# **From the lake**

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



## **Casting Out Fear**

As the fake cobwebs in yards and Halloween decorations in stores are reminding us all, October is the month when our culture celebrates the scary. This year especially, that's probably a good thing. Goodness knows, after the last year and a half of social and global conditions that generate intense fear responses, we need a little light-hearted spookiness to shift us out of constant fight-or-flight response. Bring on the ghosts and inflatable gravestones!

But, while we enjoy the cultural frivolity, let's also remember the biblical cautions about succumbing to fear. When God's messengers approach people in the scriptures they invariable begin the conversation with some version of "do not be afraid." While we are called to practice the "fear of the Lord" (our recognition that God's power cannot be controlled or manipulated by our desires), we are not called to be a people of fear. Rather, the epistle of 1 John instructs us, "There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear expects punishment. The person who is afraid has not been made perfect in love." (1 John 4:18).

We had an interesting and illuminating conversation at our Sept. 26 "Lutheranism 101" forum about the impact of fear within the Christian tradition. As we discussed the variations in the ways that different traditions explain the human condition and God's work of salvation, we kept circling back to how corrosive a focus on fear can be. While fear is a powerful motivator, and a very effective way to control the behavior of church members, it can have toxic effects in the lives and witness of these believers. People driven by fear cannot reach out to others with love and grace, because their attention is consumed by self-protection (and often by shame). That's why the apostle John speaks against fear: because fear and love cannot co-exist. If we are living out of fear, we are cutting ourselves off from grace, and from the ability to speak love into the lives of the people around us.

# October, 2021

November Newsletter Deadline October 19, 2021

> Worship: 10:00 am Online/In-Person

For hospitalization or other pastoral care needs, please call Pastor Serena at 908-458-3940

**OUR MISSION & PURPOSE** 

Abiding Peace Lutheran Church makes Christ known by welcoming all people to a supporting and accepting place to grow in faith and community and 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

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#### COUNCIL & MINISTRY LEADERS

#### **Officers**

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer Cindy Pawlo Heather Nilsen Sheeba David Nick Senior

#### **Council Members**

Sandy Carlson Sheeba David Jackie King Heather Nilsen Cindy Pawlo Barbara Prosser Nick Senior Shelli Skeels Paul Otu Winner

Sibylle Schroeder

Vacant

#### Ministry Leaders

Arts & Crafts Christian Education & Youth Evangelism Fellowship Finance Financial Secretary Messengers Dancers Mutual Ministry Property Social Ministry Seniors Stewardship Worship & Music

Vacant Demetria Laird George Pawlo Nita Persson Mary Kasakove Heather Nilsen Vacant Sibylle Schroeder Sibylle Schroeder Nick Senior Mary Kasakove

#### OUR STAFF

Pastor: Serena Rice Cell: 908-458-3940

Music Director: Ben Schroeder benmschroeder@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Christine Strobel office@abidingpeacechurch.org

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Of course, we can recognize the truth of this teaching and still struggle to put it into practice. At the September service at Mt. Olive Manor we focused our meditation on this same verse from 1 John and agree with its teachings, but also as soon as we concluded our worship the conversation shifted back to the many sources of fear in our lives: floods, infirmity, and the pervasive culture of conflict. When the apostle teaches us that perfect love casts out fear, I don't think he's describing a passive process. This casting out doesn't just "happen." It takes intention and focus. We need to make the commitment to hold onto love when fear looms. To not let the "spooks" that try to worm their way into our souls have access to our mental space. And, most importantly, we need to prioritize love in the way that we treat each other. If we see other people as a threat, fear wins. If we see them as people whom God calls us to love, there will be no space for fear.

~ Pastor Serena



Thanks from Ray to whoever has been getting to the church sign before I do each week in September and changing it for me!

A huge thank you, along with "I'm so proud of you" to our three Confirmation students for their leadership is worship and learning last month. Vanessa's forum, Quinn's preaching, and Marco's prayer not only inspired the congregation by your courage and thoughtfulness, they also reminded us all of the power and relevance of our faith in engaging the world around us. You all are ready to be full members of the Church of Christ!

If you would like to express a "Thank you" in next month's newsletter, please send a brief paragraph to Christine (<u>chstrobel@optonline.net</u>) by October 19.



#### Faith Kitchen Shopping for October 5 Bagged Lunch

~ 2 Loaves Multi-grain Bread ~ 2 lbs. Salami

Please have items to church no later than October 3. Please contact me at 973-691-1910 if you can help assemble the sandwich bags.

