Abiding Savior Lutheran Church



August 2023 Newsletter

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Connecting Hearts to Jesus

Online at

Church Phone: Email.

Preschool Phone: (352) 331-7770

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Gainesville, FL 32606

Prayer List

Members, Family, and Friends

- Jessica Acker (breast cancer surgery/ chemo) by John Schmitt
- Sandy Adams (broken hip/surgery) Charlene Stroehlen's aunt
- Kathy Beasley (colonoscopy complications) Marj Evans' daughter
- Judy (heart) & Ken Bates (health issues)
- Hans Farber (advanced Parkinsons) Carol caregiver
- Jan Forguson (microvascular)
- Beven Forguson
- Jack Furey (in hospital/antibiotics)
 Colleen's father
- Randy Gill (granular sarcoidosis/ heart problems)
- Leon and Jack Hekking (ALD) Karen Nobles Grandson
- Jackie (cancer surgery) by Jean Schadow
- Julia Kohlberg (lung cancer/ chemo) Kathy Schmitt's sister-in-law
- Georgina Lacy (Chemo) Paula Richert's sister
- Gary Moon (health issues) Carla's uncle
- Charles Moss (knee surgery recovery)
- Sal Pandazzo (cancer/hospice) by Veronica Ruth
- JoAnn Petersen (skin cancer surgery on leg)
- Graysen Riehl (2)(head banging) Carla's grandson
- Julie Sawyer (breast cancer) Hal Lerch's sister
- Peter Setek (cancer) Veronica Ruth's uncle

- Gary Smith (health issues)
- Del Snipes (pancreatitis)
- Bill Stone (diabetes/heart & memory issues)
- Miles Struckmeyer (born 5/18, hole in heart)
- Colleen Toppins (heal knee/falling)
- Doris Wilber (heart valve leakage) Carla's mom
- Dan Young (open heart surgery)
- Courtney Zuloski (breast cancer/chemo and radiation) by Phyllis Leone
- Laurie Grubbs (breast cancer) Linda Struckmeyer's sister
- Eric Moon (medical tests)

continued

Prayer List (continued)

Praises: For daily Blessings

Shut-Ins: Fran Jacobs, Shirley Jackson (Atrium), Petersen (JoAnn Petersen's son)

Sympathies: The family of Jim Leone, Family of Ricky O'Rourke

Military

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

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:

Covid victims

Missionaries

Young people in college

Families and victims fleeing war

(Afghanistan) and poverty

St. Francis House Residents

Those dealing with disasters: fire, floods,

hurricanes, and tornadoes

Earthquake victims in Turkey

Our country, our president and our elected

officials

The people of Ukraine

May Our Lord continue to watch over and bless Abiding Savior Lutheran Church.

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 August: Phyllis Leone (chair), Annetta Coleman, Carol Mackenzie, Candi Steinway

Altar for September: Bette Pring (chair), Carla Flateau, Jan Forguson, Gabi Hein

I Want to Hear from YOU! - Pastor Glover

Well, it's been almost a year since I was installed as your pastor. And what a year it has been!

I hope all of you know how much I truly love being the pastor of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church and School. Coming to "work" every day is pure joy. In every way, the ministry here is thriving and I am so excited about the plans God has for us in the years ahead.

To ensure that I am doing my part in providing you, the members and friends of Abiding Savior, the pastoral support you need, I want to hear from you. I want to know what you think about the Word and Sacrament ministry that Abiding Savior provides. Are we meeting your needs? Are we meeting the needs of our community? What is going well? What can we do better?

As I've mentioned countless times, you can call me, email me, text me, stop by and see me, or ask that I come and see you. However you make it happen, I want to hear from you!

