



## January 2022 Newsletter

*Connecting Hearts  
to Jesus*

**Online at**  
[www.AbidingSavior.info](http://www.AbidingSavior.info)

**Church Phone:**  
(352) 331-4409  
**Email:**  
[office@abidingsavior.info](mailto:office@abidingsavior.info)

**Preschool Phone:**  
(352) 331-7770  
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Prayer List .....	2
Ministry Team Leaders and Contact Information.....	3
The Shape of Things to Come- Pastor Jack .....	4
Never Break from Spreading the Gospel... Even During Pandemic! - Pastor Jack .....	5
Special Thank You- Pastor Jack.....	6
Altar Care.....	6
Financial Report.....	6
Sewing for Missions.....	7
Saint Paul Lutheran Highschool Choir Tour .....	7
Bible Breakfast.....	7
Adult Bible Study.....	8
Children's Sunday School .....	8
Monthly Book Club.....	8
St. Francis House- Phyllis Leone .....	10
Preschool News - Brenda Arden .....	11
The Rescue Tour - Pastor Jack .....	12
Lost and Found.....	13
Birthdays and Anniversaries.....	14
January Readers and Elders .....	15
January Calender.....	16

# Prayer List

**Praises:** Adelaide Grace Struckmeyer born Sept. 16th will be Baptized Dec. 24th

**Shut-Ins:** Fran Jacobs, Shirley Jackson;

## Military

**Eric Tappy** – Iraq

**Casey Dougherty** (MP) Annetta

**Matthew Gustafson**

**Martin Hekking** – Air Force  
(Kansas) Karen Nobles' grandson

**Jason Joseph** (Alaska) by  
Phyllis Leone

**Sam Kleinhauser** (sniper) Now Home

**Patrick Nobles** (Air Force –Alaska)

**Matt Young** – Air Force Reserve

**Josh Wervy** USMC  
(Nobles grandson)

Pray for our Military: Especially those  
deployed in combat zones

## Continue prayers for:

Covid victims

Missionaries

Pray for young people in college

Pray for Families and victims fleeing  
war (Afghanistan) and poverty

Pray for those dealing with disasters:  
fire; floods, and hurricanes, tornados

May our Lord comfort them and give  
them courage.

Pray for our country- our president  
and our elected officials

*May Our Lord continue to watch over and bless  
Abiding Savior Lutheran Church, bless Pastor  
Jack as we begin the call for a new pastor.*

*Names will be kept on the Prayer list for one month  
unless renewed.*

*Please call the church 331-4409 or Muriel Young  
332-1386*

## Members, Family, and Friends

- Sandy Adams (85) broke femur – Charlene Stroehlen's aunt
- Pastor Besalski (pancreatic cancer) Elaine Besalski (Parkinson's)
- Gary Bock (pancreatic cancer) Linda Struckmeyer's cousin
- Michelle Buth (return of ovarian cancer)
- Lynn Cera (Parkinson's home care)
- Judy Dabrey (diabetic retinopathy) by Susie Buth
- Hans Farber (advanced Parkinson's) Carol (caregiver)
- Randy Gill (biopsies show granular sarcoidosis)
- Andy Hamilton (at Windsor)
- Jan Hamilton (heart issues / intestines healing)
- Julia Kohlberg (stage 4 cancer) (Kathy Schmitt's sister-in-law)
- Rachel Krause (hospitalized) Brenda Arden's mom
- Sean Law (severe brain injury) by Mike Brannon
- Desi Nuckolls (early Alzheimers) - Mark's dad
- JoAnn Petersen (vertigo rehap/ eye Dr.)
- Todd Robel (aggressive prostate cancer age 61/ pain) by Karen Noble
- Gary Roberts (Guillain barre syndrome) by Stacey Hectus
- Eckhard Schadow (cancer)
- Herbie Silvius (very ill) by Jimmy Flateau
- Bill Stone (diabetes) heart issues Ann, caregiver
- Jimbo Walsh (bladder cancer) by Flateaus
- Cricket Winters (age 6) swelling behind eye by Linda Struckmeyer
- Dan Young (diverticulitis)

