

ABIDING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

CONNECTING JESUS TO PEOPLES' HEARTS

Church Telephone: 352 - 331 - 4409

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Online at www.AbidingSavior.info

NEWSLETTER FOR JUNE 2021

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MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

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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
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	<u>Ministry Teams</u>	
Christian Education	Sarah Suter	ssticks1@gmail.com
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<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>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>	
Interim Pastor	Pastor Jack Mackowiak	PastorJack@abidingsavior.info
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

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JACK - WHY AN INTERIM?

What a pleasure to be here! I am excited to join you in ministry reaching out to the Gainesville area! My wife Paula and I felt blessed by the service where I was installed as your Intentional Interim Pastor. She will join me here occasionally since we live close enough to periodically commute. I know a little about you, and you know a little about me, and I look forward to adding to that knowledge base as we work together.

Please pray for me and our work together! Many of you may be unfamiliar with Intentional Interim Ministry and wonder why Abiding Savior needs an Intentional Interim Pastor. An interim period most often offers an opportunity to look more closely at congregational ministry, to re-think and re-evaluate. The Intentional Interim Pastor comes into the picture to help with that process - to fill the void temporarily, but to also provide some guidance and direction, to ask questions (sometimes difficult ones), and to help evaluate the future. It would be easy to simply call another Pastor and move forward quickly. In my experience of over a dozen interim situations, the easy way is not always the best way.

As Interim Pastors, our first task is typically anxiety reduction. Without a Pastor in place many people worry about when we will get a new Pastor, will day-to-day decisions be made properly, will people trickle away because things are unsettled, etc. Here at Abiding Savior, the extended illness and recent death of Pastor Struckmeyer brought out many emotions. The death of a Pastor is much like a death in the family, in this case the family of God. I am sure that the staff and leaders of Abiding Savior have been doing a great job these past months, but we all should be able to expect to relax a bit.

Another task is assessment. I have served congregations the size of Abiding Savior or larger for most of my 44 years as a Pastor. I will be looking at what works well, what doesn't work at all, where the sticky places are, and together we should be able to help find room for improvement. I am not planning to start major new initiatives - that task belongs to your next settled Pastor. But we will be able to put some things onto a smoother track. I will be listening to you tell me about your history, not to dwell on your past, but because you're the ones God has called long-term into His mission in Gainesville.

I am not here because Abiding Savior is a big mess. I am not here because huge issues need to be addressed (at least as far as I know). My presence at Abiding Savior is all about your next Pastor. It is my job to help move you forward toward discovering who he is and being ready to get to work with him. I am not your savior, nor is your next Pastor - you already have a Savior! But God has already decided who that next Pastor will be (and it is not me, I am not eligible nor interested in that call), so we are aiming for that time when you'll meet and begin to work with him. While some of you will get attached to me and some will not (I've discovered that's unavoidable), and while I promise to love and serve you while at Abiding Savior, this is temporary. My earthly home is in Clearwater. I am looking forward to being part of the team at Abiding Savior that will lead you into the next great era, a time when people are excited to participate in God's mission to the Gainesville area and beyond. My guess is that when I leave, we'll all say "that was fun," God's work in Gainesville will have moved forward, and you'll have a great settled Pastor to love for the future.

PASTOR ALAN'S INURNMENT

Pastor Alan's inurnment will be June 19th at 11:00am in Abiding Savior's columbarium. A brief service will be held on the columbarium patio. The columbarium is located behind the sanctuary and is accessible by following the sidewalk to the right as you are facing the sanctuary doors. All are welcome to attend. Be aware that there is no seating and overflow attendees will need to stand in the grass behind the patio.

CHURCH STAFF POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Communications Coordinator -Responsible for coordinating resources and appropriate methods to design and implement the promotion and publicizing of the ministries of Abiding Savior. Duties will include, preparing materials and scheduling volunteers for services, updating website, maintaining email database, coordinating school and church calendars, maintaining membership and attendance records, monthly newsletter production, as well as general office reception and support. Required skills include proficiency with Microsoft

Office products, internet resources, and website building tools. Graphic Design skills are also desired to produce brochures, bulletins, newsletter and online presentation. The position will be based in the church office, but also support preschool communication needs. This is a 25 -30 hour a week position with compensation commensurate with skills and experience. Health insurance benefits are also available. Contact Susan in the church office for more information.