As the summer comes to an end, I pray that you may find some rest before the busyness of a new school year and fall festivities begin to consume us. That rest can always be found here, at Abiding Savior, as we listen to God's Word, approach him in prayer and worship, and receive His gifts in the Sacraments of His Church. Our future is bright, not because of anything we've done, but solely on account of our Lord who provides for our every need. May His peace be with you and may our ministry to those entrusted to our care be forever led by Him.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Glover

Upcoming Worship Opportunities

There will be three additional midweek services these coming months apart from our regular service times:

Mid week services from August-October:

- Tuesday, August 15, Divine Service, 7:00 p.m. (St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord)
- Thursday, September 14, 11:00 a.m., Matins (Holy Cross Day)
- Wednesday, October 18, 7:00 p.m., Vespers (St. Luke, Evangelist)

One Divine Service on Sunday, October 1, at 10:45am, followed by our annual Oktoberfest celebration in the FLC. There will be no bible studies or breakfast that day.

	July Estimated
Offerings	\$ 30,000
Preschool Income	\$ 170,000
Other Income	\$ 0
Total Operating Income	\$ 200,000
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 120,000
Net Operating Income	\$ 80,000

Noisy Offering

Noisy Offering is the third Sunday of every month. This month's Noisy Offering will be Sunday, August 20. Our monthly Noisy Offering collection will be dedicated to Meals of Hope. Other ways to contribute include a check made out to Abiding Savior with "Meals of Hope" in the memo line or by donating online through the church website.

Home Visits

If you know of someone who desires Pastor Glover to visit with them in their home or at the hospital, to include bringing Holy Communion to them, please contact Pastor Glover at Pastor Gaabidingsavior.info or call (352) 331-4409.

Stay Tuned: Security Upgrades

Be on the look-out for an email that will share some information about several security upgrades that are in the works for our campus and how you can assist with this important project.

Fellowship Event on August 20th after Late Service

Join us for an end-of-summer/back-to-school cookout after late service. Danny & Kathy Schmitt will be cooking and there will be games for all indoors & outdoors. All food will be provided by the fellowship ministry. Don't miss this opportunity for fellowship, food and fun!

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.



Blood Drive

On August 20, from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. the LifeSouth Bloodmobile will be at Abiding Savior.

Helping Hands

Helping Hands is the fund we use at Abiding Savior to directly assist our community and the needs of individuals. You can contribute to this fund directly or by donating grocery or gas cards that are given to individuals who come by our church seeking help.

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. LWR sewing will meet on August 12 and 26. The group is sewing quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

Sewing for LWR has appreciated your donations. At this time we are not accepting additional fabric. We would love additional workers on the 2nd and last Saturdays of the month, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center Library.

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

Bible Breakfast

Hot breakfasts return on August 13. If you would like to contribute to our weekly fellowship breakfast, feel free to bring fruit, Danish, donuts, sandwiches, etc. Clean-up help is always appreciated too! Thank you for your continued support.

Monthly Book Club

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.

August 29: The Warsaw Orphan by Kelly Rimmer. Virginia Pagenkopf will be hosting.

September 26: Run Rose Run by James Patterson and Dolly Parton. Nancy Strattan will be hosting.

Adult Bible Study

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

- 9:45 a.m. Join Pastor Glover on Sunday mornings during the Bible Study hour in the Fellowship Hall for a study on the book of Revelation. Join him for a discussion on this often misunderstood book of the Bible, but one that offers great hope for the Church!
- 9:45 a.m. "Girl Friends" Bible Study meets in the FLC Library in between services. Contact Linda at struck60@gmail.com or Debbie Hill at debbie@lombardihill.com for more information
- 9:45 a.m. Study the Bible with Chuck Moss in the Building 1 classroom. This group is currently studying the book of *Leviticus*. Contact Chuck_Moss@msn.com for more information.

Young at Heart Ladies Bible Study meets the second Tuesday of the month in Building One. The next meeting will be August 8 at 10:00 a.m. Annetta Coleman will lead the study of "Promise, Power, Peace".

Youth

Regular Youth resumes on Sundays from 4-6:00 p.m. starting September 10. Trips to the springs, the beach or bowling are also being planned for late August.

Contact Danny (352-727-4733) or email <u>youth@abidingsavior.info</u> to be added to the events communication list.

