

ABIDING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

CONNECTING JESUS TO PEOPLES' HEARTS

Church Telephone: 352 - 331 - 4409

Preschool Telephone: 352 - 331 - 7770

Online at www.AbidingSavior.info

NEWSLETTER FOR APRIL 2021

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MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

	<u>Officers</u>	
President	Phyllis Leone	chunkymonkeysnana@gmail.com
Vice President	Mike Brannon	Mbrannon01@yahoo.com
Secretary	Natalie Petruska	4nataliejean@gmail.com
Treasurer	Ann Stone	anna@flstones.com
	<u>Elders</u>	
	Dave Buth	Davidbuth129@yahoo.com
	Chuck Moss	chuck_moss@msn.com
	Todd Williams	todd@forrentgainesville.com
	Jimmy Flateau	jmfjr@hughes.net
	Hal Lerch	haroldlerch@gmail.com
	Fred Townsend	f.send@outlook.com
	Derek Sain	sain.derek@gmail.com
	<u>Ministry Teams</u>	
Christian Education	Sarah Suter	ssticks1@gmail.com
<i>Sunday School</i>	Sarah Suter/Derek Sain	ssticks1@gmail.com/sain.derek@gmail.com
<i>Preschool</i>	Sarah Suter	ssticks1@gmail.com
Christian Fellowship	Danny Schmitt	youth@abidingsavior.info
<i>Family Life</i>	Danny Schmitt	youth@abidingsavior.info
<i>Women's Ministry</i>	Linda Struckmeyer	Struck60@gmail.com
<i>Men's Ministry</i>		
<i>Youth</i>	Danny & Jessica Schmitt	youth@abidingsavior.info
Outreach & Evangelism	Hannah Mazur	hannahjmazur@gmail.com
Trustee	John Schmitt	schmittjohna@aol.com
Elders	Derek Sain	Sain.derek@gmail.com
	<u>Administrative Staff</u>	
Pastor		
Director, Music & Digital Ministries	Joshua L. Mazur, M.M.	jmazur@abidingsavior.info
Church Admin.	Susan Moss	smoss@abidingsavior.info
Preschool Director	Brenda Arden	barden@abidingsavior.info
Preschool Admin. Asst.	Jessica Schmitt	jessica@abidingsavior.info

A MESSAGE FROM LINDA STRUCKMEYER

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

The past several months Pastor Alan has picked the topic and dictated his monthly letters to me and with editing help from Susan and Joshua those letters provided his thoughts and messages to you. This month, I would like to thank each one of you for your heartfelt prayers over the last 10 months. I also thank the Sain men, Ed, Kris, Beth, Mike, Carol & Ron, Lenny & Kjersten all for their physical assistance. I could not have done this past 6 weeks without your help. I thank each of you who provided eggs, meals or gift cards to keep us eating healthy. To Karen and Debbie, I thank you for your leadership of the Girlfriend's Sunday school class.

All of your cards of encouragement helped and still help me get through each day. The service and meal afterwards were a true celebration of Alan's life; thanks to the many of you who made that possible with such short notice. I pray that we all continue to feel God's presence as we grieve our loss.

Your sister in Christ,
Linda

THOUGHTS FROM AUSTIN STRUCKMEYER

Some people say that when you die of cancer, you have "lost the battle". In Christ, that could not be further from the truth. Those who have faith in their Lord and Savior will never lose the eternal battle, although the result of the earthly one may not be positive. In Jesus we have life in him forever. With faith in Christ there will be no suffering nor sorrow nor tears. Rejoicing in Heaven forever.

With that knowledge I am assured that my father won his battle through his faith in Christ. Although his earthly battle may not have ended how any of us expected, I have peace knowing that he fought his battle with faith and is now receiving his reward. His suffering has ended and he is enjoying the infinite blessings of Heaven.