# Ministry Team Leaders and Contact Information

## Officers

<i><b>President</b></i>	Phyllis Leone	chunkymonkeysnana@gmail.com
<i><b>Vice President</b></i>	Dustin Banks	DustineBanks@yahoo.com
<i><b>Secretary</b></i>	Natalie Petruska	4nataliejean@gmail.com
<i><b>Treasurer</b></i>	Ann Stone	anna@flstones.com

## Elders

Derek Sain, <i><b>Chair</b></i>	sain.derek@gmail.com
Michael Arden	mikearden1973@gmail.com
Mike Brannon	mbrannon01@yahoo.com
Jimmy Plateau	jmfjr@hughes.net
Chuck Moss	chuck_moss@msn.com
Fred Townsend	f.send@outlook.com

## Ministry teams

<i><b>Christian Education</b></i>	Sarah Sain	sarah.d.sain@gmail.com
<i><b>Christian Fellowship</b></i>	Danny Schmitt	youth@abidingsavior.info
<i><b>Outreach &amp; Evangelism</b></i>	Hannah Mazur	hannahjmazur@gmail.com
<i><b>Trustees</b></i>	John Schmitt	schmittjohna@aol.com

## Administrative Staff

<i><b>Interim Pastor</b></i>	Pastor Jack Mackowiak	PastorJack@abidingsavior.info
<i><b>Director, Music &amp; Digital Ministries</b></i>	Joshua L. Mazur, M.M.	jmazur@abidingsavior.info
<i><b>Preschool Director</b></i>	Brenda Arden	barden@abidingsavior.info
<i><b>Church Admin</b></i>	Susan Moss	smoss@abidingsavior.info
<i><b>Preschool Admin. Asst.</b></i>	Jessica Schmitt	jessica@abidingsavior.info
<i><b>Communications Coord.</b></i>	Anna Moss	anna@abidingsavior.info
<i><b>Financial Assistant &amp; AV Tech</b></i>	Andrew Hodgson	andrew@abidingsavior.info

# The Shape of Things to Come- Pastor Jack

As we enter another new year, the more I realize that the older I become and the longer I am involved in church work, it seems there is no end to the ordeals each of us has to face as a person or as a congregation. Sometimes these painful trials even come at the hand of someone close to us or someone we love and respect.

Peter reminds us, “Don’t be surprised or shocked that you are going through testing that is like walking through fire. Be glad for the chance to suffer as Christ suffered. It will prepare you for even greater happiness when He makes His glorious return.” (1 Peter 4:12-13)

An article entitled “When You Hurt” explains Peter’s words this way: “What has happened to you is a very common ailment among all mankind. Your situation is not unique at all. It is the way of human nature. Whether you are right or wrong means absolutely nothing at this point. All that matters now is our willingness to move on in God and trust His mysterious workings in your life.”

It is the mysterious workings in our lives that may someday be recognized as the tools God has used to shape character and insight in us. Like the blacksmith who uses the heat of his forge, and his hammer and anvil to shape and mold things, God often does His “anvil work” in our lives to shape and mold us during these times of trial.

Max Lucado, in his book *On the Anvil*, writes: “Anvil time is not to be avoided; it’s to be experienced. Although the tunnel is dark, it goes through the mountain. Anvil time reminds us of who we are and of who God is. We should not try to escape it. To escape it would be to escape God. God sees our lives from beginning to end. He may lead us through a storm at age 30 so we can endure a hurricane at age 60. An instrument is useful only if it’s in the right shape. A dull axe or bent screwdriver needs attention, so do we. A good blacksmith keeps his tools in shape. So does God. Should God place you on His anvil, be thankful. It means He thinks you’re still worth reshaping.”

No one could have imagined these past two years and all we have experienced. The events of the recent past, from the death of a Pastor to pandemic and all their related anxieties and fears, have helped shape and mold us, individually and as a congregation. I don’t know what awaits any of us or our congregation in this new year. God’s Word seems to encourage us not to try to figure out the “whats and whys.” We should simply thank God that He still sees us as useful – and that He has a purpose for our time on the anvil. He will bring into our lives the shape of things to come. Some of the best times are still ahead.

