



May 2022 Newsletter

*Connecting Hearts
to Jesus*

Online at
www.AbidingSavior.info

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Ministry Team Leaders and Contact Information

Officers

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

Elders

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

Administrative Staff

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

Members, Family, and Friends

- Pastor Besalski (pancreatic cancer)
- Elaine Besalski (Parkinson's)
- Gary Bock (pancreatic cancer) Linda Struckmeyer's cousin
- Jeffrey Bonneville (medical procedure)
- Michelle Buth (return of ovarian cancer)
- Jennifer Cartwright (seeking employment)
- Jerry Cox (heart failure/Covid) by Kimberly Phillips
- Judy Dabrey (diabetic retinopathy) by Susie Buth
- Hans Farber (advanced Parkinson's) Carol (caregiver)
- Randy Gill (biopsies show granular sarcoidosis)
- Andy Hamilton (at Windsor) pray for peace/Parkinson's - essential tremor
- Jan Hamilton (vascular doctor)
- Bob Holdredge (triple by-pass) Kathryn Lerch's father
- Justin (depression) by Kris P.
- Julia Kohlberg (stage 4 cancer) Kathy Schmitt's sister-in-law
- Rachel Krause (hospitalized) Brenda Arden's mom
- Georgina Lacy (in hospital for testing) Paula Richert's sister
- Desi Nuckolls (early Alzheimer's) Mark's dad
- Joann Petersen (vertigo rehab/ eye Dr.)
- Jack Preus (major stroke) by Muriel
- Graysen Riehl (2 yr old) head banging Carla's grandson
- Katie Robel (9) Learning problems by Karen Nobles
- Todd Robel (aggressive prostate cancer age 61/pain) by Karen Nobles
- Gary Roberts (Guillain Barre syndrome) by Stacey Hectus
- Eckhard Shadow (cancer)
- Herbie Silvius (very ill) by Jimmy Fleteau
- Bill Stone (diabetes) heart issues
- Dyliah (leg and back pain)
- Jimbo Walsh (bladder cancer) by Fleteaus
- Aniya Wright (13) depression/poor choices by Carla

continued

Prayer List (*continued*)

Praises: For answered prayers

Shut-Ins: Fran Jacobs, Shirley Jackson, Kay Hurst

Sympathy: Ron Herron, Dennis Schwab

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
(Karen Nobles' grandson)

Pray for our Military: Especially those
deployed in combat zones

Continue prayers for:

Our search for a new pastor

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

Pray for the people of Ukraine

*May Our Lord continue to watch over
and bless Abiding Savior Lutheran
Church. Bless the call committee as we
continue the call for a new pastor.*

*Names will be kept on the Prayer list for one month unless renewed.
Please call the church 352-331-4409 or
Muriel Young 352-332-1386*

Altar Care

Altar for May; Phyllis Leone (chair), Annetta Coleman, Candi Steinway

Altar for June; Bette Pring (chair), Carla Flateau, Gabi Hein, Jan Hamilton

Chosen by God: To Be One Sent - Pastor Jack

Two of the most highly watched sporting events on television are not with teams of athletes competing against each other. Rather, they involve the drafting of players for the National Football League (NFL) and the National Basketball Association (NBA) teams. Faithful fans watch for many hours to see who is chosen by which team, or to see whom their favorite team will choose. People watched even in the midst of a pandemic.

Most of us will not be chosen by professional sports teams, but as Christians we receive a higher calling. Jesus says, “You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit.” God has made us a part of His team. We are not chosen by God because we are successful in our careers, great athletes, or wealthy. God chose ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

As the mission of God and His sending form the lens through which we read the Bible, we begin to see how from the beginning God’s desire has been to send His people into the world to proclaim the Good News. During Lent we looked at The Great Sending and how God, out of love, sent His only Son, Jesus, into the world to redeem us from our sin.

Through faith we understand that we are among the foolish and weak through whom God carries out His life-saving work. Paul calls us jars of clay, and says that God entrusts us – clay jars – with this treasure of the Gospel. As humble people of faith, we are empowered by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. He transforms and molds us. It is God who does the drafting and changing. Through faith we will stay on God’s team, and we will bear the fruit that He calls us to bear. We are the chosen of God. Each of us is one sent – to proclaim His Word.

At a recent Pastors’ conference a simple example was used which I have shared with you here at Abiding Savior. It involved the lowly penny. Some still say, “A penny for your thoughts,” but others say we should eliminate the penny from our system. They say it costs more to make than it is worth. In the past you may have had purchasing power with a penny. These days it is difficult to find anything costing only a penny.

