

VIEW from the lake

The newsletter of ABIDING PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH - Budd Lake, N.J.

January, 2012

February Newsletter Deadline
January 27, 2011

Worship: 10:00 am
Sunday School: 11:00 am

OUR MISSION & PURPOSE

Abiding Peace Lutheran Church makes Christ known by welcoming everyone to a safe place to grow in faith and community to serve the Lord as people created by God, saved by Christ and nurtured by the Holy Spirit.

Phone: 973-691-9393
Website: www.abidingpeacechurch.org



What's in a name?

A rose by any other name would smell as sweet...

Famous words from Shakespeare. So what, truly, is in a name? Does it really matter what we call something? Not according to Shakespeare – at least where Montagues and Capulets are concerned.

Recent research has shown, however, that language – and names – have power. But that's not news to us people of faith. We've long believed that names have power. For instance, the Second Commandment: *You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God.* Luther says in his explanation that we are not to wrongfully make use of the name of God, "but instead use that very name in every time of need to call on, pray to, praise, and give thanks to God." Just like when you were a child and your parents would call you by name (e.g., "BECKY LYNN!") – which certainly got your attention – every time you use God's name, you get God's attention... so you might want to be careful how you use it!

In baptism each of us was baptized *in the name* of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. For the first time we were called a *child of God*. We were marked with the cross of Christ and *given the name Christian*.

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COUNCIL & TEAM LEADERS

Officers

President	Mary Kasakove
Vice President	Ray Mueller
Treasurer	George Pawlo
Secretary	Jeanne Scalora

Council and Committee Chairs

At-large	Don Larsen
Christian Education/Youth	Vacant
Evangelism	Ed Sekula
Fellowship	Demetria Laird
Mutual Ministry	Shelli Skeels
Property	Jim Tangen
Social Ministry	Sibylle Schroeder
Stewardship	Vacant

OUR STAFF

Pastor:
Pastor Becky Thane
pastor@abidingpeacechurch.org

In case of pastoral emergency outside of office hours, please phone (973) 343-7672.

Music Director:
Ben Schroeder
benmschroeder@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant:
Christine Strobel
office@abidingpeacechurch.org
Monday-Friday: 9:00 am—12:00 Noon

Pastor's column—continued from page 1

When we assume the name Christian, our words and deeds gather attention. People judge all Christians by the life they see one Christian leading. Fair? Probably not. But that's just the way it is... so you might want to be careful how you wear the name "Christian"!

As we look forward to the new year, I encourage each of you to recommit yourselves to living out the new life that is ours every day through the gift of baptism. Proudly wear the name "Christian." Be a Christian, not only in name, but also in deed.

See you in church,
+ Pastor Thane

Planning our New Patio

The steps are finished so it's time to start planning for the repair of our entrance patio. Council is in the process of getting bids for this important project. If you can recommend a company that does paver and/or poured concrete work, please contact Jim Tangen, interim Property Chairperson as soon as possible.

✂

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE and/or Pastor Thane, or have someone call for you, if you are hospitalized. Because of the HIPAA privacy laws, the church is **not** notified when you are admitted to a hospital, in order to protect your privacy. The only way we will know if you are in the hospital is if you or someone close to you lets us know.

Thank you!

Please clip this article and keep it handy!

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS **December 2011**

The Council met on Tuesday, December 20th. In attendance were: Pastor Thane, Mary Kasakove, Ray Mueller, Jeanne Scalora, Demetria Laird, and Shelli Skeels. Guests: George & Cindy Pawlo.

The worshipful work of the Council is patterned after the four main components of our Sunday morning worship: Gathering, Word, Meal & Sending.

Gathering: We come together for worship, the work of the people

The Council shared corporate confession & forgiveness and the peace.

Word: How has, how is, and how will God speak to and through us?

Council shared a time of reflection on the gifts we have received, and the gifts we, as a council, have given to the congregation.

Minutes of the November Council meeting were approved.

Written reports were received from Pastor, Fellowship, Finance, and Worship & Music.

Pastor informed Council that next year's council will undertake a study, rather than doing monthly devotionals. She also encouraged Council members to be spiritual leaders in the congregation through participation in continuing Christian education.

George Pawlo presented the Finance report. The current budget shortfall, as of Nov. 31st, is \$5,403.15. He also presented a proposed budget. Following discussion and modifications, the finalized budget will be presented to Council for their approval at the January meeting.

Meal: God feeds us. How will our work feed others?

Council shared the Lord's Supper.