LIFESOUTH BLOOD CENTER'S BLOODMOBILE AT ASLC

LifeSouth Blood Center's Bloodmobile will be in Abiding Savior's parking lot on Sunday, June 6th from 9:00am to 1:00pm.

MID-YEAR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING JULY 18

Our mid-year congregational meeting will to be held on July 18th between services in the FLC for purposes of reviewing the mid-year financial report and electing Church Council members for 2 yr. terms of service. We are seeking nominations for the following offices:

**Vice President
Treasurer
Trustee
Outreach & Evangelism
Education (1 yr. term)**

If you are interested in serving, or would like to nominate someone, contact Danny Schmitt, chair of the nominating committee, at dangator1@gmail.com or call him at 352-514-2371.

VBS JULY 25TH - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

This year, **VBS will happen all in one afternoon**, July 25th from 3:00pm to 6:00pm followed by a fabulous feast for all. Children will “Play on God’s Team” at the ASLC Bible Olympics. We have an Olympic themed opening ceremony, competing teams and events, and a closing ceremony followed by a fabulous celebratory feast. Adult volunteers are needed to make this summertime event successful. Support roles include:

- Story tellers (3 needed)
- Adult team leaders (10 needed)
- Kitchen help (Kathy Schmitt will organize)
- Registration help (2 needed)
- Decorations (1 leader and several helpers)
- Set-up & clean-up help

Contact the church office to volunteer.

Register your child www.abidingsavior.info/VBS starting in early June.

PORTALS OF PRAYER

July - September 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

June 7-July 30 we will be having Summer Camp at Abiding Savior Lutheran Preschool. Our theme is “The Happiest Place in Gainesville” from Psalm 66:1, “Shout for joy to God, all the earth.” We will explore destinations and experience Disney creations as we use STEAM activities (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) to explore the theme and Bible story each week. We look forward to welcoming new friends and old friends as we share the love of Jesus daily during Summer Camp.

Our Summer Camp themes during the month of June are The Jungle (The Jungle Book), Under the Sea (The Little Mermaid), Circus (Dumbo), and Nutrition/Cooking (Ratatouille). June Bible stories include God Made the World, Jonah and the Big Fish, Daniel and the Lion's Den, and Food for Elijah and the Widow. We look forward to making some changes to our COVID procedures and protocols during summer camp which will include worshipping in the sanctuary for chapel each week while socially distancing our classes.

We have 149 children enrolled for Summer Camp and 177 children enrolled for the 2021-2022 school year. The word on the street is this is record enrollment! Thank you, Lord, for blessing our preschool. We will have ongoing registration until we reach capacity. Please share the news about our outstanding preschool!

We had our last day of preschool for 2020-2021 school year on Friday, May 28. We are thankful for the opportunity to learn, grow, and share God's love with the children and families this school year. Congratulations to our Abiding Savior Lutheran Preschool graduates. May the Lord bless them and keep them as they go to Kindergarten next school year.

In His Hands,
Brenda Arden
Preschool Director

ALTAR CARE

Altar Care for June:

Muriel Young (chair), JoAnn Petersen, Georganne Eibe, Patti Gill

Altar Care for July:

Phyllis Leone (chair), Annetta Coleman, Candi Steinway, Kay Hurst

DIRECTORY UPDATE WITH PICTURES

The church office is working hard to update contact information for all our members and friends. Please look for your information on the welcome table and provide corrections or updates directly on the form. Additionally, we would like to add pictures to the directory to help Pastor Jack put names and faces together. If you have a profile picture you would like to include, send it to office@abidingsavior.info. 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

During the summer, there will be no Sunday School bags prepared. There will be children's activity sheets available on the welcome table each week.

If you would consider serving as the Christian Education team leader for 2021-2022, please contact Sarah or the church office.

