

VIEW from the lake

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



From the Pastor

Metaphors for Church

For our May focus in Confirmation class, we explored what it means for the church to be “the Body of Christ.” This biblical image is a powerful metaphor that teaches us about the mystery of being bound together by Christ with a common life and purpose. At the same time, the very familiarity of the language can make it difficult to really ponder the significance of the imagery. “The body of Christ” becomes one of those churchy phrases that becomes disconnected from the physical experience of how lungs and heart supply life to the extremities; how joints move through the pulling of tendons against bones; how pain and pleasure travel through the nervous system and can be isolated in only the spot that initiates the sensation.

In order to move past the overly familiar metaphor of the body, each student had the task of developing their own metaphor for the church – considering all the factors that play into the biblical metaphor of the body. They had to think about how the different roles of different church members work in their metaphor – why diversity of roles is needed and how they all work together for a common purpose. The student’s metaphor were really something.

One student talked about the church as a stage production. We have a script to follow, and a director and lead actors – pastor and ministry leaders – who are most visible. But other roles are important too. The “pit orchestra” (musicians) helps to shape the experience and the emotional tone. The stage crew (behind the scenes folks like altar ministry and those who bring food for the food pantry) makes everything work even though we might not notice them. And the who congregation is part of the ensemble, with an important part to play, even if they don’t have any lines.

Continued on page 2

June, 2023

July Newsletter Deadline
June 27, 2023

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. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation, committed to the full inclusion and celebration of people of all sexualities, genders, and gender expressions, and to the work of racial equity.

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

COUNCIL & MINISTRY LEADERS

Officers

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Interim President | Shelli Skeels |
| Vice President | Aaron Hyndman |
| Secretary | Nick Senior |
| Treasurer | George Pawlo |

Council Members

| | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Cindy Pawlo | Sheeba David |
| Ken Schwier | Maria Jerez-Kearney |
| Nick Senior | Sibylle Schroeder |
| Shelli Skeels | Aaron Hyndman |

Ministry Leaders

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Arts & Crafts | Sibylle Schroeder |
| Christian Education & Youth | <i>Vacant</i> |
| Evangelism | Aaron Hyndman |
| Fellowship | Demetria Laird |
| Finance | George Pawlo |
| Financial Secretary | Nita Persson |
| Messengers Dancers | Mary Kasakove |
| Mutual Ministry | Heather Nilsen |
| Property | <i>Vacant</i> |
| Social Ministry | Sibylle Schroeder |
| Seniors | Sibylle Schroeder |
| Stewardship | Nick Senior |
| Worship & Music | Mary Kasakove |

OUR STAFF

Pastor:

Serena Rice
pastorserena@optimum.net
Cell: 908-458-3940

Music Director:

Ben Schroeder
benmschroeder@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant:

Kev Schneider
aplcbuddlake@gmail.com

Continued from page 1—Pastor’s Column

No one in the church is in the audience. That role is reserved for the world we serve and the God we worship. Another student compared the church to a soccer team. Again, there are more visible roles like the coach and the team captains, but everyone on the team matters, even the bench players. And so do the fans who cheer the team on, giving them energy, and the team parents who bring snacks.

The final student analogy was from Dungeons & Dragons, where the church is the group that undertakes a quest together. On any team, you need players to bring different skills. The paladin defends against attack, but also heals (the student assigned this role to the pastor). The mage offers wisdom, just like teachers do in the church. The team needs clerics, and warriors, and maybe even some societal misfits like pick-pockets and rogues. They all have to work together to accomplish the mission set for them by the Dungeon Master (God).

These analogies are all very individual to the students who proposed them, but they all reflect the experience we share in many areas of our lives of needing to rely on each other. And each of the students shared where they saw themselves in their metaphor of the church – how the special gifts and abilities that they have matter to the church’s work to fulfill its mission. It was probably one of the best conversations we have had as a class to connect the ideas of our faith to our real lives.

So, I want to challenge you, as you are reading this newsletter, to consider what your metaphor for the church would be? What experience in your life speaks to the interconnected and purpose-driven nature of the church. And within that metaphor, what is your role in fulfilling the church’s mission in the world?

~ Pastor Serena



Why Do I Give?

“Churches need money. I need church.”