With gratitude,

Sibylle Schroeder, Social Ministry



#### Stewardship Theme: Planting Seeds in a Weary World

Our Stewardship theme as we transition to 2022 is centered on the acronym S.E.E.D. and how we can give of ourselves – even in the midst of our continued hardships. How can we take what we've been given and find ways to plant those seeds of growth for ourselves, our families, and our communities? Our goal is to explore and inspire the deep working of nurturing God's work in the world even in difficult circumstances. We will reflect on how we can see beyond circumstances to how God is calling us to join in the work of growing something new.

Both in Sunday Service and through our work in the Church, we will ask 4 questions:

- Sacred (where are we finding/nurturing time and opportunities for the sacred?)
- Experience (how are we experiencing church and faith in this time of extended pandemic, and what difference do these experiences make?)
- Empathy (what is deepening our ability to see other people's needs and perspectives? How can we see beyond our own suffering to that of others? How can we positively impact that?)
- Demonstrating Commitment (how is our commitment to following Jesus manifesting in our lives?)

Throughout the month of October we will have a chance to consider the invitation to share in the work of planting SEEDs for God's work in the world. We hope you will join us!

# Sunday Scripture

# **October 3**

Job 1:1, 2:1-10 Psalm 26 Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 Mark 10:2-16

# October 24

Job 42:1-6, 10-17 Psalm 34:1-8, 19-22 Hebrews 7:23-28 Mark 10:46-52

# October 10

Jobs 23:1-9, 16-17 Psalm 22:1-15 Hebrews 4:12-16 Mark 10:17-31

# October 17

Job 38:1-7, 34-41 Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b Hebrews 5:1-10 Mark 10:35-45

# October 31

Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 46 Romans 3:19-28 John 8:31-36

# October Birthdays October Anniversaries

8 Lynn Peterson 14 Tom Blackburne 23 Marco Ponce 31 Maddox Rice 2 George & Cindy Pawlo 15 Richard & Carol Biunno 21 Jim & Maria Kearney 30 Rob & Barbara Prosser ~ Pastor Serena

## Sponsor a New Liturgy

In last month's newsletter, I used an incorrect word. I should have used Sponsor instead of producer (you don't have to do any work!). As a reminder, Ben Schroeder, our Director of Music, has volunteered to develop a new Abiding Peace Liturgy (this is something he has indicated that he always wanted to do). And to accomplish this, he will need sponsors to support the effort. He has pledged this monetary support to benefit the fund raising for our celebration of completing fifty years of ministry.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee has prepared the list of phrases that will make up the Liturgy and assigned a cost to sponsor each phrase. You can find this list on-line at

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/ d/15Zmzw4GWF99v7TL54OeWspzmRBMt6MIR TeizripZdbM/edit?usp=sharing.

This list will also be posted at the church building and updated weekly. Each segment of the Liturgy has 5 columns:

- 1. Phrase -words that make the phrase up
- 2. Cnt the number of times the phrase is repeated in the Liturgy segment
- 3. Donation the donation requested to sponsor the phrase
- 4. Sponsor the individual / family who is sponsoring the phrase
- 5. Donated indicating the donation has been received.

This will be a first come, first sponsor situation. In other words, if more than one wants to sponsor a phrase, the first one who submits and completes the sponsorship will have it. To complete sponsorship, contact Howard Corneilson (<u>hgcorn@optonline.net</u> / 973.584.0307) or Ben Schroeder

(benmschroeder@gmail.com / 862.266.6844) with the segment and phrase and submit the requested sponsor amount within seven (7) days. You may also fill in the posted form at the church building, but please make sure to notify Howard or Ben as well. Be sure to indicate on your envelope, check, or Venmo donation that this is for the "Anniversary Liturgy".

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee



### Send your Picture

The 50th Anniversary Committee is putting together a new Pictorial Membership Directory. The directory will include both members, family members who have moved out but want to be included (these would be included separately from the family), former members who would like to be included, and any friend of the congregation who attends or participates in livestream worship.

Have fun with it! Submit a photo that reflects your personality or interest (although studio photos are fine as well). Just make sure to send a picture in which the faces are the most prominent (not distant full body pictures). Digital pictures (preferred) can be sent to hgcorn@optonline.net or physical pictures (along with a method of contacting you) may be sent to the church at:

> Abiding Peace Lutheran Church 305 US Highway 46 Budd Lake, NJ 07828-2804

For both friends of the congregation (including those who join our livestream) and children of members who have moved out of their parents' household, we would need their names and contact information so that we would be able to post it.

A display of what will be printed will be sent to you for your approval prior to publication.

Let's get this going! I am looking forward to seeing all your beautiful faces.

50th Anniversary Committee





#### Series Begins on Abiding Peace History in Words and Photos

As part of our 50th Anniversary celebration, we begin providing a decade of written history and a few photos each month or so in the newsletter. Also, a corresponding photo album will be posted on Facebook for each season of the church year, starting now with Pentecost and going through Easter. Thanks to all who submitted photos including Judy Jacob and most of all, Doug Laird. It's not too late to add photos from the 1980's and beyond by emailing them to Ray at okray.mueller@gmail.com.