ST. FRANCIS HOUSE MINISTRY - PHYLLIS LEONE



ABIDING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
ST. FRANCIS HOUSE MINISTRY

Your Abiding Savior St. Francis House Ministry volunteers prepared a wonderful dinner of baked spaghetti and all the trimmings on May 27. Many thanks to Linda Gouthro, Charlene Stroehlen, Barb Moore, Joanne Peterson, and Becky Hernandez for their support.

Now we need to start work on our June meal. Judy Bates has graciously volunteered to provide pizza and salad from “I ♥ NY Pizza”. All we need now is a **vegetable, fresh fruit salad, and dessert**. Please contact me via email at ChunkyMonkeysNana@gmail.com or call/text me at (352) 316-3586.

Blessings, Phyllis Leone

SEWING FOR MISSIONS

Sewing for Missions is the 2nd and last Saturday of the month at 10:00am in the library of the FLC. Masks are now optional. Quilts created over the last year for distribution to people in need by Lutheran World Relief will be dedicated during services on June 13th.

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

TRUSTEE REPORT - JOHN SCHMITT

May was a busy month of cleaning and repairs.

- The nursery has been cleaned and painted and will be prepped to serve as a children’s Sunday School room during the Sunday School hour and a cry room/nursery during services. A television with live feed from the sanctuary has been added and the intercom repaired to allow services to be heard.
- Plans are in process to mount the bell purchased in Pastor Alan’s memory. It should be completed in early June and installed in the portico.
- New lights for the fellowship hall are being considered.
- We met with an engineer and received bids from foundation specialists for repairing the floor of the octagon room. Repair work should commence in late June or early July.
- After the floor of the Octagon room is leveled, plans are underway to possibly freshen up the paint and install new vinyl plank flooring.
- Plans are in the works to spread more mulch and clean the columbarium patio.

FELLOWSHIP REPORT - DANNY SCHMITT

Youth Plans for Summer include:

- June 27 -Escape Room - Time and Location TBD
- June 28 -Service Event for Bread of the Mighty Food Bank (10am to 1pm)
 - Meet at Bread of the Mighty at 10:00am. They will give us a quick tour and provide a service project based on their needs of the day.
 - Dress is casual - t-shirt, jeans/professional length shorts, tennis shoes. NO flipflops, crocs, or tank tops.
 - Lunch together after the service project is complete.

Please email Youth@abidingsavior.info if you plan to attend all or some of these events so we know how to plan.

Fellowship - Bible Breakfast has resumed. Join us in the fellowship hall of the FLC each Sunday after early service, around 9:15am. We enjoy coffee, good food, and fellowship before Bible classes begin. During the summer, donations of fresh fruit and bakery items are appreciated. Full hot breakfasts will resume in the fall.

ELDERS' REPORT - DEREK SAIN

Use of Masks. Based on what we know about COVID-19 and the recent CDC guidelines, fully vaccinated people can resume activities they did prior to the pandemic. You should still follow federal, state and local rules and regulations regarding mask use. You should still watch out for symptoms of COVID-19, especially if you have been around someone who is sick. People who have any health conditions or are taking medications that weaken the immune system should still take the necessary precautions, even if vaccinated. We are constantly learning about this virus and its effects. Here at Abiding Savior we still recommend mask use at worship, but we will leave that decision to each

individual. We simply ask that everyone respect one another and the choices they make.

Holy Communion. We are taking steps to return to the communion rail for our distribution of the Sacrament. In June and July, we will offer both the table in front, as we have been doing, and allow those who wish to go to the communion rail. There will be spaces marked off so we can be properly distanced. You will make your choice as you come forward using the center aisle and will be directed to the appropriate area. We hope to gradually return to a pre-pandemic distribution.

June Elders of the Month: Chuck Moss & Jimmy Flateau

MONTHLY BOOK CLUB

The next book club meeting will be a Zoom meeting on June 29th at 7:00pm. The book will be *“Educated: A Memoir”* by Tara Westover

The July book will be *“The Nickel Boys”* by Colson Whitehead and will be held on June 29th.