November 2022 – Survey Response

UPDATE ON ANCHORING OUR MINISTRY DRIVE

This congregation has a long history of generosity, and that history continues. We launched the 'Anchoring our Ministry' drive at the beginning of April, and by the end of the month has already collected nearly \$4,800 in gifts toward our goal. That means that in just one month, we came close to getting "above water", compensating for the structural budget deficit that we entered the year with. In May, we nearly reached that goal of \$6,000 and we anticipate additional giving to move toward filling up the rest of our 'anchor' with funds for needed capital improvement projects, including window repairs and getting our air conditioners working again. Thank you for your faithfulness, and your continued generosity.

Food Pantry Needs—June

The food pantry has been filled due to a wonderful big donation from the Mount Olive Democrats food drive, so what we still need is:

- **Mac & Cheese**
- **Pasta**
- **Crushed Tomatoes**
- **Beans**
- **Rice**
- **Vegetable Oil**
- **Peanuts Butter & Jelly**
- **Canned fruit**
- **Juice**
- **Hot-dogs and buns (please put these directly in the freezer)**



Senior Meeting Schedule 2023

June 21 Wildwood Arboretum at Chester and dinner or coffee at the Chester Diner

July 19 Games

Aug.16 Pool Party at the Pawlos

Sept. 20 Book Review "Happy for no Reason", "A Man Calles Ove" or "A Walk in the Woods"

Sep. 30 (Sat.) "Peter's Valley Craft Fair" at the Sussex County Fairgrounds or Mineral Fair

Oct. 18 Halloween Party

Nov. 29 Christmas/Holiday Party

This schedule is open to changes.

Thank You Corner

—Thanks to Pastor Serena, Ben, and everyone at APLC for creating a safe space for everyone, especially during Pride Month!

- Kev Schneider



Sunday Scripture

June 4

Genesis 1:1--2:4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20

June 11

Hosea 5:15--6:6
Psalm 50:7-15
Romans 4:13-25
Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

June 18

Exodus 19:2-8a
Psalm 100
Romans 5:1-8
Matthew 9:35—10:8-23

June 25

Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 23
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10

June Birthdays

2 Michael Pawlo
6 Ray Mueller
11 Joanna Venator
12 Sue Corneilson
13 Quinn Rice
15 Nita Persson

Did we miss a birthday? Please email Kev (apicbuddlake@gmail.com) to keep everything up to date!

Pastor Serena— JUNE 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 (other than Saturday—her day off): (908) 458-3940; pastorsere-na@optimum.net.)

May 29 – June 4

- Thursday, June 1, 10:00am-8:00pm
- Sunday, June 4, 9:00am-1:00pm

June 5 – June 11

- Wednesday, June 7, 10:30am-8:30pm
- Sunday, June 11, 9:00am-2:00pm

June 12 – June 18

- Wednesday, June 14, 10:30am-8:30pm
- Sunday, June 18, 9:00am-12:00pm

June 19 – June 25

- Wednesday, June 21, 2:00pm-9:00pm
- Sunday, Jun 25, 9:00am-2:00pm

June 26 – July 2

- Wednesday, June 28, 10:30am-8:30pm
- Sunday, July 2, 9:00am-12:00pm

Soon: Summer Saturday Stargazing!

For members and friends of all ages, we're planning an intergenerational event: a visit to Jenny Jump State Park, where every Saturday night April - October, there are astronomical talks followed on clear nights by the opportunity to look through a number of high-powered, motorized telescopes. This is a free program sponsored by United Astronomy Clubs of NJ.

Anyone can go any week but we will go as a group on the first clear Saturday night beginning July 22. That's a near moonless night, but if it is cloudy, we'll postpone as needed to July 29 or August 5, 12, 19 or 26. The astronomers are friendly and eager to show the public such things as the rings of Saturn, the moons of Jupiter, the Andromeda Galaxy, nebulae, and of course the moon (if visible) and our Milky Way galaxy.

Please contact Demetria Laird or Ray Mueller if interested. We'll let the club know the number planning to come, monitor the sky, and confirm the night we attend. Car pooling will be arranged for those interested, and is recommended due to limited parking. The site is a half hour from the church. We should all arrive at the park after 7:30 pm and before 8 pm. Stargazing will be completed by 10:30 pm.

For more info, including directions and the topics each Saturday evening, go to <http://uacnj.org/pubprograms.php>. And if possible, save the dates!

Unfinished Object Night June 5 * 7:00 pm

Come and join us for Unfinished Object Night at 7:00 pm. For information and to make sure it's on - call Sibylle at 973-691-1910.



Faith Kitchen Shopping List for June 2023

- 6 cans of whole potatoes
- 2 large bags of sauerkraut

If you have any questions, please call me and let me know, 973-459-0908.