The album of the 1970's is on the Abiding Peace Facebook Organization Page at https://www.facebook.com/ media/set?vanity=AbidingPeaceChurch&set=a.4673453512705603. Click on the first photo to enlarge and see them in order, and please add to the comments as you wish. Below is the first part of the 1970's history. Watch for the rest of the 70's history next month and the 80's photos in Advent.

#### 70's Part 1: Nomads with a Mission

Planning for a new Lutheran congregation in the Morris, Sussex, Warren Tri-county area of northwestern New Jersey began in the late 1960s. It became apparent that the completion of I-80 would incorporate the region into the larger New York metropolitan area. Several congregational developments were in process at the time when our project was begun by the Division for Mission in America (DMNA) of the Lutheran Church in America (LCA). They called the Reverend James T. Parks as Mission Developer in July 1970, and a building site was purchased shortly after. A parsonage for the Parks family was provided at 15 Hatakawanna Terrace.

Facilities for worship, church school, and meetings were secured, with the cooperation of the Mt. Olive Board of Education, at the Upper Elementary School on Sunset Drive (now the Chester A. Stevens School). Members worshipped in such places as the school cafeteria, band room, home ec room, and library. The congregation remained in these facilities, with a parish office in the parsonage, until May 1978.

An organizational meeting was held at the Upper Elementary School on October 13, 1970. The first liturgy of the new mission congregation was held in the school on Reformation Sunday, October 30, 1970. The first celebration of communion took place a month later on November 29<sup>th</sup>. Sunday church school held its first session a week later on December 6<sup>th</sup>.

In March 1971 the charter roll was opened. The congregation was formally organized on May 9 with 134 baptized members (92 confirmed and 42 children). Abiding Peace formally became the 179<sup>th</sup> congregation in the New Jersey Synod of the Lutheran Church in America on May 22, 1971.



#### Feeding our Neighbors in a Time of Pandemic

We are so grateful for the generosity of our community in ensuring that our church food pantry can continue to respond to hunger in the area during the pandemic. We have continued to receive donated food, as well as monetary donations to allow us to purchase the most needed supplies. Of course, the need continues, so here are the ways you can continue to help make sure our neighbors have the food they need:

Please continue to pick up extra supplies for our food pantry, as you are able (Note – for anyone who needs to avoid grocery shopping, due to risk factors, reach out to the church. There are members who can help).

When you have supplies to donate to the church food pantry or if you know people who need food assistance, please call Sibylle Schroeder at 973-691-1910 and coordinate with her.

Special needs for the food pantry at this time are:

Canned fruit Juice Bread Frozen Meatballs White Beans

Thank you all for your generosity!

# Rally Day Giving!

After our Rally Day collection of supplies for knitting and crocheting, Pastor Serena got to drop of three bursting bags full of yarn, needles, and hooks for the refugee Afghan families currently living at Fort Dix. The Director of Catholic Charities, who has organized this project, shared what a difference this is making for the refugees. It gives them an activity to keep their hands busy during long days of waiting to learn what is next for them. It gives them the chance to make clothing and blankets that will be useful as the cold of winter approaches. And perhaps most importantly, having a concrete, productive ac-

tivity gives them a sense of agency when almost everything else in their lives feels out of their control. Thank you to all who donated!



### Pastor Serena's October Schedule

In addition to posted hours in the office, Pastor Serena is also available to the congregation by cell phone or e-mail during the week: (908) 458-3940; pastorserena@optimum.net. Her day off is Saturday, so please refrain from sending non-emergency messages or calls on Saturday.

Week of September 27—October 3

- Wednesday, Sept. 29: 10:00 am—8:30 pm
- Sunday, Oct. 3: 9:00 am—1:00 pm

Week of October 4-10

- Wednesday, Oct. 6: 12:00 pm—9:00 pm
- Sunday, Oct. 10: 9:00 am—1:00 pm

Week of October 11-17

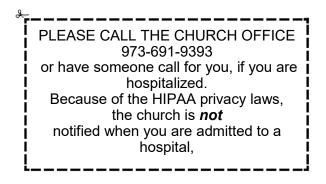
- Tuesday, Oct. 12: 7:30 pm—9:00 pm
- Wednesday, Oct. 13: 12:00 pm—9:00 pm
- Sunday, Oct. 17: 9:00 am—1:00 pm

## Week of October 18-24

- Monday, Oct. 12—Wednesday, Oct. 20: Offsite for continuing education
- Wednesday, Oct. 20: 1:00 pm—5:00 pm
- Sunday, Oct. 24: 9:00 am—1:00 pm

Week of October 25-31

- Wednesday, Oct. 27: 10:00 am—9:00 pm
- Sunday, Oct. 31: 9:00 am—12:00 pm



Please clip this article and keep it

#### **OCTOBER** WORSHIP ASSISTANTS IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO FIND A REPLACEMENT IF YOU CANNOT SERVE.