What hasn’t changed is that a penny is still one cent. As Christians we often feel under appreciated in our world, like the lowly penny. However, like that penny, you are one SENT (notice the spelling). God has sent you into the world to share the love of Jesus. I encourage you to carry a penny with you as a reminder that you are one sent – chosen and sent by Jesus into the world. The professional athletes who are drafted are expected to perform. They are paid large sums of money to do very athletic things. As God’s chosen people, we may not receive large paychecks, but our benefits are out of this world! We are eager to use our lives and resources in God’s service for His glory.

By the way, a penny may not hold much value in and of itself, but when you put a bunch of pennies together the value increases. Paul wrote, “For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” As we work together for God’s Kingdom, connecting hearts to Jesus, there is no end to what God can and will do. What a privilege it is to be part of and serving on God’s winning team!

Confirmation Class of 2022

Sunday, May 22, at our 10:45 service we welcome into membership Emily Morgan and Zachary Sain, our Confirmation Class of 2022. We are excited to welcome them and look forward to their continued growth in the faith.

Call Committee Update

The Call Committee has begun the second phase in the search for our next Senior Pastor. We received information about possible candidates from the Florida-Georgia District Office on April 22, including information about several individuals nominated by our members, and we have started an initial evaluation.

We recently received word that Pastor James Krach, one of the three candidates the Committee presented to the voters on February 27, has accepted a call to be Senior Pastor at Hope Lutheran Church in Bradenton. This means that Pastor Graham Glover is the only hold-over candidate under consideration in this second phase.

The Committee plans to move as quickly as possible in its review of the candidates. We remind all that Committee discussions are private and confidential and we ask everyone to respect the process by not attempting to influence or interfere in any way at any time. The Committee is mindful that this is a Divine process in which God leads us to our next pastor.

Financial Report

	April Estimated	Year-to-Date
Offerings	\$ 28,000	107,000
Preschool Income	\$ 94,000	373,7000
Other Income	\$ 0	1,000
Total Operating Income	\$ 122,000	481,7000
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 102,700	445,550
Net Operating Income	\$ 19,300	36,150

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

After a two year hiatus, Abiding Savior will once again host a food packing event benefiting Bread of the Mighty. Mark your calendars for May 21. If you would like to donate to Meals of Hope, you can do so with a check in the offering plate or mailed to the church office with “Meals of Hope” on the memo line.

You may also visit the church web site at www.abidingsavior.info and find the “Offerings” tab.



Bible Breakfast

Bible Breakfast is always looking for new volunteers! If you feel so inclined, you can sign up to bring items to help support our Bible Breakfast. The sign-up board is located adjacent to the sound booth in the FLC.

You can also call/text Kathy Schmitt (352-672-2163) to let her know what you would like to bring.

Children's Sunday School

Sunday School for children through 5th grade

Join us in the Family Life Center fellowship hall at 9:45 a.m. or contact Sarah Sain at 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 a.m.

Lutheran World Relief Sewing

Join us this year on the second and last Saturday of the month, meeting in the library of the Family Life Center at 10:00 a.m. In May, they are meeting on the 14th and 28th.

The group is sewing quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

Contact Linda at struck60@gmail.com for more information.

Adult Bible Study

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

Sundays

9:45 a.m. – “Girl Friends” Bible Study meets in the Library of Building Three. This class is led by Linda Struckmeyer, Debbie Hill, and Karen Brautcheck. Join for a study of the book of **Hebrews** titled “*Better*”. Contact Linda at struck60@gmail.com for a Zoom link.

9:45 a.m. – Study the Bible “*One Book at a Time*”. This group is studying the Old Testament book of **Haggai**. Contact Chuck_Moss@msn.com for a Zoom link for this class.

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

12:00 p.m. - Starting May 8, following second service, an eight-week study of **prayer** is led by Joshua Mazur via Zoom. For the Zoom link, contact Jmazur@abidingsavior.info.

Young at Heart Ladies Bible Study meets the second Tuesday of the month in Building One. The next meeting will be May 10 at 10:00 a.m. Annetta Coleman will lead the study titled “*More than Conquerors*”

Upcoming Musical Events

May 16 at 7:00 p.m. **A NIGHT AT THE OPERA: VERDI’S NABUCCO** *screening* with Dinner & Dessert in the FLC.

Verdi’s Nabucco permanently established Verdi’s reputation as a great composer of opera. In Verdi’s retelling of the Old Testament stories of King Nebuchadnezzar II’s religious conversion, King Nabucco’s hubris and ambition almost result in him losing his beloved daughter as well as his kingdom. Enjoy this great masterpiece in an informal setting with dinner and dessert provided!

The recording’s runtime is ~2 hours and will be presented with an intermission.

May 22 at 4:00 p.m. **MARGARET DIXON, FRENCH HORN**

Margaret Dixon, principal horn of the Ocala and Gainesville Symphony Orchestras, presents a charming program of music for solo horn and piano, accompanied by Joshua Mazur.