Old Business included updates on: the soil remediation project – work will be completed on Dec. 20th; and the solar project – Sun Farm has been unable to obtain financing, therefore, our project is not going forward at this time.

Council spent their visioning time discussing reaction to and comments on the new unified worship format.

New Business: Entrance patio repair – one bid received, others will be sought; Council elections – a nominating committee will be formed, three positions are up for election this year; Annual congregational meeting – Sunday, January 29th @ 11 a.m.; Synod Assembly representatives – two will need to be elected at the annual meeting, nominating committee will seek nominees.

Sending: We are blessed to bear Good News. How will we?

Newsletter articles were planned out. The next Council meeting will be on Tuesday, January 24th. The meeting concluded with prayer.

Complete minutes of Council meetings are ready within 30 days of the meeting. They are available online at http://www.abidingpeacechurch.org/html/council_minutes.html. Except for Executive Sessions, which are kept confidential, members of the congregation may attend all Council meetings and/or request to view the full meeting minutes.



Solar Project Not Happening

Unfortunately, Sun Farm Network was not able to secure financing from investors to fund our solar panel installation through a “power purchase agreement.” As you may recall, in this agreement, investors would have paid for a solar system installed on our roof, with the church gaining the benefit of a reduced rate for the electricity it produced.

The value of the NJ Solar Renewable Energy Certificates (SRECs) that the investors would have gained from the system dropped by about two-thirds since the time our congregation voted to proceed on this proposal. As a result, Sun Farm’s investors are only interested now in projects larger than 100 kilowatts. Ours was so small (13 kw) that even Sun Farm’s efforts to bundle our project with others did not work.

The company said they will keep our church in mind should, in the future, new renewable energy legislation or an increase in the SREC value result in our project again being attractive to investors.

On behalf of the Council and congregation, I’d like to thank Ray Mueller for his hard work and dedication to the Solar Project.

Countless hours went into this worthy endeavor and it is sad that after so much research and planning, the timing was just not right. However, we learned a lot. Conditions change, and we may be able to re-visit this project in the future, well prepared because of the work that Ray has done.

Again, our thanks to Ray Mueller for his dedication to Abiding Peace.

Mary Kasakove
Council President

Soil Remediation Update

Right before winter officially began, the last tons of our oil-tainted soil were hauled away for proper remediation. The NJ DEP has approved our supplemental application to cover the costs of removing this remaining soil. As a result, the entire cost of removing the dirt is being covered by the state. The church is also gaining reimbursement for the replacement of our old underground oil tank with two new tanks in our basement.

Thank You for Your \$200 Donation

Jim, Gerry, George, Cindy, Les, Glenn, Ken, Mike, Chris, Ed and so many others, thank you for your generous donation. If you were one of the many people who turned out for the **Fall Leaf Clean-up** you saved your congregation hundreds of dollars in professional clean-up costs. Never underestimate the value of a volunteer!



“Unfinished Object” Night January 16 at 7:30 pm

Unfinished Object Night is still on the third Monday of the month at 7:30 pm. Come out to finish your crafts and have a good time. See you there!

Questions – call Sibylle Schroeder at 973-691-1910

Financial Summary

Date	Designated Giving	General & Building Fund Giving	Y-T-D-Surplus/Deficit
12/4/11	\$ 612.00	\$5,918.00	\$-4,299.00
12/11/11	\$ 125.00	\$2,435.00	\$-4,867.00
12/18/11	\$ 470.00	\$1,949.00	\$-5,921.00
12/25/11	\$ 85.00	\$3,071.00	\$-5,853.00

Weekly amount needed to meet budget: \$3,003.00
Year-to-Date Surplus/Deficit includes the \$4,543 deficit from 2010

CHANGE A LIFE

Thank you for everyone who has so faithfully given to our

Change a Life campaign! Using just your pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters, we are able to purchase livestock for an overseas family in need. Keep up the good work – the next Change a Life day will be on Sunday, January 22nd.



Sunday Scripture

January 1

Numbers 6:22-27
Psalm 8
Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 2:15-21

January 15

1 Samuel 3:1-20
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
1 Corinthians 6:12-20
John 1:43-51

January 8

Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

January 22

Jonah 3:1-5, 10
Psalm 62:5-12
1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20

January 29

Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Psalm 111
1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Mark 1:21-28

Council Elections

Please consider serving Abiding Peace by becoming a member of Council. A scary thought? Not at all! Yes, there is work involved but also great satisfaction in joining together to serve the church. For those of you who have been on Council before, be aware that some things have changed, for the better, we believe. Council members no longer automatically chair a committee (although some do by choice). Now, Council members form a working and deliberative community that comes together to address the needs of the congregation. Our meetings include study and prayer, Holy Communion and time to get to know each other. The practical is always led by the spiritual - the only way a church Council can successfully function.

