling, crafts, games, and more!

Second Sunday Connections (*Third Sunday in Nov!*)

On Sunday, November 16, there will be a designated space for kids and youth to eat brunch and hang out together while offering time and space for the adults to connect with one another. We'll keep the kids engaged while parents enjoy conversation with others!

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Abiding Savior Preschool Happenings



We are in full swing here at Preschool. The kids are learning lots and making lots of new friends and getting reacquainted with old friends.

Snapology will be coming in this month for an interactive program with both the preschool and pre-k class. Each class will get to enjoy being a Duplo Engineer and have the opportunity to build animals or amusement park rides and talk about high level engineering concepts. There will also some games and creative elements in the activities!

Mickman Wreath Delivery will be Wednesday, November 19. The wreaths should be dropped off in the morning and will be ready for pickup Wednesday afternoon/evening. Thank you to everyone who purchased an item from this fundraiser! As a heads up, preschool will not be doing a Butterbraid fundraiser this year. However, please look forward to a Heggies pizza and popcorn fundraiser in early 2026.

Thank you for your continued support of our program!

Jen Boog, Preschool Director
preschool@abidingsavior.org | 763-784-5326



God's Work. Our Hands.

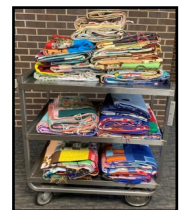
Our School Friends: Six backpacks were delivered to Edgewood Middle School. Irondale's food pantry has been restocked with orders from Amazon and Sam's Club, along with some leggings and sweatshirts available through the school nurse. These seemingly basic items are not as available to some students/families facing difficult circumstances. Thanks to Dawn for her sale shopping expertise and thanks to you for supporting our youngest neighbors.



Meals Delivered: Thanks to everyone who delivered Meals on Wheels during the week of October 20. Hot food, warm smiles, and sincere appreciation make this a blessing all around.



Quilts: Our four active quilters are busy making adult quilts that will be going to the Bridging blanket collection this time. Other quilts have literally been sent around the world. Ruby B. has been very industrious making baby quilts (26!) that will be donated to Project Linus. Project Linus provides handmade blankets to children 0-18 in the United States who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need. Way to go quilters – truly wrapping others in warm care!



Garden of Grace: Our garden beds are at rest now. Thank you, gardeners, for your productive efforts this growing season. We will be looking for a new "head gardener" in the spring to find others to use the beds, check for basic maintenance needs, and encourage the joy of growing.

Blankets for Bridging: Tremendous thanks and appreciation to all who donated blankets to help restock the shelves at Bridging! Their amazing mission to provide families with basic home furniture and supplies when setting up independent housing is a sight to behold. Bless you for adding warm blankets to these new and hopeful households.



Giving Tree: Around Thanksgiving, look for opportunities to brighten the holidays for others by taking an ornament, buying the requested items (mainly gift cards), and returning them to church, the earlier the better. There are several organizations/causes to choose from. We've added Crescent Cove this year, Minnesota's only residential respite and hospice care facility for children, located in Brooklyn Center. Thank you for your generosity and caring!



September 2025 Financial Highlights

2025	Monthly	YTD
INCOME		
Current gifts and giving	34,918	373,028
Festival giving	-	17,959
SUBTOTAL	34,918	390,987
Other income	8,698	90,992
TOTAL INCOME	43,616	481,979
EXPENSES		
TOTAL EXPENSES	55,981	480,765
NET INCOME OVER EXPENSES	(12,364)	1,215
Benevolence paid	4,900	53,708

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!

Endowment Fund

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.

Wednesday Adult Ed Series: *What is Your Legacy*

**Wednesdays November 5, 12 & 19
5:30—6:30PM in Coffee House**

Have you ever thought about your legacy? What is going to happen to all of your possessions and your wealth? What lessons are you teaching your children or grandchildren, especially about faith and generosity? We all should have a plan in place for when we are gone. Even if you don't think you need a legacy plan because you aren't "rich", we often have more than we think. Do you own a home, have retirement accounts, or life insurance policies? Most of these will pass down to your children, but some of that wealth can also be donated to the Abiding Savior Endowment. Having a legacy plan is a gift to your children and a way to continue your generosity toward God's work.

Nov. 5: *Planning for Your Own Funeral*

Making funeral plans and arrangements ahead of time can be a real gift to your family. It also helps to make your funeral service genuinely reflect your faith, your life, and your legacy. Don't just leave your funeral planning up to your family! They will have enough on their minds after you are gone. Abiding Savior has put together a funeral planning packet that helps you think through your funeral service, obituary, and other arrangements. Join us and begin your planning and ask your questions.