His final words he wanted his congregation to hear were this: “This life isn’t all there is.” And what a beautiful and true statement that is. We know that we have life eternal through Christ and we know that we will see him again. This is not goodbye, simply a “See you Later”.

“For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:38-39)

Austin Struckmeyer

NEW MEMBER CLASS FORMING

This class, which lasts 6-7 weeks, is especially designed for those who would like to know more about what Lutheran Christians believe and/or are interested in joining Abiding Savior. It is also a great “refresher” course for those who underwent Lutheran instruction during confirmation years ago. Please contact the church office (331-4409 or email office@abidingsavior.info) if you would like to participate. Joshua will be contacting you after Easter to set a date & time to begin. Please let him know if you would like to participate by April 5th.

PORTALS OF PRAYER

April-June Portals of Prayer are available on the welcome table in the narthex. Feel free to pick them up at the church anytime! The church office is open daily Monday through Thursday from 8:00am to 3:00pm and from 8:00am to noon on Friday.

PRESCHOOL NEWS - BRENDA ARDEN, DIRECTOR

Hip, Hip, Hooray! The 23rd Annual Pie Supper online silent auction reached and surpassed our fundraising goal of \$2,000. We raised \$2,135 this year which will go towards playground improvements and classroom curriculum needs. Thank you for your generosity and support for Abiding Savior Lutheran Preschool. You are an amazing blessing!

Our themes during the month of April are Weather, Gardens, Bugs/Life Cycles, and Farm. April Bible stories include Easter Morning, Jesus Cooks Breakfast for the Disciples, The Ascension/Great Commission, and Pentecost.

We have 166 children enrolled for the 2021-2022 school year. We will have ongoing registration until we reach capacity. Registration packets are available in the preschool office or may be downloaded from our website. Please share the news about our awesome preschool! We are thankful and blessed.

Summer Camp registration opened at the beginning of March. We have 101 children enrolled for our Summer Camp, "The Happiest Place in Gainesville". You can find the registration form online at our Abiding Savior website or pick one up in the preschool office. The program is offered in weekly sessions, June 7- July 30. We will be closed Monday, July 5 in observance of Independence Day. Please call the preschool office at 352-331-7770 if you have any questions.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for Abiding Savior Lutheran Preschool students, staff, and families. We are blessed to serve and connect Jesus to people's hearts.

In His Hands,
Brenda Arden
Preschool Director

INTENTIONAL INTERIM PASTOR CALL UPDATE - PHYLLIS LEONE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On Sunday, March 28th, the congregation voted unanimously to extend a call to Rev. John (Jack) Mackowiak to serve as Abiding Savior's Intentional Interim Pastor until and a call for a permanent pastor can be successfully extended. Pastor Jack is prayerfully considering the call at this time and we should have his answer early in April.

Your humble servant,
Phyllis Leone, President

ALTAR CARE

Altar Care for April:

April Goddard (chair), Betty Smith, Nancy Strattan

Altar Care for May:

Cindy Brannon (chair), Jan Banks, Karen Herder, Samantha Nuckolls

DIRECTORY UPDATE WITH PICTURES

The church office is working hard to update contact information for all of our members and friends. Please look for your information on the welcome table and provide corrections or updates directly on the form. Additionally, since we hope to have an Interim Pastor soon and would like to help him get to know us, we would like to add informal pictures of as many people as possible. If you have a profile picture you would like to include, send it to office@abidingsavior.info sometime in April. If you do not have a picture, see Joshua or Susan after services and they can take a quick picture of you and your family members to include in this informal directory update.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL - SARAH SUTER

Sunday School Kits related to the Gospel each week will be available for the children on the welcome table. If you would like one of these kits you can RSVP to office@abidingsavior.info with your family name, service time and how many you need. We will only make as many as have RSVPs.