Elections will be held at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 29th. A nominating committee is in the process of being formed and will be announced shortly but you are welcome to contact me at any time.

Peace,

Mary Kasakove
Council President

Congregational Meeting



**Annual Congregational Meeting
January 29 @ 11:00 am**

Please save the date and time.

Committee Meetings

Please note that the following committees have established standing meeting times each month. Your participation is always welcome!

- ~ Fellowship Committee - 1st Sundays
Next meeting: January 1 @ 9:00 am
- ~ Worship & Music Committee - 2nd Sundays
Next meeting: January 8 @ 8:45 am.
- ~ Council Meeting - 3rd Tuesdays ** Note date change
Next meeting: January 24 @ 7:30 pm



January Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Elsie Hedstrom | 17 Barbara Prosser |
| 4 Mary Beth Mueller | 19 Gerry Ayotte |
| 7 Drew Barth | 21 George Pawlo |
| Kevin Persson | 23 Jeffrey Kamin |
| 14 Judy Jacob | 26 Grace Mueller |
| 16 Sarah Laird | 29 Christina Schroeder |



January Anniversaries

11 Sudhakar & Alice Kandikatla

Epiphany, the church season following Christmas, takes its name from the Greek word *epiphaneia* meaning a manifestation, a revelation, a shining forth. During this season, star images are everywhere in our banners, paraments and in our hymns and songs. We celebrate the light of Christ coming into the world.

And of course, there are the Wisemen. The bible doesn't tell us their names but tradition has called them Casper, Melchior and Balthazar. Sages from the East? Arabian mystics? Astronomers? Whoever they were, they brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to pay rich tribute to a little child living in very humble circumstances. Their gifts are telling: Gold, the symbol of kingship; frankincense, precious incense, symbol of divinity; myrrh, used in the preparation of the dead, anticipating Jesus' death and burial. And we also have, in their act of adoration, an example of the highest in the land bowing down to One still higher.

Celebrate this season of holy light. Let your light shine forth brightly.

Peace,
Mary Kasakove
Council President

January Fellowship Reminders

For all you chocoholics and we all know who we are, January 8, 2012 will be a "Chocolate Sunday." Pastor Thane asked if we would like to make one of the Sundays that Dick Kiesling will be preaching a "Chocolate Sunday" since he's "one of us." So bring your favorite chocolate desserts.

Also January 29, 2012 will be our Congregational Meeting and once again we will have a pot luck luncheon. A sign up sheet will be available shortly.

In Christian Fellowship,
Demetria Laird

Communion Distribution

The Worship and Music Committee at its December meeting, in response for the use of the common cup/pouring chalice proposed the following procedure to be implemented immediately: The common cup/pouring chalice will be offered at all regular services. When the communion rail is being used our current regular practice will continue. For those times when continuous distribution is offered anyone wishing to partake of the common cup/pouring chalice after receiving the bread may kneel at the communion rail where the common cup/pouring chalice will be distributed.

The present practice of encouraging anyone receiving communion to take a personal time at the altar rail is also continued.

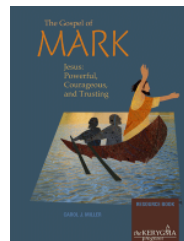
Note: at Christmas and Easter, because of the number of people communing, only the continuous distribution with no common cup/pouring chalice to be offered.

The Worship and Music Committee welcomes comments and suggestions from members of the congregation. It is only when we hear from you that we can respond.

Richard J. Kiesling, Chairperson
Worship and Music Committee.

Sunday School

+ + +



The Gospel of Mark

utilizing the popular Kerygma series of study materials, recommences January 22 Sunday at 11:15 am.



Men's Ministry

Please join us for a Men's Breakfast on January 14. We continue our tradition of fellowship, mutual support and spiritual growth for men of all ages in Abiding Peace Lutheran Church and the surrounding community. Please encourage each other to attend and share in this fellowship. We meet the second Saturday of the month at 9 a.m. around the kitchen for breakfast and a short study of God's Word focused on our development as Christian husbands, fathers, brothers and sons. Anyone who would like to help out with cooking should show up around 8:15.

We will be looking at one of the scripture texts for the following day. The intent is to use this opportunity to take some time to explore how we can apply what we learn from scripture to our life each day in the real world. If you want to prepare ahead of time the texts for the following day are 1 Samuel 3:1-20, Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18, 1 Corinthians 6:12-20, and John 1:43-51.

