



## January 2024 Newsletter

*Connecting Hearts  
to Jesus*

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

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# Prayer List

## Members, Family, and Friends

- Jessica Acker (breast cancer surgery/chemo) by John Schmitt
- Nickey Avery (continue healing/kidney failure) by the Flateaus
- Judy (heart) & Ken Bates (health issues)
- Frances Brooks (RV-improving) by the Flateaus
- Clarissa Clayton (heart) by Chiarelli family
- George Dix
- Hans Farber (hospice care) Carol (caregiver)
- Beven Ferguson
- Jack Furey (DJ's father)
- Randy Gill (granular sarcoidosis/heart problems)
- Laura Grubbs (mastectomy/breast cancer) Linda Struckmeyer's sister
- Richard Heinstedt (hip replacement) by Rhoda & Mike
- Danielle Hickman (job search)
- Barbara Hodgkins (GI bleed) Patti Gill's sister
- Bob Holdredge (nose surgery) by Kathryn Lerch
- Jackie (cancer surgery) by Jean Schadow
- Janie Klassy (serious intestinal surgery) Judy Lerch's sister
- Julia Kohlberg (lung cancer/chemo) Kathy Schmitt's sister-in-law
- Eric Moon (healing from COPD, pneumonia, bed sores) by the Flateaus
- Gary Moon (health issues) Carla's uncle
- Matthew Musser (kidney cancer) Marj Evans' grandson
- Sal Pandazzo (cancer/hospice) by Veronica Ruth
- Lucille Ramputi (terminal colon cancer) by Marliyn Palumbo
- Graysen Riehl (2)(head banging) Carla's grandson
- Mildred Russell (malignant, large body mass) by Ann Stone
- Peter Setek (cancer) Veronica Ruth's uncle
- Gary Smith (health issues)
- Bill Stone (diabetes/heart & memory issues)
- Verna Struckmeyer (labored breathing, in hospital)
- Colleen Toppins (leg problems)
- Kevin Renick (quadriplegic, serious infection) by Phyllis Leone
- Doris Wilber (heart valve leakage) Carla's mom
- Amy Young (breast cancer surgery/radiation)
- Phil Young(intestinal issues)

*continued*

**Praises:** Thanksgiving blessing, Aurora Lily (new Struckmeyer grandbaby)

**Shut-Ins:** Fran Jacobs, Kay Hurst, Charlotte Gums

**Sympathies:** Pam Licht family, Pastor Besalski family

## **Military**

**Eric Tappy** - Iraq

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

**Jason Joseph** - Iraq (by Phillis Leone)

**Sam Kleinhauser** (sniper) now home

**Matt Young** - Air Force Reserve

**Duncan Shewchuk** - Army

Pray for our Military, especially those  
deployed in combat zones

## **Continue prayers for:**

Shooting victims

Covid victims

Missionaries

Young people in college

Victims of war: Afghanistan, Israel, Gaza  
and Ukraine

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

*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

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

**February:** Bette Pring (chair), Jan Ferguson, Gabi Hein, Barbara Moore

**Join us as we un-decorate the church on Saturday, January 13 at 8:30 a.m.  
Many hands make light work and there is a job for everyone.**

# New Year . . . New You - Pastor Glover

*“From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.”*  
(2 Corinthians 5:16-17)

Have you made a new year’s resolution this year? Do you typically make one, or a few? How do they usually work out for you?

I don’t normally make a new year’s resolution, probably because I end up breaking them or not following them only a few weeks into the new year! (Can you relate?!)

This year however, I have 1, actually 2, that I’d really like to keep. For now, I’ll keep the specifics of those resolutions to myself, knowing my habit of not doing a good job of keeping these resolutions. In other words, I don’t want to be embarrassed if I don’t keep them and you all know about them! Even if you assured me otherwise, I don’t want to be judged for not following through on what I said I would do. (Can you relate?!)

Thankfully, our Lord doesn’t deal with us this way. Whether we make and/or keep new year’s resolutions is of little consequence to God. And more importantly, when we fail to keep His commands – when we fail to live righteous lives, our Savior doesn’t judge our misdeeds. He doesn’t embarrass us for not doing what He asks. Quite the contrary, He forgives us. Completely. Totally. And without qualification.