ST. FRANCIS HOUSE MINISTRY - PHYLLIS LEONE



ABIDING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
ST. FRANCIS HOUSE MINISTRY

On Thursday, March 25, Abiding Savior provided a delicious meal of baked ham, cheesy potatoes, green beans, salad, fruit and dessert (cookies and brownies) to the residents of St. Francis House. A big thank you to all who volunteered.

We have a head start for the April 22nd meal. Sarah Sain will be preparing pulled pork. Now all we need are the sides. Suggested items are: cole slaw, veggie (corn goes good with pulled pork), hamburger buns, fruit, and

dessert. Please consider signing up for one of these items. Just go to the Abiding Savior web site at www.abidingsavior.info and select “ministries”, the “St. Francis House” or call/text me at (352) 316-3586.

The dates for the remainder of 2021 (4th Thursday of the month) are:

	April 22	May 27
June 24	July 22	August 26
September 23	October 28	

This is a very difficult time for everyone, but especially for the homeless. Please take this opportunity to do something to provide them with not only a good, wholesome meal, but to let them know that we care.

Blessings,
Phyllis Leone
SFH Ministry Coordinator

SEWING FOR MISSIONS

Sewing for Missions is the 2nd and last Saturday of the month. We will spread out into the fellowship hall. Gloves will be provided. Please wear your masks. Contact Linda at struck60@gmail.com for more information.

TRUSTEE REPORT - JOHN SCHMITT

March was a busy month for the trustee team. The building 3 playground bridge was rebuilt, playgrounds were mulched with youth help, building 2 was re-piped and the roofs of building 1 & 2 were washed. Lighting in the sanctuary was mostly repaired; one more fixture needs to be replaced.

For April, the drinking fountains in building 2 will be removed and the plaster and paint repaired where the plumbers worked.

FELLOWSHIP REPORT - DANNY SCHMITT

Easter Breakfast to go - Drive up to the FLC covered drive and pick up a take-home Easter breakfast. Tickets are \$5 each. Pre order your by email to youth@abidingsavior.info or by calling the church office. Funds raised will help our youth attend the 2022 National Youth Gathering.

Outdoor only, fellowship opportunity after early service each Sunday. Coffee and snacks are provided. Other events remain on pause to guard the health and safety of all. However, we are encouraged that Abiding Savior members continue attending online worship and checking in on the well-being of each other via phone and email.

Young Adults (20s & 30s post high school) - If you are interested in participating with a group for fellowship and Bible study, contact Danny at dangator1@gmail.com

Young Married Couples (20s, 30s, 40s) - Let Danny or the church office know if you are interested in participating in a newly forming group.

Youth - Every other Sunday will be in-person at church while the opposite Sundays will be via ZOOM. Contact Danny at Youth@abidingsavior.info for more information.

National Youth Gathering 2022 interest meeting Watch for an email regarding this planned Zoom meeting.

ELDERS' REPORT - DEREK SAIN

During the months of April & May, Pastor Graham Glover and Pastor Ron Biel will continue assisting Abiding Savior by leading our weekly worship services. We are so very thankful for their willingness to serve.

Confirmation classes will continue through Spring 2021. Class meets in the FLC between services and will be led by the guest pastor for that week. There will not be a confirmation class on Easter Sunday.

Holy Week Schedule of Services:
Maundy Thursday - April 1 at 7:00pm
Good Friday - 7:00pm
Easter Vigil - April 3rd at 7:00pm
Easter Morning - April 4th at 8:00am & 10:45am

April Elders of the Month are Derek Sain and Fred Townsend.

MONTHLY BOOK CLUB

The next book club meeting will be a Zoom meeting on April 27th at 7:00pm. The book will be "*The Secret Wife*" by Paul Gill.

Get ready for May book club by reading "*Camino Winds: A Novel*" by John Grisham. The May Zoom book club meeting will be held on May 25th.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLY CLOSET

Medical equipment and supplies are available for your use (or a friends). Items included are toilet rails, toilet raised set with rails, shower chair, tub transfer bench, cane, depends, pill box, sock aid, and more. Items are in the bathroom in the youth room. Just pick up what you need. We are NOT accepting donations at this time unless you want to volunteer to manage the "closet". If you need more information contact physical therapists Mike and Rhoda Chiarelli or occupational therapist Linda Struckmeyer.