Recognition Corner

For the wonderful Cordon Bleu Meatloaf—Sue Schwier

Everyone for bringing socks for Faith Kitchen.

Thanks to the Pawlos for our Christmas Tree and all those who worked to install it (again and again).

To Pat Scalora for providing the ice melt buckets for the new steps.

To all who helped with the leaf clean up.



Keep These Friends in Your Heart & Prayers

The sick: Ken Morris, Kathleen Mazzaghatti, Richard Biunno, Clifford O'Donnell, Geraldine Kallman, Rob Mueller, Mary Purvis, George Englerth, Lisa Vales, Pat Scalora, Daniel Thompson, Roslyn Winfield, Bill McDaniel, Monika Ruppert, Anita Berger, Sylvia Campbell, Faith Oberman, Katie Navarra, Adam Nicholoff, Glenn Perry, Maggie Nazare, Rick Oliva, Ed Corneilson, Esther Corneilson, Jim Kosiorek, Bill Price, John Farnsworth, Kerrie Winfield, Don Bowe, Naomi Jaskolski, Don Macario, Rudolph Oeckinghaus, Gordon Olson, Ebba Kristopherson, Tim Fallon, Glen Lightner, Chris Killian, Roseanna Spoulos, Cheryl Inglin, Rev. Carl Fisher, Elizabeth Smith, Miki Gasparine, Richard Mills, Virginia Colette, Susan Jacob, Arlene Pearson, Anne Kramer, Marion Fritz, Luann Price, Hall Barker, Sue Schwier, Jordan Prokop, Sue Corneilson, Dave Thomas, Emily Pearson, Nancy Anderson, Bert Kellam, June Ernstrom

Those serving overseas: Frank Panek, Robert McHugh, Kristina Bryant, Barbara Accordino

Those who are homebound: Elsie Hedstrom, Dorothy Pearson

Those who mourn: Ingrid Mayer and family

St. Peter Lutheran Church in Milton, Kentucky

St. James Lutheran Church in Phillipsburg, NJ

JANUARY 2012

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO FIND A REPLACEMENT IF YOU CANNOT SERVE.

JANUARY	GREETER	USHER	LECTOR	ASSISTANT	COMMON CUP	POWERPOINT
1	Carol Biunno	Carol Biunno	Sue Corneilson	Roy Persson		
8	Howard Corneilson	Doug Laird	Sue Stirrat	Dick Kamin		Jeanne Scalora
15	Joanne Barth	Joanne Barth	Shelli Skeels	Roy Persson		Ann Anderson
22	Cindy Pawlo	Ken Schwier	Linda Venator	Barbara Prosser		Jeanne Scalora
29	Judy Jacob	Chris St. Genis	Glenn Whitmore	Sibylle Schroeder		Ann Anderson

COUNTERS: 1: George Pawlo 8: Nita Persson 15: Nancy Ayotte 22: Howard Corneilson 29: George Pawlo
ALTAR GUILD: Mary Kasakove **SIGN CHANGER:** Ben Schroeder

JANUARY 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 1ST SUNDAY/ CHRISTMAS 9:00 am Fellowship Committee Meeting 9:30 am Music 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Sunday School 11:15 am Gospel of Mark	2	3 9:30 am Faith Kitchen	4 6:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	5	6 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	7 8:30 am Messengers Dance Rehearsal 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
				Pastor Thane on vacation		
8 BAPTISM OF OUR LORD 8:45 am Worship & Music Committee Meeting 9:30 am Music 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Sun School 11:15 am Gospel of Mark	9	10	11 6:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	12	13 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	14 8:30 am Messengers Dance Rehearsal 9:00 Men's Ministry 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
Pastor Thane on vacation						
15 2ND SUNDAY/ EPIPHANY 9:30 am Music 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Sunday School 11:15 am Gospel of Mark	16 7:30 pm Unfinished Object Night	17	18 4:00 pm Mt. Olive Manor Worship 6:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	19	20 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	21 8:30 am Messengers Dance Rehearsal 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
Pastor Thane on vacation						
22 3RD SUNDAY/ EPIPHANY 9:30 am Music 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Sunday School 11:15 am Gospel of Mark	23	24 7:30 pm Council Meeting	25 6:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	26	27 8:00 pm NA Meeting NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	28 8:30 am Messengers Dance Rehearsal 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
29 4TH SUNDAY/ EPIPHANY 10:00 am Worship Congregational Meeting following service <i>Pick up pans for Faith Kitchen</i>	30	31				