Contact Georganne Eibe at savygg@yahoo.com to be added to the book email list.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLY CLOSET

Medical equipment and supplies are available for your use (or a friend’s). 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 in the library of the FLC at 9:30am and via Zoom for those wishing to participate from home. 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 in the Worship Center classroom behind the choir room. Email chuck_moss@msn.com if you would like to have a link to this class via Zoom.
- **Joshua Mazur** hosts an Adult Bible Study which meets in the choir room at 9:45am each Sunday. Currently studying the book of Romans.
- **New Member Class** - Meeting with Pastor Jack in the Octagon room at 2pm on Sunday afternoons. If you are not participating in this class, and are interested in membership, there will be another class offered in the fall.

FINANCE REPORT- May Estimates

	<u>May Est.</u>	<u>Year to Date Est.</u>
Church income	19,000	108,000
Preschool income	78,000	385,000
Other income	<u>0</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Total income	97,000	495,000
Total expenses	<u>86,000</u>	<u>421,000</u>
Net income	11,000	74,000

Average Weekly Offerings 2021: \$4,900

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

Daryl Pring 6/6
Betty Smith 6/6
James Flateau 6/7
June Cera 6/10
Colleen Toppins 6/10
Maryann Thalmann 6/11
Vicki Schubring 6/12
Susan Mandeville 6/19
Joshua Hebert 6/22
Stephanie Ihnow 6/22
Rod Prins 6/22
Reed Cera 6/23
Sandra Morgan 6/23
Alan Rhoads 6/23
Sue Brewer 6/24
Robert Pagano 6/25
Morgan Hebert 6/26
Luann Hebert 6/28
John Schmitt 6/29

Anniversaries

John & Denise Underwood 6/2
Ashley & Linda Gouthro 6/8
Joshua & Hannah Mazur 6/13
Phyllis & James Leone 6/17
Eckard & Jean Schadow 6/21
Lenny & Kjerstin Terry 6/22
Gabe & Amie Spooner 6/26
Tony & Wanda Yachnis 6/29
Gary & Betty Smith 6/30

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

Shut-Ins: Fran Jacobs, Bill Evans, Betty Hollanad

Sympathy: Russell Tarrainen family (Beth Tappy's dad); Guy Dennis family (JD died); Bob Wilber family (Carla's stepfather)

Praises: Janet Palfey (cancer free)

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 quad. By pass) Charlene Stroehlen's bro-in-law
7. Bill Evans (Haven Hospice)
8. **Marge Evans** (health issues)
9. Stephen Ferguson (regain faith) by Jan Hamilton
10. **Randy Gill** (mini strokes- home)
11. Linda Goddard (lung cancer - radiation)
12. **Andy Hamilton** (Parkinson's - cancerous tumors on bladder- Surgery 5/12th and another procedure scheduled for July)
13. Jan Hamilton (hope doctor can bring sight back in one eye/ also heart issues)
14. **Leon Hekking** (1 yr. old 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. Michael Panczysyn (double by-pass) Nobles son-in-law
22. **Todd Robel** (aggressive prostate cancer) by Karen Noble
23. Echard Schadow (cancer treatments)
24. **Jennifer Scott** (cancer - double mastectomy) Mike and Cindy's niece

25. Pamela Spalin (stage 4 brain cancer) S.Mandeville's cousin
26. Ann Stone (heat issues)
27. Bill Stone (diabetes- prostate radiation) NFRH heart issues
28. Carol Stroehlen (cancer is back)) infusions - Charlene's mom
29. Doris Wilber (a-fib) Carla's mother Covid complications
30. Debbie Zoerler (cancer -chemo) by Robert Pagano

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
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 Braisington (auto immune pain)
Vivian Bueker (major heart issues) by Pastor Alan
Jack Buth (stroke) by Mandeville
Caitlin (mental health issues)
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
Hans Farber (Parkinson's) **Carol Farber** (caregiver) by Kris Pagenkopf
Matthew Fail (hit by a truck) by JoAnn Petersen
Theresa Fergerson (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 (Covid and pneumonia -rehab) 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.

Please call Muriel Young 332-1386 to update anyone you may have on the prayer list. Names will be kept on the Prayer list for **one month** unless renewed.