# Never Break from Spreading the Gospel... Even During Pandemic! - Pastor Jack

I have enjoyed being a golfer for over 40 years. I do confess to being a fair weather golfer, and have not enjoyed playing in adverse conditions. The notice below was posted as an adjustment to the rules at Richmond Golf Course in England. You have to admit – these guys really had to like the game to play in quite adverse conditions! German aircraft from Norway would fly on missions to attack northern England. Because of the icy conditions, the barrels of their guns had a small dab of wax in the muzzle to protect them from clogging with ice. In addition to attacking targets close to the golf courses, as they crossed the coast they would clear their guns by firing a few rounds at the golf courses. Perhaps we can learn something about our work of the Gospel in challenging times. Golfing in adverse conditions requires a new approach, rethinking how the game is played. The work of the Gospel in times of pandemic or other adverse conditions also requires new approaches, rethinking how the work is done. May our hearts and minds be open to new ways to spread the Gospel in 2022.

So here are some British golf rules from 1940:

## *RICHMOND GOLF CLUB – Temporary rules, 1940*

1. Players are asked to collect bomb and shrapnel splinters to save these causing damage to the mowing machines.
2. In Competitions, during gunfire or while bombs are falling players may take cover without penalty for ceasing play.
3. The positions of known delayed action bombs are marked by red flags at reasonably, but not guaranteed, safe distance therefrom.
4. Shrapnel and/or bomb splinters on the fairways, or in bunkers within a club's length of the ball, may be moved without penalty, and no penalty shall be incurred if a ball is thereby caused to move accidentally.
5. A ball moved by enemy action may be replaced, or if lost or destroyed, a ball may be dropped not nearer the hole without penalty.
6. A ball lying in a crater may be lifted and dropped not nearer the hole, preserving the line to the hole, without penalty.
7. A player whose stroke is affected by the simultaneous explosion of a bomb may play another ball from the same place. Penalty one stroke.

# Special Thank You- Pastor Jack

A very special thank-you to all the members and leadership of Abiding Savior for their cards, gifts, words, and other expressions of appreciation during this Christmas season. Your love, prayers, and support are greatly appreciated. It is a true blessing to be a part of this family of God! – Pastor Jack Mackowiak and the staff of Abiding Savior

## Altar Care

**Altar for Jan:** Bette Pring (chair); Carla Flateau; Gabi Hein; Jan Hamilton  
**Altar for Feb:** April Goddard (chair); Betty Smith; Nancy Strattan; Paula Richert

## Financial Report

	December Estimated	Year-to-Date
Offerings	\$ 24,600	\$ 262,500
Preschool Income	\$ 79,860	\$ 916,600
Other Income	\$ 0	\$ 4,350
Total Operating Income	\$ 104,460	\$ 1,183,450
 Total Operating Expenses	 \$ 108,100	 \$ 1,116,600
Net Operating Income	\$ - 3,640	\$ 66,850

*\*Estimates are provided because the newsletter is prepared before the month's end.*

## Sewing for Missions

Join us this year on the 2nd and last Saturday of the month, meeting in the library of the Family Life Center at 10:00 am. In January, we are meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.

Contact Linda at [struck60@gmail.com](mailto:struck60@gmail.com) for more information.

## Saint Paul Lutheran Highschool Choir Tour

On March 17 the Saint Paul Lutheran High School Choir will be performing at Abiding Savior at 7:00 pm.

If you are willing and able to host a pair of boys or girls for that night, please reach out to Susan Moss at [smoss@abidingsavior.info](mailto:smoss@abidingsavior.info).

## Bible Breakfast

Bible Breakfast is in full swing, and I know that everyone is enjoying the opportunity for fellowship and good food each Sunday morning. That being said, we are reaching out to everyone to help make the load lighter on our Breakfast Ladies by bringing in food items.

Please call/text Kathy Schmitt (352-672-2163) to let her know what you will bring. Also, a monthly rotating schedule is being prepared, look for a sign-up sheet on the kitchen hall bulletin board in the Family Life Center.

