

# the VIEW from the lake

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



*From the  
Pastor's Desk*

## FAMOUS FORTIES

Happy Anniversary!

As the congregation prepares to celebrate 40 years of ministry in Budd Lake, I've been ruminating on "famous forties" in the Bible, and how they could possibly be speaking to us in our ministry.

First there are the forty days and nights of rain in the Flood in Genesis 7. We've certainly experienced our own floods here – and we fervently hope those days are behind us!

Then there are the forty years of the Israelites wandering in the wilderness. I'm not very fond of this metaphor for our ministry – we certainly haven't been wandering during our first forty years! This congregation has accomplished much, with first the establishment of the congregation, building your first church, then later expanding it, founding Mt. Olive Manor, hosting a counseling center, serving as home for two of the longest, continuously-running support groups in the state (AA and NA), and your faithful support of Faith Kitchen for well over a decade, not to mention the many other ministries of the congregation.

There's also Jesus being tempted for 40 days in the wilderness. This metaphor might speak to us, as we are tempted to give in to the demands of the culture around us which marginalizes religious faith, and seeks to turn Sunday morning into more of an entertainment spectacle than worship of our Lord. It's tempting to just give in.

But the metaphor I like the best is Jesus being among us for the forty days of this Easter season prior to his ascension. It is the presence of Christ among us that we celebrate, most especially in the naming of this congregation: the Abiding Peace of God which dwells among us. It is this vision which has helped shaped this congregation into a warm, welcoming and inviting place which seeks to draw others in to fellowship with us and with our Lord.

May the Abiding Peace of God be with you all!

In peace,  
+ Pastor Thane

May, 2011

June Newsletter Deadline  
May 27, 2011

### **Worship Schedule**

**9:00 am Contemporary Worship**

**9:45 am Sunday School**

**10:30 am Liturgical Worship**

### **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](http://www.abidingpeacechurch.org)

**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 Beth Blakey  
 Evangelism Ed Sekula  
 Fellowship Demetria Laird  
 Mutual Ministry Shelli Skeels  
 Social Ministry Sibylle Schroeder  
 Stewardship Vacant  
 Youth Representative Vacant

Property Takashi Blakey  
 Worship & Music Sue Schwier  
 Finance Nancy Ayotte  
 Financial Secretary Nita Persson  
 Dance Ministry Mary Kasakove  
 Senior's Ministry Sibylle Schroeder

**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** (as of May 9)

**Office Hours:**

Monday: 9:00 am —11:00 am  
 Tuesday: 9:00 am —1:00 pm  
 Wednesday: 9:00 am—11:00 am  
 Thursday: 9:00 am—1:00 pm  
 Friday: 9:00 am—12:00 Noon

**Financial Summary**

Date	Designated Giving	General & Building Fund Giving	Y-T-D-Surplus/Deficit
04/03/11	\$ 447.25	\$6,284.25	- \$4,091.55
04/10/11	\$ 340.00	\$2,182.00	- \$4,912.55
04/17/11	\$1,230.00	\$2,174.00	- \$5,741.55
04/24/11	\$ 520.00	\$4,127.00	- \$4,617.55

Weekly amount needed to meet budget: \$3,003  
 Year-to-Date Surplus/Deficit includes the \$4,543 deficit from 2010

Giving to the Anniversary Fund: \$2,490.00  
 Giving to the Deficit Reduction Fund: \$3,061.00  
 Needed to meet Deficit Reduction Goal: \$1,482.00

**Committee Meetings**

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

- ~ Fellowship Committee -1st Sundays @ 11:45 am.  
Next meeting: May 1
- ~ Worship & Music Committee - 2nd Sundays @ 11:45 am.  
Next meeting: May 8
- ~ Evangelism Committee - 2nd Tuesdays @ 7:30 pm.  
Next meeting: May 10
- ~ Council Meeting—3rd Tuesdays @ 7:30 pm.  
Next meeting: 4th Tuesday, May 24\*

\* Note the date changes this month\*

## Solar Panel Project Being Explored

In New Jersey, incentives for installing solar panels are among the best of any state in the country. Are they good enough that Abiding Peace can install a solar project that will more than pay for itself from the very first year?