ADULT BIBLE CLASSES

- **Girl Friends' Bible Study** meets at 9:30am via zoom for now. Email Linda Struckmeyer at struck60@gmail.com if you would like to receive a link to this class.
- **Chuck Moss** leads a zoom Bible Study on the book of Second Samuel at 9:45am each Sunday. Email chuck_moss@msn.com if you would like to have a link to this class.
- **Joshua Mazur** hosts an Adult Bible Study on Galatians which meets via zoom at 7:00 pm on Sunday. For a link to the zoom class, please email JMazur@abidingsavior.info

OLD CONFIRMAND BANNERS

The altar team has been cleaning the sacristy and they discovered quite a few banners constructed as confirmation projects over the years. The banners can be found in the conference room behind the choir room. Feel free to retrieve any banner made by you or your child for a keepsake.

ITEMS AVAILABLE in Choir Room

Misc. items found around the church as well as books, devotionals and other items donated by the Struckmeyers from Pastor's office are available on the countertop in the choir room. Feel free to take anything you find interesting or useful.

FINANCE REPORT

	<u>March Est.</u>	<u>Year to date</u>	
Offerings	19,932	66,770	
Preschool Income	74,189	234,796	
Other Income		1,009	
Total Income	94,121	302,575	
Total Expense	<u>100,821</u>	<u>255,891</u>	
Net Income	-6,700	46,684	

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

Hal Lerch 4/1	Sage Cera 4/12
Riley Owens 4/1	Aaron Struckmeyer 4/12
Michelle Buth 4/2	Dina Dolz 4/14
Savannah Fissenden 4/3	Daniel Lerch 4/15
Levi Hooper 4/4	Michelle Slaughter 4/16

Bryton Fissenden 4/6
Olivia Chiarelli 4/7
Heather Wilson 4/9

Hannah Mazur 4/22
Leland Spooner 4/24
Sharilyn Hodgson 4/27

Anniversaries

Kevin & Luann Hebert 4/16
Fred & Petra Townsend 4/22
Daryl & Bette Pring 4/25
Todd & Jamie Williams 4/28

If your birthday or anniversary is not included in the newsletter, please let the church office know so we can update the lists.

PRAYER LIST

Please call the church 331-4409 or Muriel Young 332-1386 to update anyone you may have on the prayer list.

Shut-Ins: Fran Jacobs, Bill Evans

Sympathy: Family of Pastor Alan (Our friend and Shepherd)

Members & Family

1. June Amdio (Asst. living) Hannah's grandmother
2. **Leonard Atwater** (open heart surgery) Annetta Coleman's brother
3. John Bath (shot in chest) Susan Mandeville's cousin
4. **Michelle Buth** - return of ovarian cancer
5. Lynn Cera (Parkinson's home care)
6. **Greg Dollmont** - healing from quadruple bypass (Charlene Stroehlen brother-in-law)
7. Bill Evans (health issues)
8. **Stephen Ferguson** (regain faith) by Jan Hamilton
9. Carla Flateau (nerve impingement on spine)
10. **Randy Gill** (stroke 8/7 (surgery Oct. 20)
11. Linda Goddard (lung cancer - radiation)