May 25 at 7:00 p.m. **EVENING OF PRAISE** presented by Abiding Savior’s Music Ministry (Praise Team, Choir and Brass)

The combined forces of Abiding Savior’s Music Ministry present a program of classic and timeless music of worship and praise, including music by Bill and Gloria Gaither, Chris Tomlin, Martin Nystrom, Twila Paris, Andrew Peterson, Sir John Stainer, Mozart, and More!

If you would like to serve as hostess/discussion leader for any upcoming meetings or want to be added to the email list, contact Georganne Eibe at savygg@yahoo.com.

The next meeting will be on May 31 on the book *“Elizabeth is Missing: A Novel”* by Emma Healey

The June book: *“Freedom: A Novel”* by Jonathan Franzen

Save the Date, VBS 2022

Save the Date: Abiding Savior Lutheran Church’s Vacation Bible School
Climb aboard for a mountain of fun at Rocky Railway VBS!



Monday, July 25-Thursday, July 28

Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Sarah Sain at sarah.d.sain@gmail.com.

Building Project for Vets

Contact Mike Brannon at 305-923-3776 if you are able to help construct a small home for disabled veterans.

The next work day is planned for May 14.

Trustee Report

The Trustee Team is seeking volunteers. There is a lot of work to be done around the church and preschool, such as weeding, refreshing mulch, trimming branches, and keeping the campus looking fresh. If you are interested and willing to help this team, contact John Schmitt at 352-514-0478.



I have great news that we have long been waiting for. Starting mid-May and assuming Covid infection rates do not increase, St. Francis House will once again allow volunteers to serve meals in person! If you were one of our volunteers who in the past joined us in serving meals and talking with the SFH residents, you know what a meaningful experience it is for both you and the residents. I invite you to strongly consider joining us on May 26. I promise you will not be disappointed.

We provided a delicious meal of baked pasta and all the trimmings on April 28. Special thanks to Sara Sain, Barb Moore, Charlene

Stroehlen, Joann Petersen, Becky Hernandez, and Allison Fissenden for their contributions.

The May 26 menu is:

Enchiladas – Becky Hernandez

Starch (Yellow Rice, perhaps) –
Still Needed

Veggie (Corn, perhaps) – *Still Needed*

Tossed Salad – Karen Nobles

Assorted Fruit or Fruit Salad –
Still Needed

Bread/Butter (corn bread/muffins,
perhaps) – *Still Needed*

Dessert – Marilyn Palumbo

If you are willing to provide any of the items still needed for May, please contact me either by cell phone/text (352-316-3586) or email (ChunkyMonkeysNana@gmail.com).

We are still in need of volunteers to prepare the main course in July, August, September, and November. Please prayerfully consider volunteering for this important and meaningful service opportunity. The dates for the remainder of 2022 are: May 26, June 23, July 28, August 25, September 22, and October 27.

Blessings,
Phyllis Leone
St. Francis House 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

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to Youth sponsored celebrations during the Easter Season! The kids worked hard to put together the Easter egg hunt and Easter breakfast and we are thrilled to see all the turn out. Our youth had great fun with all the festivities and look forward to future Youth sponsored events.



Music Ministry Potluck Dinner



Music ministry held a fellowship potluck on April 22.
Includes choir, praise team, and the brass buddies

Thrivent Member Events

Join the Thrivent Member Network – Southeast Region this month for our upcoming events. We help Christians find financial clarity, enabling lives full of meaning and gratitude.

BINGO: A Celebration of Membership - May 12 @ 7:00 p.m.: (Virtual Event) Hear updates from the Thrivent Member Network and join other Thrivent clients and guests during this time of fun and fellowship. RSVP: <https://bit.ly/bingocelebration>

4 Truths About Long Term Care - May 19 @ 12:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.: Online webinar presented by Bill Comfort. Learn to protect your assets and reassure your family about the future. RSVP: <https://bit.ly/May19LTC>



May brings the last month of school for Abiding Savior Lutheran Preschool. We have been amazingly blessed by our great God. Our school theme this year has been “Let Your Light Shine” from Matthew 5:16, “Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Our themes during the month of May are Authors, Oceans, and Last Week of School/Here Comes Summer. May Bible stories include The Ascension and Great Commission, Pentecost, Peter and John Heal a Crippled Man, and God Cares for the Birds and Flowers.

We will be celebrating our moms with Muffins for Moms on Tuesday-Friday, May 3-6. Our Songfest and Art Show will be Tuesday, May 10 and Wednesday, May 11 at 11:00 a.m.. The PTA will be celebrating our teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week, May 16-20. Pre-Kindergarten Graduations will be Friday, May 27 (our last day of school) in the sanctuary at 9:00, 10:00, and 11:00 a.m. for our three graduating classes.

We have 172 children enrolled for the 2022-2023 school year. We will have ongoing registration until we reach capacity. Please share the news about our outstanding preschool!