Some members have begun exploring this possibility. At this point it is too early to know whether a solar project will be recommended to the Council and to the congregation for action.

Getting most of our electrical needs from the sunlight hitting our roof would be good environmental stewardship. However, it must be good financial stewardship as well in order for it to be viable at our congregation. Takashi Blakey, Mary Kasakove, Ray Mueller and Pastor Thane are looking at the proposals of three solar installation companies and two different ways of financing, in order to fully consider what, if anything, to recommend.

Grace Lutheran Church in Mendham was the first New Jersey house of worship to get solar panels. Research with them and other Lutheran congregations in the state who are very satisfied with their solar projects has led to the contacts with the solar companies now submitting proposals to us.

The reason solar might be economical for us is that New Jersey requires that by the year 2020, solar energy must provide 5% of the state's electricity. To meet this mandate, electric companies must purchase certificates from solar energy providers called Solar Renewable Energy Certificates (SRECs).

It is the 15 years of income that new solar projects get from selling SRECs, on top of the savings in electricity costs, that has resulted in this consideration of solar. More details will be provided if and when the idea develops further.

Whether our congregation proceeds with a solar project or not, you may want to consider solar yourself, if you have a home with unshaded roof surfaces facing south. Individual homeowners can gain tax incentives as well save on electricity and earn SREC income.

Ray Mueller  
Vice President

## Talk to your parents before it's too late

Talking to your parents about care giving, end-of-life issues and their wishes is important, but many people put it off because of being uncomfortable. Reduce the stress and start by discussing the location of information, not the contents.

One tool that can help is a financial inventory, which should be updated annually and include:

**Legal documents:** property deeds, wills, trusts, living wills and health care and financial directives, birth, marriage and military discharge certificates, and instructions.

**Contact information:** attorneys, accountants, financial planners, physicians and anyone who provides financial, legal and medical advice and care.

**Current account information:** type, number and institution for all financial accounts, including checking, savings, retirement, investment, loans and insurance policies.

For more guidance on talking with your parents or other loved ones, contact Bruce Kleindienst CLU, ChFC, Financial Consultant, at 973-586-4517 or [Bruce.Kleindienst@Thrivent.com](mailto:Bruce.Kleindienst@Thrivent.com) today or visit [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com).

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## 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

**Saturday, 5/7/11** – Anniversary Dinner at Publick House/Chester.

**Sunday, 5/8/11** – The anniversary of the formal **organizing of the congregation** (5/9/71) will be observed with a festival worship service. Former pastor Richard Linderman will preach.

## HAPPY WORLD LAUGHTER DAY!!!

*“Laughter is a positive and powerful emotion that has all the ingredients required for individuals to master themselves and to change the world in a tubular way.”*

On May 1, 2011, we celebrate the power of laughter. On this auspicious occasion, we appeal to the whole of humanity to use Laughter Yoga as a means to generate goodwill, and also to lessen the pain caused by human insensitivity, and natural calamities, both of which have catastrophic consequences. While Laughter Yoga exercises will bring good health and wellbeing, the inner spirit of laughter will help us to realize the deeper meaning of life. By understanding the ways and means of sensible living through Laughter Clubs, we can bring peace within us, which, in turn, will bring peace in the outer world.

World Laughter Day was created in 1998 by Dr. Madan Kataria, founder of the worldwide Laughter Yoga movement. The celebration of World Laughter Day is a positive manifestation for world peace and is intended to build up a global consciousness of brotherhood and friendship through laughter. Its popularity has grown exponentially with that of the Laughter Yoga movement, now counting over 6,000 Laughter Clubs in more than 65 countries. World Laughter Day is customarily celebrated on the first Sunday of May every year.

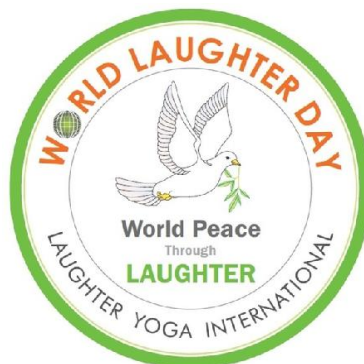
The Laughter Clubs are a global initiative to unite mankind through unconditional love and laughter. It is a non-religious, non-racial and non-profit organization committed to generating good health, joy and world peace through laughter. This revolutionary idea has changed the lives of hundreds and thousands of people around the world, and has helped them to attain a state of complete wellness.