For all of you in Christ. You are, as St. Paul told the church at Corinth, “a new creation.” You are perfect. Not because of anything you have done, but because of the One born in Bethlehem. You baptized children of God are perfectly new and perfectly righteous on account of this Child whose birth we continue to celebrate into the New Year.

So go ahead and make a resolution. I have mine and hopefully I’ll actually be able to keep them this year. But if I fail (and I typically do), I can rest assured, as all of you can too, that I am still good. I am still forgiven. I am still a new creation.

Thanks be to God that this is the case!

A blessed New Year to you all.  
Pastor Glover

		December Estimated	Year-to-Date Estimated
Offerings	\$	33,00	179,00
Preschool Income	\$	107,000	615,000
Other Income	\$	2,000	2,000
Total Operating Income	\$	142,000	796,000
Total Operating Expenses	\$	125,000	779,000
Net Operating Income	\$	17,000	17,000

## Noisy Offering

Noisy Offering is the third Sunday of every month. This month's Noisy Offering will be Sunday, January 21. Our monthly Noisy Offering collection is 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 [PastorG@abidingsavior.info](mailto:PastorG@abidingsavior.info) or call (352) 331-4409.

## 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 seek help from the church.

# Monthly Book Club

Book Club meets again on Tuesday, January 30, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. The book is *The Book of Lost Friends* by Lisa Wingate. Virginia Pagenkopf will be our hostess.

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](mailto:savygg@yahoo.com).

## Adult Bible Study

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

Sunday 9:45 a.m. adult Bible studies will resume on January 7.

**Pastor Glover's Class:** Pastor Glover's class will meet in the fellowship hall in Building 3. The study of the book of *Revelation* will continue. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Glover at: [pastorg@abidingsavior.info](mailto:pastorg@abidingsavior.info) or call the church office at: (352) 331-4409.

**Girl Friends Bible Study:** The ladies' Bible study meets in the building 3 Library between services. Contact Linda at [struck60@gmail.com](mailto:struck60@gmail.com) or Debbie Hill at [debbie@lombardihill.me](mailto:debbie@lombardihill.me) for more information. "*Delighting in God's Wisdom - A study on the book of Proverbs*" begins in January.

**Study the Bible One Book at a Time:** Study with Chuck Moss in the Building 1 classroom. This group is currently studying the book of *John*. Contact [Chuck\\_Moss@msn.com](mailto:Chuck_Moss@msn.com) for more information.

### Other Bible Studies:

**Young at Heart Ladies Bible Study** meets Tuesday, January 9 at 10:00 a.m. in the Building One Classroom. Karen Nobles will lead the study titled "Questions".

## Tots Sunday School

Tots Sunday School Music Class meets in the Youth room found in building 3 just beyond the kitchen. Class begins at 10:00 a.m. and lasts about 20 minutes. Parents are included for the fun.

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.

## Bible Breakfast

Bible Breakfast resumes on January 7. If you would like to contribute to our weekly fellowship breakfast, feel free to bring fruit, casserole, donuts, sandwiches, etc. Clean-up help is always appreciated too! Thank you for your continued support.

## Lutheran World Relief Sewing

Join us this year on the second and last Saturday of each month, meeting in the library of Building 3 at 10:00 a.m. LWR sewing will meet on January 9 and 30. 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 second and last Saturday of the month, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center Library.

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

## Youth

Youth meets every Sunday evening from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. If you or your child is interested in joining Youth activities, contact Danny Schmitt at [Youth@abidingsavior.info](mailto:Youth@abidingsavior.info) or by phone at (352) 514-2371

## 2023 Giving Statements

Giving statements for calendar year 2023 will be emailed in mid-January. If you would prefer a paper copy, let Susan Moss know.

# Outreach

2023 has been an exciting year for Outreach here at ASLC! In May, we packed over 52,000 meals at Meals of Hope to support Bread of the Mighty in their efforts to aid the food insecure members in our community. In August, we partnered together with the families of those that attended VBS and collected several wheelbarrows full of school supplies to support students at Stephen Foster Elementary school. In November, we partnered with the Preschool and collected over 1,800 lbs of non-perishable items in our annual Food Drive. The Star Tree supported students from Mebane Middle School this Christmas season. Volunteers have faithfully cooked and served monthly meals at St. Francis House. What a wonderful and good thing it has been to be able to support our brothers and sisters in need in 2023.