Nov. 12: *What Is Your Legacy?* by Joe Sullivan, Regional Gift Planner with the ELCA Foundation

Joe Sullivan, Regional Gift Planner with the ELCA Foundation, will provide an overview of how to make informed decisions while considering the current and future needs of you and your loved ones. The ELCA Foundation can help you navigate your options to create a gift plan that benefits the ministries that mean the most to you, while also maximizing your financial and estate-planning goals. You are invited to explore how you can support Abiding Savior and other ELCA ministries by creating a charitable gift plan.

Nov. 19: *Wills, Trusts and Healthcare Directives, What You Should Know* by Howard Helgen, Atty.

Join attorney Howard Helgen to learn more about the importance of getting your affairs in order no matter what your age. Mr. Helgen will address wills, trusts, and healthcare directives (living wills). He will also address any questions about how to make a charitable gift in the process of making or updating your will, trust, or estate.

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November

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 OCT CONF. SUNDAY 10:00 Worship with Affirmation of Baptism	27 OCTOBER	28 OCTOBER 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 Benedicline Service	29 OCTOBER 9:30 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 5:30 – 6:30 NEW MBR CLASS 6:00 – 7:00 ASK Children's Activities 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation 7:00 – 8:00 Adult Choir 8:00 – 9:00 Reigning Grace	30 OCTOBER 10:00 Women's Bible Study BLOOD DRIVE 1:30 – 6:30 7:00 Jubilation Ringers	31 OCTOBER OFFICE CLOSED	1 Janelle – Sanctuary 3-5PM
2 ALL SAINTS DAY	3	4	5	6	7	8
10:00 Worship 11:00 Cinnamon Roll Sale 11:00 El Salvador Trip Interest Group Meeting		8:30 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 12:00 Staff Meeting Election Night Smorgasbord 4:30 – 7:00	9:30 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 5:30 – 6:30 Adult Ed Funeral Plans 6:00 – 7:00 ASK Children's Activities 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
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
10:00 Worship		12:00 Staff Meeting 2:00 Caring Visitors Meeting	9:30 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 5:30 – 6:30 Adult Ed Gift Planning 6:00 – 7:00 ASK Children's Activities 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	Janelle – Sanctuary 3-5PM NERF Event 6-8PM
16 NEW MEMBER SUN	17	18	19	20	21	22
10:00 Worship with Holy Communion 11:00 BRUNCH		8:30 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 9:00 Quilting 12:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 Council Mtg	9:30 Cub Foods delivery 4:30 - Wed. Night Supper 5:30 – 6:30 Adult Ed Wills & Trusts 6:00 – 7:00 ASK Children's Activities 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
23 TANZANIA SUNDAY	24	25	26	27 THANKSGIVING	28	29
10:00 Worship 11:00 Acolyte Training		10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 Benedicline Service	9:00 Work Crew (special day) 9:30 Cub Foods delivery 6:30 Thanksgiving Eve Worship followed by Pie Social	Happy Thanksgiving!	OFFICE CLOSED Christmas Decorating 9 AM Makers Mkt set up	Christmas Makers Market 9AM – 3PM Christmas Program Practice TBD

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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Reduce waste.
Reduce mailing costs.
Receive information faster!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Events in November

- Nov. 2: All Saint's Sunday Worship & Cinnamon Rolls
El Salvador Trip Interest Group Meeting
- Nov. 4: Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
Election Night Smorgasbord & Craft Sale
- Nov. 5: Wednesday Evening Programming (See pg. 3)
- Nov. 6: Women's Bible Study
- Nov. 9: Worship
- Nov. 10: Women's Gathering at Moe's
- Nov. 11: Caring Visitor's Meeting
- Nov. 12: Wednesday Evening Programming (See pg. 3)
- Nov. 13: Work Crew & Women's Bible Study
- Nov. 15: Fall Clean Up, NERF Event—All Youth
- Nov. 16: New Member Sunday
Worship with Holy Communion
Brunch Celebrating Our New Members
- Nov. 18: Men's Breakfast & Bible Study, Quilting
Council Meeting
- Nov. 19: Wednesday Evening Programming (See pg. 3)
- Nov. 20: Women's Bible Study
- Nov. 23: Worship
Acolyte Training
- Nov. 26: Work Crew
Thanksgiving Eve Worship and Pie Social
- Nov. 27: Happy Thanksgiving!
- Nov. 28: Decorate the Church for Advent/Christmas
- Nov. 29: Christmas Market Craft Fair, Xmas Prgrm Prac
- Nov. 30: 1st Sunday in Advent Worship with Comm.

Pastors & Staff

Ryan Brodin, Senior Pastor

Katie Hendrikson, Associate Pastor

Josh and Alex Ertz, Youth Mentors

Janelle Schauer, Organist

Mary Larew, Vocal Choir Director

Paul Weller, Bell Choir Director

Katie Brouillard, Office Manager

Connie Clausen, Office Assistant

Steve Hill, Custodian

Jennifer Boog, Preschool Director

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!