This year, “Jolliologist” and Certified Laughter Yoga Leader, Diana Perez, is putting together a Laughter Yoga celebration in this area and you’re invited. Come out and experience firsthand what it is to laugh for no reason, share in playfulness with old and new friends, and benefit from the physical, mental and soulful joy derived from good, hardy, heartfelt laughter.

This free celebration will be held on Sunday, May 1, 2011 at Abiding Peace Lutheran Church, 305 US Route 46, Budd Lake, NJ at 3:00. \*Appreciative donations will be accepted and given to the church for allowing us the use of their facilities.

There can be no doubt that laughter is a pathway to health, joy and happiness. It is something anyone can do and everyone can benefit from.

For more information on Laughter Yoga, contact Diana Perez, 973-934-1521, [www.laughterheart.com](http://www.laughterheart.com), or email [laugh@laughterheart.com](mailto:laugh@laughterheart.com).



## **COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS APRIL 2011**

The Council met on Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. In attendance were: Pastor Thane, Mary Kasakove, Ray Mueller, Beth Blakey, Demetria Laird, Ed Sekula and Shelli Skeels.

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 began its meeting with corporate confession and the sharing of the peace.

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

Council shared a time of reflection based on the creation story in Genesis 1, paying particular attention to verse 28. Council reflected on humankind's relationship with creation. The minutes of the March Council meeting were approved. Written reports were received from Pastor, Christian Education & Youth, Evangelism, Fellowship, Finance, and Property; Oral reports were given by Christian Ed., Evangelism, and Fellowship.

Council spent their visioning time hearing a presentation from Ryan Bakley of Sun Farms regarding solar power and the congregation, followed by a questions & answer period.

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

Council shared the Lord's Supper.

Old Business included a presentation by Pastor and Shelli Skeels regarding Mutual Ministry. Pastor reported that construction work on the Narthex coffee bar is ready to begin now that sufficient funding has been received through the Anniversary Fund. The Audit Team completed its work on April 7<sup>th</sup> and now needs to provide the appropriate documentation so that grants from outside foundations may be pursued.

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

Newsletter articles were planned out. The next Council meeting will be on Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. The meeting concluded with The Lord's 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](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.*

## Evangelism May

Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life  
Through him we can attain eternal salvation.  
Through him we are cloaked in forgiveness of  
sin, healing, hope, reconciliation and  
salvation

Evangelism is where Jesus' story meets our own.  
We need to Tell Jesus story to someone we know,  
Develop our "Jesus" story .Keep your story sim  
Come and see – invite others; Make it -  
Awesome

Report on Transformational Ministry Retreat:  
Importance of our Dance Ministry  
What is the Church?  
What is the Church's mission?  
What is God doing in the world?  
What is God doing in our area?  
What is God asking our congregation to do?  
What is God asking me to do?

Stress the importance of our Dance Ministry; invite  
others to worship  
(Come and See)

✂

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!**

## ONLINE STUDY *Tyranny of the Urgent*

- \*Is the clock a slavemaster? Or is it a tool that serves you?
- \*Are urgent things so pressing that you don't have "inner time" to sort out what's really important?
- \*How can you discern what God wants you to do?

Would you be interested in participating in a study where you can attend at any time of the day or night? An online study may be for you! Pastor Thane would like to conduct an online study of Charles Hummel's book, *The Tyranny of the Urgent*, along with its related six-session study guide. This tiny booklet — no larger than *The Small Catechism* — became an instant hit when it was published.

Cost of the course materials is \$10. If you would be interested in participating, please e-mail Pastor Thane at [BeckyThane@aol.com](mailto:BeckyThane@aol.com).

## Recognition Corner

Thanks to Shelli Skeels for our sanctuary doorway decorations.

Thanks to Gerry Ayotte for faithfully changing the drape on the sanctuary wall cross.