I look forward with great anticipation to 2024, and all of the ways we can continue to follow Jesus' command to love our neighbor. We will continue to serve our community by doing the projects we love to do each year, while embarking on some new endeavors (like our upcoming trip to Peru!) to seek out new ways to further God's kingdom on earth.

May God continue to bless us here at ASLC so we can continue to be His hands & feet.

Hark - Joshua Mazur

Dear Members of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church,

Merry Christmas! As we gather in the warmth and light of the Christmas season, I am reminded of the powerful words found in the beloved hymn, "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing." This timeless song, penned by Charles Wesley, is a cherished part of our Advent and Christmas traditions. There are two words/phrases that I hope will be guiding principles for us each time we gather for worship in the new year.

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" begins with an exclamation, "Hark!" This word might seem antiquated, but its meaning is profound. "Hark" calls us to attention, urging us to listen with intention and focus. It's a call to stop what we're doing, be still, and truly listen to the message being conveyed through the music. In our fast-paced lives, where distractions abound, this word reminds us to pause and let the music speak to our hearts.

I am continuously awed by the dedication and talent of our musicians in the music ministry. Week after week, they pour their hearts and souls into creating beautiful music that profoundly defines our worship. They practice diligently, often behind the scenes, to bring the gift of music to our congregation. When we present the music we present, we are not merely decorating our worship but joining in the work of the Pastor to proclaim the Word of God

*continued*

together with melody and harmony. Let us truly harken, to listen with open hearts and minds, and to appreciate the efforts of our dedicated musicians.

In the third verse of the hymn we sing the words “Joyful all ye nations rise!

Join the triumph of the skies! With angelic host proclaim...” This part of the hymn is a call to action. It invites us to participate actively and joyfully in the celebration of Christ. Not only His birth but also His life, His death, and His resurrection. When we join our voices in song, all of us, congregation and choir and praise team and Pastor alike, become an integral part of the proclamation of Christ. Singing together as a congregation is a powerful expression of our faith, unity, and praise.

Join in the triumph of the skies with enthusiasm and gusto. When we sing together, we are not just spectators; we are active participants. Don’t be afraid to let your voices rise! Wrong notes, right notes, loud voices, soft voices, high voices, low voices, all are welcome, needed, and commanded by God to Praise Him.

In conclusion, the words “Hark the Herald” remind us of the significance of our music ministry and congregational singing. Let us take a moment to truly harken to the music presented by our talented musicians, appreciating their hard work and dedication. And when we sing together, let us do so with joy, knowing that our voices are lifted by and at the command of Jesus. If we don’t do it, the rocks will.

I look forward to sharing this wonderful season of worship and music with all of you. May our hearts be filled with the joy and peace that the celebration of the birth of our Savior brings, and may our voices unite in glorious praise.

Yours in Christ,  
Joshua L. Mazur  
Director of Music Ministry

# Christmas 2023

December was busy and joyful at ASLC: midweek Advent services; Advent by Candlelight dinner attended by more than 100 women; and a Christmas dinner with fellowship, music and the Christmas story presentation by our youth enjoyed by 160 friends and family of ASLC. What a great beginning for a new Church Year!

## Christmas Eve 2023 Candlelight Services





Happy New Year from Abiding Savior Lutheran Preschool! May the year 2024 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 Pageants, "In a Little Stable." Through narration and song, 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, 2023, are eligible to enroll for the 2024-2025 school year. **Registration for current families, siblings, and church members will take place the week of January 16-19.** On January 22 we will open registration to former families and on January 29 open enrollment will be offered to the community, with priority given to families already on our waiting list. We will have a Google Enrollment Application form (electronic application) to be completed along with a DCF paper application.

National Lutheran Schools Week is the week of January 22-26. We recognize the network of 1,800 LCMS preschools, elementary schools, and high schools with the public opportunity to proclaim and celebrate God's work among us in Lutheran schools. National Lutheran Schools Week gives us an opportunity to proclaim these great blessings within the communities we serve. Our schools are amazing incubators for faithful witness of God's love for us through Christ by teachers and students alike. This year's theme is "Connected" and is inspired by John 15:5, *"Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."*