# Adult Bible Study

We have several group Bible studies; you are welcome to join any of these classes.

## Sundays

9:45 am – “Girl Friends” Bible Study meets in the Library of Building 3. This class is led by Linda Struckmeyer, Debbie Hill, and Karen Brautcheck and is also available via Zoom. Join us for a study of the book of **Hebrews** titled “*Better*”. Contact Linda at [struck60@gmail.com](mailto:struck60@gmail.com) for a Zoom link.

9:45 am – Study the Bible “*One Book at a Time*” with Chuck Moss in the Building 1 classroom. This group is studying the Old Testament book of **Esther**. Contact [Chuck Moss@msn.com](mailto:ChuckMoss@msn.com) for a Zoom link for this class.

9:45 am – Pastor Jack will lead a study of the book of **Ephesians** held in the Octagon room of Building 3.

**Monday 7:00 pm** - A study of the book of **Colossians** is led by Joshua Mazur via Zoom. For the Zoom link, contact [Jmazur@abidingsavior.info](mailto:Jmazur@abidingsavior.info).

**Second Tuesday of each Month** “Young at Heart” ladies Bible study meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 am in the Building 1 classroom (behind the choir area). The next Young at Heart meeting will be on January 11.

## Children’s Sunday School

### Sunday School for children through 5th grade continues!

Join us in the Family Life Center fellowship hall at 9:45 am or contact Sarah Sain at [Sarah.d.sain@gmail.com](mailto:Sarah.d.sain@gmail.com) for an online link for your child.

### Parents and Tots Sunday School

Music, movement, age-appropriate Bibles Stories and Jesus for preschoolers! Led by Susan Moss in the nursery at 10:00 am.

## Monthly Book Club

If you would like to serve as hostess/discussion leader for any upcoming meetings, contact Georganne Eibe at [savygg@yahoo.com](mailto:savygg@yahoo.com).

Schedule and books for 2022 on the following page.

*continued*



# Monthly Book Club - *continued*

Book/ Author	Hostess/Discussion Leader	Location
<b>January 25, 2022</b> <i>One to Watch: A Novel</i> by Kate Stayman-London	Linda Struckmeyer	FLC Library and/or Zoom
<b>February 22, 2022</b> <i>We Were The Lucky Ones: A Novel</i> by Georgia Hunter	<b><i>Need Hostess</i></b>	FLC Library and/or Zoom
<b>March 29, 2022</b> <i>My Dear Hamilton: A Novel of Eliza Schuyler Hamilton</i> by Stephanie Dray	<b><i>Need Hostess</i></b>	FLC Library and/or Zoom
<b>April 26, 2022</b> <i>The Hummingbird: A Novel</i> by Stephen B. Kiernan	<b><i>Need Hostess</i></b>	FLC Library and/or Zoom
<b>May 31, 2022</b> <i>Elizabeth is Missing: A Novel</i> by Emma Healey	<b><i>Need Hostess</i></b>	FLC Library and/or Zoom
<b>June 28, 2022</b> <i>Freedom: A Novel</i> by Jonathan Franzen	<b><i>Need Hostess</i></b>	FLC Library and/or Zoom
<b>July 26, 2022</b> <i>To Capture What We Cannot Keep: A Novel</i> by Beatrice Colin	<b><i>Need Hostess</i></b>	FLC Library and/or Zoom
<b>August 30, 2022</b> <i>The Guest List: A Novel</i> by Lucy Foley	<b><i>Need Hostess</i></b>	FLC Library and/or Zoom
<b>September 27, 2022</b> <i>The Great Alone</i> by Kristen Hannah	<b><i>Need Hostess</i></b>	FLC Library and/or Zoom
<b>October 25, 2022</b> <i>Night: Book 1 of 3 book trilogy</i> by Elie Wiesel	<b><i>Need Hostess</i></b>	FLC Library and/or Zoom

Contact Georganne Eibe at [savygg@yahoo.com](mailto:savygg@yahoo.com) to be added to the book email list.