Thanks to Sibylle Schroeder for the alleluia banners.

Thanks to Mary Kasakove, Dick Kiesling, Demetria Laird and Nancy Ayotte for decorating the sanctuary for the Easter season.

Thanks to all who brought goodies for Easter breakfast and to Sue Schwier for helping to set up.

**2011 Schedule for Senior Meetings  
at  
Abiding Peace Lutheran Church**

(All subjects open to change)

<b>May 20</b>	Bible Study with Pastor or Speaker
<b>June</b>	Birthday Party at Mt. Olive Manor
<b>July 15</b>	Book Review "Stones into Schools" by Greg Mortenson and "A Dog's Purpose" by Bruce Cameron
<b>Aug. 19?</b>	Picnic at Ed Secula's house
<b>Sept. 16</b>	Outing to Leona's house (croquet & games)
<b>Oct. 21</b>	Halloween Party - Games
<b>Nov. 18</b>	Play or Movie
<b>Dec. 16</b>	Christmas Party & Book Review "An Amish Christmas" by Cynthia Keller

**40th Anniversary Sunday with Rev. Parks**



**Sunday Scripture**

**May 1**

Acts 2:14a, 22-32  
Psalm 16  
1 Peter 1:3-9  
John 20:19-31

**May 15**

Acts 2:42-47  
Psalm 23  
1 Peter 2:19-25  
John 10:1-10

**May 8**

Acts 2:14a, 36-41  
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19  
1 Peter 1:17-23  
Luke 24:13-35

**May 22**

Acts 7:55-60  
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16  
1 Peter 2:2-10  
John 14:1-14

**May 29**

Acts 17:22-31  
Psalm 66:8-20  
1 Peter 3:13-22  
John 14:15-21



**Men's Ministry**

Please join us for a Men's Breakfast on May 21. 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 third 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 Acts 7:55-60, Psalm 31: 1-5, 15-16, 1 Peter 2:2-10 and John 14:1-14.

On this day we will also bid Godspeed to John Thane before he deploys to Afghanistan for six months.



## May Birthdays

- 4 Les Accordino
- 5 Shelli Skeels
- 10 Bill Clark
- 11 Lynne Obermiller
- 11 Jackie Schwier
- 17 John Horan
- 27 Catherine Blackburne



## May Anniversaries

- 24 John & Sue Stirrat



## Keep These Friends in Your Heart & Prayers

The sick: Ken Morris, Kathleen Mazzaghatti, Richard Biunno, Francis Kahler, Clifford O'Donnell, Geraldine Kallman, Rob Mueller, Ruth Petersen, Mary Purvis, George Englerth, Lisa Vales, Pat Scalora, Daniel Thompson, Roslyn Winfield, Bill McDaniel, Monika Ruppert, Anita Berger, Sylvia Campbell, Faith Oberman, James Vadas, Katie Navarra, Adam Nicholoff, Glenn Perry, Maggie Nazare, Rick Oliva, Ed Corneilson, Esther Corneilson, Jim Kosiorek, Bill Price, John Farnsworth, Kerrie Winfield, Carole Anderson, Don Bowe, Naomi Jaskolski, Don Macario, Rudolph Oeckinghaus, Gordon Olson, Ebba Kristopherson, Tim Fallon, Glen Lightner, Chris Killian, Roseanna Spoulos, Pastor Dale Selover, Ed Tittel, Michael Shevchik, Cheryl Inglin, Bill Benoit, Rev. Carl Fisher, Jocelyn Keefe, Jabez Van Cleef, Brittany McDaniel, Elizabeth Smith, Miki Gasparine, Richard Mills

Those serving overseas: John Stack, Frank Panek, Andy LeFave, Robert Amrani, Robert McHugh, Kristina Bryant, Jim Lynch, Benjamin Arzikovic, Matt Fallon

Those who are homebound: Elsie Hedstrom, Dorothy Pearson

St. Peter Lutheran Church in Milton, Kentucky

St. James Lutheran Church in Phillipsburg, NJ



## "Unfinished Object" Night May 9 at 7:30 pm

Unfinished Object Night is still on the second 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

## May Fellowship Reminders

### 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner

May 7<sup>th</sup> will be here before we know it. Have you sent in your RSVP for our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner yet? For those of you who have already responded thank you and for those of you who haven't please try to do so in a timely manner.