12. **Andy Hamilton** (Parkinson's - cancerous tumors on bladder)
13. Jan Hamilton (hope doctor can bring sight back in one eye/ also heart issues)
14. **Leon Hekking** (newborn ALD) Nobles grandson
15. Betty Holland (health issues)
16. **Bob Knittel** (probable cancer) Jeff's dad
17. Phyllis Knuth (John's aunt) esophageal cancer
18. **Evan Leone** (allergies/ADHD)
19. Tim Melvin (COPD & CHF heartattack)Georganne's brother
20. **Greg Miller-House** (cancer)
21. Janet Palfey (mastectomy and lymph nodes) Linda's cousin
22. **Michael Panczysyn** (double by-pass) Nobles son-in-law
23. Carol Prins (back fractures)
24. **Todd Robel** (aggressive prostate cancer; fell broke leg and elbow) by Karen Noble
25. Echarad Schadow (cancer treatments)
26. **Jennifer Scott** (cancer - double mastectomy) Mike and Cindy's niece
27. Pamela Spalin (stage 4 brain cancer) S.Mandeville's cousin
28. **Bill Stone** (diabetes/health - prostate radiation)
29. Carol Stroehlen (cancer is back)) infusions - Charlene's mom
30. **Kendall Tormey** (pregnancy complications) Megan Knittel's sister
31. Bob Wilber ((Shands Vista) Carla's stepdad worsening dementia
32. **Doris Wilber** (complications from Covid) Carla's mother
33. Debbie Zoerler (cancer -chemo) by Robert Pagano
34. **Steve Jesudason** (reovering/ heart blockage and kidney failure)

General Petitions

- Pray for Covid 19 victims.
- Pray for young people in college.
- Pray for Families and victims fleeing war and poverty.
- Pray for those dealing with disasters: fires, floods & hurricanes. May our Lord comfort them and give them courage.
- Pray for our country- our president and our elected officials

Military

Especially those deployed in combat zones

Eric Tappy - Iraq
Casey Dougherty (MP) by Annetta
Rachel Dougherty by Annetta
Eric Eibe
CSM Jack Furey (ret) Coleen Toppin's Dad - broke hip
Matthew Gustafson
Jason Joseph (Iraq) by Phyllis Leone
Sam Kleinhauser (sniper)
Patrick Nobles (Air Force - Middle East)
Matt Young - Air Force Reserve home from Turkey
Nathan Underwood
Josh Wervy USMC (Nobles grandson) Japan
James A. Zoerler - 3rd deployment by Robt. Pagano

Friends of ASLC

Lauren Brasington (auto immune pain)
Vivian Bueker (major heart issues) by Pastor Alan
Jack Buth (stroke) by Mandeville
Aaron Caraway (cancer) hospice by Rhoads
Rhet Cooper (3yr. old - cancer) by Jessica Schmitt.
Aundrea Corbet (health issues)
Steve Devapradad (hosp. critical) by Sara and Gilbert Daniels
Theresa Ferguson (cancer hospice) by Carla
Pat Gaylord (cancer - hospice care) by the Rhoads
Charlie Hill (3 yr. old. Needs liver trans.) by Amy Solinsky
June Hood (throat cancer) by Inz
Cathy Jennings (brain tumor not responding)
Sean Law (severe brain injury) by Mike Brannon
Lavonne Lumsden (hospice care) by April
Mary Lynch (open heart surgery) by Jan Hamilton
John Martin (fell-broke back/crushed ribs, etc) by J. Flateau
Ashley Martinez-Malo (pregnant/ breast cancer) by Schmitts
Bryan McCarthy (colon cancer-kidney failure) by Jan and Andy Hamilton
Frank Neece (Feb. brain surgery) by wife Trish
Richard Olson (cancer treatments) by the Rhoads

Capt Morbeck Summer (hosp. Covid and pneumonia - very serious) by JoAnn Petersen

Wendy Thomas (cancer) by Flateaus

Kevin Tredinick (quadriplegic (seriously ill))

Jimbo Walsh (bladder cancer) by Flateaus

Diane Ward (full of cancer - weeks to live)

Eric Werner (failing health) by Annetta Coben

Joanne Wofford (stage 4 cancer)

May Our Lord continue to watch over and bless Abiding Savior Lutheran Church, as we comfort Pastor Alan's family and each other. Sustain us all and bring us back together stronger than ever.