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

Celebrating His Promises,  
Brenda Arden  
Preschool Director

# January Calender

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 7:30p AA Meeting	6 9a AA Meeting
7 8&10:45a Worship 9:15a Bible Breakfast 9:45 Bible Stud	8 7p Church Council	9 10a Young at Heart 5p AA Meeting 6:30p Capella	10 2p Wind Ensemble 5p Praise Team 6:30p Chancel Choir 7p AA Meeting	11	12 7:30p AA Meeting	13 8:30a Undecorate the church 9a AA Meeting 10a LWR Sewing
14 8&10:45a Worship 9:15a Bible Breakfast 9:45 Bible Study Congr. mtg. 12:30	15	16 5p AA Meeting 6:30p Capella	17 2p Wind Ensemble 5p Praise Team 6:30p Chancel Choir 7p AA Meeting	18	19 5p Young Life 7:30p AA Meeting	20 9a AA Meeting
21 8&10:45a Worship Noisy offering 9:15a Bible Breakfast 9:45 Bible Study	22	23 5p AA Meeting 6p Granite Park HOA 6p Girl Scout 6:30p Capella	24 2p Wind Ensemble 5p Praise Team 6:30p Chancel Choir 7p AA Meeting	25	26 7:30p AA Meeting	27 9a AA Meeting 10a LWR Sewing
28 8&10:45a Worship 9:15a Bible Breakfast 9:45 Bible Study	29	30 5p AA Meeting 6:30p Capella	31 7p AA Meeting			

Readers	8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	Readings
1/7	Pete Schmitttt	Brenda Arden	Gen. 1:1-5 Rom. 6:1-11
1/14	Kris Pagenkopf	Ann Stone	1 Sam. 3:1-10 1 Cor. 6:12-20
1/21	Phyllis Leone	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Jonah 3:1-5, 10 1 Cor. 7:29-31
1/28	Marilyn Palumbo	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Deut. 18:15-20 1 Cor. 9:16-27

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 a.m. - Chuck Moss  
10:45 a.m. - Jimmy Fplateau

## Flowers

1/7 Fissenden  
1/14 *Open*  
1/21 *Open*  
1/28 Godddard

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.



# Birthdays and Anniversaries

## *Birthdays*

Daniel Maxwell 1/1  
Amy Solinsky 1/2  
Natalie Townsend 1/2  
Susan Moss 1/4  
Charlene Stroehlen 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  
Kay Schultz 1/31

## *Anniversaries*

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

# Ministry Team Leaders and Contact Information

## Officers

<b><i>President</i></b>	Phyllis Leone	Chunkymonkeysnana@gmail.com
<b><i>Vice President</i></b>	Sandra Morgan	Bemorganat@gmail.com
<b><i>Secretary</i></b>	Sarah Sain	Sarah.d.sain@gmail.com
<b><i>Treasurer</i></b>	Charlene Stroehlen	Charlene.stroehlen@wsp.com

## Elders

Derek Sain, <b><i>Chair</i></b>	Sain.derek@gmail.com
Michael Arden	Mikearden1973@gmail.com
Mike Brannon	Mbrannon01@yahoo.com
Jimmy Flateau	Jmfjr@hughes.net
Hal Lerch	Haroldlerch@gmail.com
Chuck Moss	Chuck_moss@msn.com

## Ministry Teams

<b><i>Christian Education</i></b>	Elizabeth Torrence	Eliztorren@gmail.com
<b><i>Christian Fellowship</i></b>	Danny Schmitt	Youth@abidingsavior.info
<b><i>Outreach &amp; Evangelism</i></b>	Hannah Mazur	Hannahjmazur@gmail.com
<b><i>Trustees</i></b>	John Schmitt	Schmittjohna@aol.com

## Administrative Staff

<b><i>Pastor</i></b>	Graham B. Glover	PastorG@abidingsavior.info
<b><i>Director, Music Ministries</i></b>	Joshua L. Mazur,	Jmazur@abidingsavior.info
<b><i>Preschool Director</i></b>	Brenda Arden	Barden@abidingsavior.info
<b><i>Church Admin.</i></b>	Susan Moss	Smoss@abidingsavior.info
<b><i>Preschool Admin. Asst.</i></b>	Jessica Schmitt	Jessica@abidingsavior.info
<b><i>Communications Coord.</i></b>	Anna Hyland	Anna@abidingsavior.info
<b><i>AV Tech</i></b>	Andrew Hodgson	Andrew@abidingsavior.info
<b><i>Financial Assistant</i></b>	Myra Heitman	Myra@abidingsavior.info