We will no longer be at VASA Park but are now having our dinner at the "Publick House" in Chester, NJ. There were some problems with VASA Park and the manager for the "Publick House" was able to accommodate us. The time for our dinner has also been changed from 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm.

We certainly hope everyone will be able to come to the dinner for some great food and fellowship.

Hope to see you all there.

In Christian Fellowship,  
Demetria Laird

# MAY 2011

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

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

MAY	ACOLYTE	GREETER	USHER	LECTOR	ASSISTANT	COMMON CUP	POWERPOINT
<b>1</b> 9:00 am Contemporary	Mary LaVacca	Ray Mueller	Ray Mueller	Glenn Whitmore	Sibylle Schroeder		Grace Mueller
<b>1</b> 10:00 am Liturgical	TBD	Judy Jacob	Les Accordino	Sue Schwier	George Pawlo	TBD	
<b>8</b> 10:00 am Liturgical	Stefan Jandura	Ed Sekula	Doug Laird Chris St. Genis	Sue Corneilson	Dick Kamin	Stefan Jandura	
<b>15</b> 9:00 am Contemporary	Mary LaVacca	Joanne Barth	Joanne Barth	Sue Stirrat	Mary Kasakove		Mary Beth Mueller
<b>15</b> 10:30 am Liturgical	TBD	Howard Corneilson	Ken Schwier	Linda Venator	Barbara Prosser	TBD	
<b>22</b> 9:00 am Contemporary	Grace Mueller	Carol Biunno	Carol Biunno	Ben Schroeder	Roy Persson		Jeanne Scalora
<b>22</b> 10:30 am Liturgical	Stefan Jandura	Ken Schwier	Cindy Pawlo	Shelli Skeels	Ed Sekula	Stefan Jandura	
<b>29</b> 9:00 am Contemporary	Mary LaVacca	Carol Biunno	Carol Biunno	Dick Kamin	Mary Kasakove		Ray Stirrat
<b>29</b> 10:30 am Liturgical	TBD	Judy Jacob	Les Accordino	Doug Laird	George Pawlo	TBD	

**COUNTERS: 1:** George Pawlo **8:** George Pawlo **15:** Nita Persson **22:** Howard Corneilson **29:** George Pawlo

**Altar Guild:** Demetria Laird **Sign Changer:** Dick Kiesling

# MAY, 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> <b>2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 9:00 Contemporary 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Liturgical 11:45 Fellowship Committee Meeting 3:00 Laughter Yoga	<b>2</b> 4:00 pm Too Busy Not To Pray	<b>3</b> 9:30 am Faith Kitchen	<b>4</b> 6:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>5</b> National Day of Prayer	<b>6</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	<b>7</b> 8:30 am Messengers Dance Rehearsal 6:30 pm Anniversary Dinner @ Publick House/ Chester
<b>8</b> <b>3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 10:00 40th Anniversary Worship Service 11:45 Worship & Music Committee Meeting	<b>9</b> 4:00 pm Too Busy Not To Pray 7:30 pm Unfinished Object Night	<b>10</b> 7:30 pm Evangelism Committee Meeting  Pastor Thane on Vacation →	<b>11</b> 4:00 pm Mt. Olive Manor Worship 6:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	<b>14</b> 8:30 am Messengers Dance Rehearsal
<b>15</b> <b>4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 9:00 Contemporary 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Liturgical	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 6:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 2:00 pm Seniors Meeting—Bible Study 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	<b>21</b> 8:30 am Messengers Dance Rehearsal 9:00 Men's Ministry
<b>22</b> <b>5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 9:00 Contemporary 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Liturgical	<b>23</b> 4:00 pm Too Busy Not to Pray	<b>24</b> 7:30 pm Council Meeting	<b>25</b> 6:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 8:00 pm NA Meeting	<b>28</b> 8:30 am Messengers Dance Rehearsal
<b>29</b> <b>6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 9:00 Contemporary 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Liturgical Pick up pans for Faith Kitchen	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				