Rainforest VBS 2023



From July 24 – 27, 50 children and 30 volunteers participated in Abiding Savior's Rainforest VBS where they learned that "Jesus is our Treasure." With the congregation's generous donations and gifts brought to VBS by the children, wheelbarrows full of school supplies were provided to the children of Stephen Foster Elementary School! As you can see by the pictures below, fun was had by all!









Note from the Bench - Joshua Mazur

I am currently writing this message on July 26th (the day after the submission deadline) while Susan and Anna stare at the blank page in the newsletter where it should be, asking myself where did July go?

I am very happy with how I spent my time in July, though! I spent more time than usual at home with our dogs and cats while Hannah was in Peru doing mission work with her missionary parents. Around the church, we worked especially hard on the choir room and bandshell as we settle the riches of equipment we've been blessed with over the years into their long-term places. I wrote a lot of music. I also got to spend time in Peru myself for about ten days. All of this got me thinking, for sure, about how I spend my time ordinarily.

While Hannah was in Peru she helped out her missionary parents with the goings on at the Casa Shea, which includes the house she grew up in and a bit of a compound /home base for housing and providing for the many teams (usually medical/surgical teams) that come through. She'd sometimes have a chance to facetime me and report in on how things were going and what she was up to.

Now, I'm sure when people think of missionary work and evangelism, they think of heroic discovery of uncontacted tribes or the proclamation of the gospel in hostile foreign lands against all odds... and it is certainly that, sometimes. But much of the work is in the mundane, daily maintenance of the Casa Shea. Hannah's first big project was the sorting and organizing the vast plethora of towels, garments, and various things that past teams had left at the mission for other people who may need them. It turned out to be a treasure trove of useful items and everything is now much more accessible after Hannah and her mother Rita got it all sorted, organized, and labeled.

The fact is, the much more visible work of surgeries, clinics, and even preaching and teaching in the jungle could not happen without the many hands that do the work in the background. In my own neck of the woods and in my own area of expertise, I think of the hard work of our musical ensembles here at ASLC and their dedicated time in rehearsal that is necessary to make our music in worship happen. Last year from August 2022 to May 2023 the choir sang about two hours worth of music in worship; it took about 50 hours of rehearsal to make those two hours happen. The praise team plays 12-14 minutes of music during worship when they are playing, and it takes some 60-90 minutes to learn and prepare that music each week. Add to that the many hours of personal time our singers and instrumentalists devote to individual practice and the number continues to increase.

Note from the Bench (continued)

It's hard to feel like you're doing the work of the Lord when you're sorting towels, washing dishes, or sitting alone practicing an instrument, but we are. I'm reminded of the final preschool chapel lesson that I was delighted to teach them in chapel this week about David – before he was King, he was a shepherd. Samuel anointed him and the Holy Spirit rushed on him like wind. His skill on the harp and his soulful voice put him in the court of King Saul and he learned his statecraft while he played to soothe the King's soul.

May God grant us all the ability to see His work in us as we serve in whatever capacity we are called, the patience to wait for the blossoms, and the wisdom to plant seeds we may not even see sprout in the hope and faith that He will make his orchard to grow and reap a great harvest.

In the Name of Jesus, Joshua L. Mazur

Gator Football Tickets

University of Florida would like to invite friends, and family of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church to the Florida Gators football Home Games this year. Thank you for your support of Florida Gators Athletics. GO GATORS!!



Follow the link or QR code to get tickets for upcoming Gator games. <a href="https://offer.fevo.com/church-group-43c5282?fevoUri=chu



Beyond Borders: How God is Working in Peru - Hannah Mazur

I had the opportunity to return to Peru this summer and do some mission work alongside my family. I say "return" because I grew up in Peru-my parents are missionaries, continuing the work that my grandparents had begun before them, in the early 1950's. I had a wonderful childhood running through the jungle barefoot, climbing trees, and marveling at God's creation (The Amazon rainforest is home to over 40,000 plant species, 3,000 species of freshwater fish, 370 types of reptiles, and over 2.5 million species of insects!) Here's how the Lord is working in my hometown of Pucallpa, Peru.