# St. Francis House- Phyllis Leone



Happy New Year! Ringing in 2022 brings with it a whole new opportunity to serve the housing- and food-challenged citizens of Alachua County through Abiding Savior's St. Francis House Ministry. Thank you to those who have already volunteered to prepare the main course for the following months: February – Linda Tobias; March – Jan Hamilton; June and October – Judy Bates. I will be preparing the main course for January. That leaves five additional opportunities to prepare the main course: April, May, July, August, and September.

For the January meal, I will be preparing chili. Volunteers are needed to prepare the side dishes as follows: Baked potatoes or rice; vegetable (corn is great with chili); tossed salad (no dressing needed); fruit salad or individual fruit (apples, oranges, etc.); shredded cheese and sour cream; rolls and butter; and dessert (individual, hand-held items such as cookies, brownies, or cup cakes are best).

The 2022 dates (4th Thursday of the month) are: January 27, February 24, March 24, April 28, May 26, June 23, July 28, August 25, September 22, and October 27.

If you are interested in helping in any of the ways listed above, please contact me either by cell phone/text (352-316-3586) or email ([ChunkyMonkeysNana@gmail.com](mailto:ChunkyMonkeysNana@gmail.com)).

Wishing you a blessed new year!

Phyllis Leone

*President and St. Francis Ministry Team Leader*

*"Then the King will say to those on his right. 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'"*

*Matthew 25:34-40*



Happy New Year from Abiding Savior Lutheran Preschool! May the year 2022 bring you and your family many blessings from God! We enjoyed celebrating Christmas together as we shared the story of Jesus' birth through our Christmas Pageant. Through narration and song with the talented students and staff, we shared God's Promise...the promise of a Savior!

During the month of January, our Bible stories will include Jesus Studying in the Temple, Jesus' Baptism, Jesus Healing the Ten Lepers, and Jesus Feeding the 5000. We will also be learning about winter, hibernation/winter animals, dinosaurs, and celebrating Lutheran Schools Week.

January is a busy month in the preschool office as we prepare to register children for the upcoming school year! Children born on or before January 1, 2021, are eligible to enroll for the 2022-2023 school year. We pride ourselves on being one of the best preschools in Gainesville and anticipate a year of blessings from our great God.

Registration for current families, siblings, and church members will take place the week of January 10-14. We offer 2, 3, and 5-day options and you can choose between one of three programs: 8:20–12:00, 8:20–3:00, or 8:20–6:00, with early drop off (7:30–8:20) and lunch (12:00–1:00) options available for a nominal fee.

On January 18 we will open registration to former families and on January 24 open enrollment will be offered to the community, with priority given to families already on our waiting list. Registration forms may be picked up in the preschool office, narthex, or downloaded from our website. Current students will receive registration forms the week of January 3, 2022.

National Lutheran Schools Week is the week of January 24-28. We recognize the network of 1,885 LCMS preschools, elementary schools, and high schools with the public opportunity to proclaim and celebrate God's work in Lutheran schools. We rejoice in the partnership and shared vision for proclaiming God's grace and mercy to equip the next generation of faithful Christian servants. This year's theme is "In All Things" and is inspired by Colossians 1:17-20: "He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church . . . [He reconciles] to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross."

We thank God for the opportunity to provide an excellent preschool program for the children we serve. We are most grateful for the opportunity to share Jesus' amazing love with children and their families.

*In His Hands,*  
Brenda Arden  
Preschool Director

# The Rescue Tour - Pastor Jack

Plan to join us on Monday, January 17 at 7:00 p.m. Dave Anderson and Roger Walck will offer an evening of Praise and Worship. Dave and Roger's music is a blend of contemporary gospel, hymns, and lots of old-time Sunday School songs. The audience will be invited to sing along, but, as Dave says, "As long as it's the same song."

Dave and Roger's music benefits the Shepherd's Canyon Retreat ministry. Shepherd's Canyon Retreat ministry offers a safe, confidential experience of restoration for professional church workers and their spouses (singles are also welcome) who are experiencing burnout and/or personal, marital or congregational conflicts. You can learn more at

[www.ShepherdsCanyonRetreat.org](http://www.ShepherdsCanyonRetreat.org).