We have 149 children enrolled for our Summer Camp, “Lovin’ Jesus In All Things”. You can find the registration form online at our Abiding Savior website or pick one up in the preschool office. Many age groups for certain weeks of camp are FULL for the summer. Reserve your spot today!

We are blessed to let our lights shine at Abiding Savior Lutheran Preschool.

Shining His Light,
Brenda Arden
Preschool Director

Preschool Job Opening

Abiding Savior Lutheran Preschool has an opening for a Christian preschool lead teacher beginning in August 2022 for the 2022-2023 school year. Applicant will be responsible for planning and implementing a Christian and developmentally appropriate early childhood program for a Preschool 2s class. Must be a self-starter, patient, loving, flexible, reliable, and a team player. Hours are 7:30-1:30, with the possibility of extra after care hours.

Bachelor’s degree required. Early childhood teacher experience preferred. 40 Hour DCF Training preferred and must pass Level 2 background screening. Paid holidays, paid time off, and health care benefits included. Salary based on credentials and experience.

Contact Preschool Director Brenda Arden at 352-331-7770. Send resume to baden@abidingsavior.info OR Abiding Savior Lutheran Preschool, 9700 W Newberry Rd., Gainesville, FL 32606.

May Calender

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8&10:45a Worship 9:15a Bible Breakfast 9:45 Bible Study 4p Youth 6p Confirmation	2 5:30p Baton Twirlers 5:30p Baton Twirlers	3 5p AA Meeting	4 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA Meeting	5 6:30p Praise Team Practice	6 7:30p AA Meeting	7
8 8&10:45a Worship 9a-1p Blood Dr 9:15a Bible Breakfast 9:45 Bible Study 4p Youth 6p Confirmation	9 5:30p Baton Twirlers 7p Church Council	10 10a Young at Heart 5p AA Meeting	11 6p Girl Scout Troop 813 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA Meeting	12 6:30p Praise Team Practice	13 7:30p AA Meeting	14 10a LWR Sewing
15 8&10:45a Worship 9:15a Bible Breakfast 9:45 Bible Study 4p Youth 5p Confirmation	16 5:30p Baton Twirlers 7p A Night at the Opera	17 5p AA Meeting 6:30p Girl Scout Leaders mtg 7p Elders Mtg	18 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA Meeting	19 6:30p Praise Team Practice	20 6p Young Life 7:30p AA Meeting	21 MEALS OF HOPE 9a-1:30p
22 8&10:45a Worship 9:15a Bible Breakfast 9:45 Bible Study 4p Youth	23	24 5p AA Meeting 6:30p Girl Scout Leaders mtg	25 7p Evening of Praise 7p AA Meeting	26 St Francis 6:30p Praise Team Practice	27 Last Day of School 7:30p AA Meeting	28 10a LWR Sewing
29 8&10:45a Worship 9:15a Bible Breakfast 9:45 Bible Study 4p Youth	30	31 5p AA Meeting 7p Book Club				

May Readers, Elders, and Acolytes

Readers	8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	Readings
5/1/22	Pete Schmitt	Dustin Banks	Acts 9:1-22 Revelation 5:8-14
5/8/22	Phyllis Leone	Ann Stone	Acts 20:17-35 Revelation 7:9-17
5/15/22	Marilyn Palumbo	Liz Torrence	Acts 11:1-18 Revelation 21:1-7;
5/22/22	Chris Annis	Brenda Arden	Acts 16:9-15 Revelation 21:9-14,21-27
5/29/22	Kris Pagenkopf	Ralph Toppins	Acts 1:12-26 Revelation 22:1-6,12-20

Elders of the Month

8:00 a.m. - Derek Sain

10:45 a.m. - Fred Townsend

Acolytes

8:00 a.m.

10:45 a.m.

5/1/22

Gillian Collins

Brody Sain

5/8/22

Liam Hernandez

Leland Spooner

5/15/22

Emily Morgan

Alice Townsend

5/22/22

Liam Hernandez

Brody Sain

5/29/22

Gillian Collins

Norbert Lutz

If you are interested in volunteering to read, email office@abidingsavior.info and let us know what Sundays you are available.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

Amie Spooner 5/6
Daisy Slaughter 5/6
Shirley Jackson 5/6
Alice Townsend 5/7
Jean Schadow 5/11
Ridge Dauer 5/11
Elliot Sain 5/12
Joyce Ihnow 5/15
Elizabeth Torrence 5/22
Caroline Terry 5/28
Jillian Hectus 5/30

Anniversaries

Paul & Vicki Schubring 5/3
Rob & Sarah Suter 5/3
Michael & Rhoda Chiarelli 5/8
Jeremy & Erin Crawford 5/9
Roger & Dina Dolz 5/12
David & Susan Buth 5/16
Bret & Stacey Hectus 5/21