A ministry that is near to my family's heart is called the Centro de Capacitación Bíblica (CCB) or Bible Training Institute, where people from various indigenous tribal groups can study the word of God. (Side note: It is only within the last 50 years that the Peruvian government recognizes indigenous peoples as having souls.) My father was integral in the opening of this organization in 1994. Graduates of the CCB immerse themselves with the local Shipibo-Conibo Tribal Evangelical Church Association, serving by making disciples, training others in evangelism, modeling leadership for the emerging generation, as well as carrying out social and community development projects that improve health and increase access to food, water and education.

In the almost 30 years this program has been active, the CCB has grown from a graduating class size of 6 to an average of 50 students representing, over the years, a total of 18 different tribal groups and resulting in 360 graduates, 90% of whom remain active in ministry today as pastors, teachers, and church workers in various capacities. In a classroom, you will find members from various tribes who, 50 years ago, were warring with and killing each other. Now, they're learning about the love of Jesus Christ and sharing in the eternal gift of salvation. Amongst these students, you will find those who have only recently been freed from the chains of Animism; imagine being so afraid to leave your hut at night because demons that speak to you from the trees threaten to eat your children. Now they're reveling in the security that Christ offers us as the true ruler of the earth and everything in it. I was happy to serve as a translator for a group from Memphis who focused on a week-long discipleship program geared towards married couples studying at the CCB.

Another ministry that I was excited to work with this summer is called The Refuge of Hope; a center for children with disabilities. Up until the late 2000's in Peru, it was a great shame to have a child with any sort of physical or mental disability. This resulted in families literally hiding their children, away from society. Refuge of Hope was founded in 1987 by a pastor named Victor, who himself had Polio, and what an incredible testimony he has! What began as a trade school for young adults with disabilities has expanded to a church ministry, integrating elementary and high school aged students to provide education and job training

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Beyond Borders: How God is Working in Peru (continued)

to this marginalized group of people. It is now a tight-knit community where children and young adults can grow and thrive and learn about how God loves them and wants the very best for them! It's due to this ministry alone that the mindset towards people with disabilities has changed in this region of Peru over the last few decades. I had the incredible opportunity to be a part of a VBS program where we made crafts, sang songs, played soccer, and shared the love of Jesus with over 250 students and their families. While there is always more work to be done, God's word is active and alive in even the farthest-reaching places of the earth.

As the visiting teams came and went I thought often of what all of this might mean for Abiding Savior Lutheran Church. There is much for us to learn and be reminded of under the canopies of the rainforest and on the waters of the Amazon. People making their way through life on \$1 a day (or less) don't look so very different from the homeless people I've driven by since coming home as they do on the red clay roads in Pucallpa. The danger and threat of demonic animism is raw and brutal in the deep jungle but the rampant materialism and idolatry we work to recognize and oppose in our communities and neighborhoods right here in Gainesville are also dangerous and brutal.

However, the same Jesus was in the bread and wine I received at communion each Sunday. The same word of God was preached and taught (albeit in Spanish!) and that same word unites with the waters of baptism and so many people are set free from generations of fear and now walk the roads in faith and by grace. I feel energized and renewed having been reminded of God's ever-present work that transcends time, place, language, and other differences to pursue His people; in the 103 degree/99% humidity of Pucallpa, Peru, and in the equally hot and humid Gainesville, Florida.

En el nombre de Jesus, Hannah Mazur



Thank you again to all those that provided food and served the St. Francis House Ministry in June. The next opportunity to serve the St. Francis House Ministry will be on August 24th.

The meal for August is as follows:

Main Course – Kathy Schmitt (Spaghetti & Meatballs)

Side – Volunteer Needed

Vegetable - Volunteer Needed

Salad - Karen Nobles

Bread & Butter - Volunteer Needed

Dessert – Joann Peterson

Fruit – Becky Hernandez

A poster is located in the narthex, you may sign up for items still needed for August or other openings for the rest of the year. If you are interested in helping, please contact Becky Hernandez either by phone/text (575-921-9585) or email (keepon.running.bk@hotmail.com).