## **THE RESCUE TOUR** **Dave Anderson & Roger Walck**



*Join us for*  
**Praise & Worship**





Items pictured above have been found around the Church property. If any of these items belong to you, stop by the Church office or email the office at [office@abidingsavior.info](mailto:office@abidingsavior.info) to retrieve them.



# Birthdays and Anniversaries

## *Birthdays*

Daniel Maxwell 1/1  
Amy Solinsky 1/2  
Natalie Townsend 1/3  
Susan Moss 1/4  
Charlene Stroehlen 1/5  
Chris Annis 1/5  
Matthew Gustafson 1/5  
Arlene Ouligian 1/7  
Jeremy Hernandez 1/8  
David Buth 1/11  
Sarah Suter 1/11  
Jan Banks 1/12  
Larry Mackenzie 1/14  
Patti Gill 1/16  
Olivia Schultz 1/18  
Wyatt Crawford 1/20  
Dianne Brown 1/22  
Lenny Terry 1/24  
Gabi Hein 1/26  
Kris Pagenkopf 1/26  
Brody Sain 1/27  
Dustin Banks 1/27  
Joshua Mazur 1/27  
Duncan Shewchuk 1/28  
Jenny Bolick 1/28

## *Anniversaries*

Matthew & Laura Donovan 1/1  
Bill & Ann Stone 1/5  
Derek & Sarah Sain 1/22  
James & Carla Flateau 1/26  
Len & Muriel Young 1/26

## Readers

8:00 am

10:45 am

Readings

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1/2/22    Pete Schmitt                      Brenda Arden

1/9/22    Phyllis Leone

1/16/22   Marilyn Palumbo

1/23/22    Chris Annis

1/30/22   Kris Pagenkopf                      Brenda Arden

*If you are interested in volunteering to read, email [office@abidingsavior.info](mailto:office@abidingsavior.info) and let us know what Sundays you are available.*

## Elders of the Month

8:00 am - Charles Moss

10:45 am - Fred Townsend

# January Calender

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8&10:45a Worship 9:15a Bible Breakfast 9:45 Bible Study	3 5:30p Baton Twirlers 7p Bible Study (Mazur)	4 5p AA Meeting 6:30p Capella Nova	5 6:30p Chior Rehearsal 7p AA Meeting	6 6:30p Praise Team Practice	7 7:30p AA Meeting	8 Christmas Decoration Take Down 10a Sewing Club
9 8&10:45a Worship 9:15a Bible Breakfast 9:45 Bible Study	10 5:30p Baton Twirlers 7p Bible Study (Mazur) 7p Church Council	11 10a Young at Heart 5p AA Meeting 6p Granite Park HOA mtg 6:30p Capella Nova	12 6p Girl Scout Troop 813 6:30p Chior Rehearsal 7p AA Meeting	13 6:30p Praise Team Practice	14 7:30p AA Meeting	15 FLC Reserved for Sorority Meeting
16 8&10:45a Worship 9:15a Bible Breakfast 9:45 Bible Study	17 5:30p Baton Twirlers 7p Bible Study (Mazur)	18 5p AA Meeting 6:30p Capella Nova 6:30p Girl Scout Leaders mtg 7p Elder mtg	19 6:30p Chior Rehearsal 7p AA Meeting	20 6:30p Praise Team Practice	21 7:30p AA Meeting	22
23 8&10:45a Worship 9:15a Bible Breakfast 9:45 Bible Study 4:30p Chili Cook Off	24 5:30p Baton Twirlers 7p Bible Study (Mazur)	25 5p AA Meeting 6:30p Capella Nova 6:30p Girl Scout Leaders mtg 7p Book Club	26 6p Girl Scout Troop 813 6:30p Chior Rehearsal 7p AA Meeting	27 St Francis 6:30p Praise Team Practice	28 7:30p AA Meeting 6p Young Life	29 10a Sewing Club
30 8&10:45a Worship 9:15a Bible Breakfast 9:45 Bible Study	31 5:30p Baton Twirlers 7p Bible Study (Mazur)					