OCTOBER	ASSISTANT MINISTER	USHER	SOLOIST	
<b>3</b>	Sandy	Sibylle	TBD	
In-Person	Carlson	Schroeder		
<b>10</b>	Sue	Howard	TBD	
In-Person	Stirrat	Corneilson		
<b>17</b>	Sheeba	Ken	TBD	
In-Person	David	Schwier		
<b>24</b>	Demetria	Doug	TBD	
In-Person	Laird	Laird		
<b>31</b>	Mary	Sandy	TBD	
In-Person	Kasakove	Carlson		

**COUNTER:** George Pawlo **ALTAR GUILD:** Sandy Carlson **BREAD BAKING:** None



Keep These Friends in Your Heart & Prayers

*Those who are sick or in need*: Emily Wager, Bill Phinney, Joshua Olsen, Dawn Larsen, Jon, Cheryl Inglin, Judy Consentino, Jon & Maria, Mickey Gasparine, Sandy Kahler, Kenneth Johanson, Karen Qualls, Nancy Ayotte, Elfriede & Dick Kiesling, Bryce Rosen, Sheeba David, Jim Kosiorek, Cora Pawlo, Richard Biunno, Jim Tangen, Elizabeth & Otto Schroeder, Don Larsen, Joseph Horn, Mike Squillante, Delilah and Lydia Evans, the Nersesian family

Those serving overseas: Dana Gallo

*Those in mourning*: George & Janet Schroeder on the death of Janet's son Hans, Friends and family of Walter Pasuco, friends and family of Rudy Oeckinghaus, those mourning David Coyne, the VanHouten family, Millie Miller on the death of her sister, The Scalora and Crescenzo families on the death of Jeanne's cousin Sandy, the Scalora family on the death of Pat's sister Sally, the family of Gary Siess, the family of Jim Cook

# **OCTOBER 2021**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	<b>2</b> 10:00 am Yard Sale Fun Day 11:00 am Blessing of the Animals 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
<b>3</b> <b>19TH SUNDAY</b> / <b>PENTECOST</b> <i>10:00 am</i> Webcast Worship/In-Person <i>11:15 am</i> Introduction to Setting the Table for All to be Fed (STAF)	<b>4</b> 5:45 pm Children's Church 7:30 pm NA Mtg.	<b>5</b> 9:00 am Faith Kitchen 1:30 am Worship & Music Committee Meeting	<b>6</b> <i>6:30 pm</i> AA Mtg. <i>7:30 pm</i> Balcony Con- versation	<b>7</b> <i>12:30 pm</i> Zoom Bible Study with Redeemer <i>6:30 pm</i> NA Organiz- ers Meeting	8	<b>9</b> <i>Cancelled</i> Church Family Breakfast 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
10 20THSUNDAY/ PENTECOST Fellowship Sunday 10:00 am Webcast Worship/In-Person	<b>11</b> 5:45 pm Children's Church 7:30 pm NA Mtg.	<b>12</b> 7:30 pm Council Finance Meeting (in- person)	<b>13</b> 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm Jehu Session 3: Black Wall Street/ Tulsa Massacre & Mark 12:28-31	<b>14</b> <i>12:30 pm</i> Zoom Bible Study with Redeemer	15	<b>16</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
<b>17</b> <b>21ST SUNDAY/</b> <b>PENTECOST</b> <i>10:00 am</i> Webcast Worship/In-Person <i>11:15 am</i> STAF Story– sharing	<b>18</b> 5:45 pm Children's Church 7:30 pm NA Mtg.	<b>19</b> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	<b>20</b> 6:30 pm AA Mtg.	<b>21</b> <i>12:30 pm</i> Zoom Bible Study with Redeemer	22	<b>23</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
24 22ND SUNDAY/ PENTECOST 10:00 am Webcast Worship/In-Person 11:15 am Balcony Con- versation	<b>25</b> 5:45 pm Children's Church 7:30 pm NA Mtg.	26	<b>27</b> <i>7:30 pm</i> Jehu Session 4: GI Bill/Education/ Jeremiah 31:1-14	<b>28</b> <i>12:30 pm</i> Zoom Bible Study with Redeemer	29	<b>30</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
<b>31</b> <b>REFORMATION</b> <b>SUNDAY</b> <i>10:00 am</i> Webcast Worship/In-Person						