Future Dates for 2023 (4th Thursday of the month) are:

August 24th

September 28th October 26th

"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

Preschool News - Brenda Arden



Abiding Savior Lutheran Preschool had a successful summer camp from June 5-July 27. The theme for summer camp was "Adventures in Books." The children experienced an amazing camp where we went on adventures with various authors and "took a look, it's in a book." We experienced God's creation as we used STEAM activities (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, and Art) to explore the author's books and the best book, the B-I-B-L-E!

We are excited to begin the 2023-2024 school year at Abiding Savior Lutheran Preschool on August 14. Our theme for the school year is "A Rainbow is a Promise." Throughout the school year, we will treasure the promises of our great and mighty God as we celebrate that "A Rainbow is a Promise" using the verse from Genesis 9:13, "I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth." Guided by their teachers, children will be celebrating His promises each month incorporating our monthly focuses: God promises to . . . strengthen you, give you rest, take care of all your needs, answer your prayers, work everything out for your good, be with you, protect you, and free you from sin. We are thankful that "God Keeps His Promises" to me and you.

Our entire teaching team is looking forward to an exciting and rewarding school year as we embrace both the blessing and the responsibility of caring for Jesus' little lambs. Thank you for your continued prayers and support of our preschool ministry as we begin a new school year.

Celebrating His Promises, Brenda Arden Preschool Director

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

Alexandra Lerch 8/1

Phyllis Leone 8/1

Tyler Morgan 8/3

Bill Carman 8/4

Fred Townsend 8/4

Greg Miller-House 8/6

Jeff Dauer 8/6

Jenna Schmitt 8/7

Mark Gustafson 8/10

Paul Mandeville 8/12

Rod Heathman 8/15

Parker Wilson 8/20

Annetta Coleman 8/23

Candi Steinway 8/23

Riche Dauer 8/25

Michael Chiarelli 8/28

Owen Hernandez 8/30

Anniversaries

Paul & Barbra Moore 8/20

Ed & Karen Herder 8/26

Joel & Kathy Mathews 8/26

Hal & Judy Lerch 8/27

Readers, Elders, and Flowers

Readers	8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	Readings	
8/6	Chris Annis	volunteer	Is. 55:1-5 Rom. 9:1-5	
8/13	Kris Pagenkopf	Brenda Arden	Job 38:4-18 Rom. 10:5-7	
8/20	Phyllis Leone	Ann Stone	Is. 56:1, 6-8 Rom. 11:1-2, 13-15, 28-32	
8/27	Marilyn Palumbo	Ralph Toppins	Is. 51:1-6 Rom. 11:33-12:8	

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

Elders of the Month

8:00 a.m. - Derek Sain 10:45 a.m. - Hal Lerch

Flowers

8/6 Stone

8/13 Banks

8/20 Moore

8/27 Herder/Lerch

Choose a date on the flower chart next to the church office and write your name and dedication if so desired. Flowers are \$40 for a pair.

August Calender

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		5p AA Meeting	7p AA Meeting		7:30p AA Meeting	9a AA Meeting 2p Memorial Service
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8&10:45a Worship 9:15a Bible Breakfast 9:45 Bible Study	2p Wind Ensemble	10a Young at Heart 5p AA Meeting	7p AA Meeting		7:30p AA Meeting	9a AA Meeting 10a LWR Sewing
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
8&10:45a Worship 9:15a Bible Breakfast 9:45 Bible Study	2p Wind Ensemble 7p Church Council	5p AA Meeting 6p Elders Mtg 7p Service	7p AA Meeting		7:30p AA Meeting	9a AA Meeting
20 8&10:45a Worship	21	22	23	24	25	26
Noisy offering 9-1:30 Blood Drive 9:15a Bible Breakfast 9:45 Bible Study Noon Meal & fun	2p Wind Ensemble	5p AA Meeting	7p AA Meeting	St Francis	7:30p AA Meeting	9a AA Meeting 10a LWR Sewing
27	28	29	30	31		
8&10:45a Worship 9:15a Bible Breakfast 9:45 Bible Study	2p Wind Ensemble	Book Club 5p AA Meeting	7p AA Meeting			

Ministry Team Leaders and Contact Information

Officers

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