With gratitude, *Sibylle Schroeder*—Social Ministry

JUNE

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

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

| JUNE | ASSISTANT MINISTER | COMMUNION ASSISTANTS | USHER/ GREETER/ ACOLYTE | SOLOIST | LIVESTREAM | LECTOR |
|------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|---------|--------------|----------------|
| 4 | Sue Stirrat | Doug Laird | Cindy Pawlo | TBD | Nick Senior | Mary Kasakove |
| 11 | Maria Jerez | Cindy Pawlo | Sibylle Schroeder | TBD | Sheeba David | Doug Laird |
| 18 | Sandy Carlson | George Pawlo | Howard Corneilson | TBD | Tyler Rice | Demetria Laird |
| 25 | Sheeba David | Sibylle Schroeder | Mary Kasakove | TBD | Ray Mueller | Sue Stirrat |

COUNTER: 4: Anna Santino **11:** George Pawlo **18:** Nita Persson **25:** Ursula Schroeder

ALTAR GUILD: Demetria Laird

BREAD BAKING: Sandy Carlson



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, Sandy Kahler, Karen Qualls, Elfriede & Dick Kiesling, Jim Tangen, Elisabeth & Otto Schroeder, Don Larsen, Joseph Horn, Ryan Manhardt, Evelyn Woodruff, Grace Bessasparis, Jackson Cook, Donna Fahy, Jeanne Scalora, Pat Scalora, Valeriy Braginets, Linda Kahler, Mark Dennis, Mike Urodzinski, John Corneilson, Tim O'Connor, Karen and Ken Predmore and family, David Breault, Charles Wetzel, Patricia Coats, Alia Duffy, Harold Olsen, Neil Nilsen, Aimee Nilsen, Joy Laird, Lydia Millner, Dean Kowal, April Inglin, Bella Adams, Bodhi Maslow, Thaddeus Sorenson, Rick & Jeni Oliva.

Those in mourning: the family of Joey Scollins (nephew of Sandy Carlson), the family of Kenneth Johanson (uncle of Lynn Peterson), Elise Holck and family, and the family of Joey Gear (cousin of Brittanie Scalora). *Please note: names of those in mourning will be listed for 6 months but please keep them always in your prayers.*

JUNE 2023

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|---|---|--|---|-----------|---|
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 <i>2:00 pm</i> Sign Committee meeting <i>5:00 pm</i> Pride Flag Raising at Turkey Brook Park <i>7:45 pm</i> Choir Rehearsal | 2 | 3 |
| 4 <i>10:00 am</i> Service <i>11:30 am</i> Balcony Conversation | 5 <i>7:00 pm</i> Unfinished Objects Night | 6 <i>9:00 am</i> Faith Kitchen <i>6:00 pm</i> Children's Church Zoom | 7 <i>6:30 pm</i> AA Mtg. <i>7:30 pm</i> Bible Study Reconciling Scripture, Metaphor of the Manger, pt. 1 via Zoom | 8 <i>7:45 pm</i> Choir Rehearsal | 9 | 10 |
| 11 <i>10:00 am</i> Service <i>11:00 am</i> Church Bar-b-q and Work Day | 12 | 13 <i>6:00 pm</i> Children's Church Zoom | 14 <i>4:30pm</i> Prayer Service @ Mt. Olive Manor <i>6:30 pm</i> AA Mtg. <i>7:30 pm</i> Bible Study Reconciling Scripture, Metaphor of the Manger, pt. 2 via Zoom | 15 <i>7:45 pm</i> Choir Rehearsal | 16 | 17 <i>8:45am—3:30pm</i> Faith, Hope & Love @ Abiding Presence in Ewing. |
| 18 <i>10:00 am</i> Service Happy Father's Day! | 19 | 20 <i>6:00 pm</i> Children's Church Zoom | 21 <i>2:00 pm</i> Senior's Ministry – Wildwood Arboretum <i>6:30 pm</i> AA Mtg. <i>7:30 pm</i> Bible Study Reconciling Scripture, Reading in Context, pt. 1 via Zoom | 22 <i>7:45 pm</i> Choir Rehearsal | 23 | 24 <i>11:00 am — 4:00 pm</i> Church Table for Morris County Pride Festival, |
| 25 <i>10:00 am</i> Service <i>11:30 am — 1:30 pm</i> Confirmation Class | 26 | 27 <i>6:00 pm</i> Children's Church Zoom | 28 <i>1:00pm</i> W&M Cmte. <i>6:30 pm</i> AA Mtg. <i>7:30 pm</i> Bible Study Reconciling Scripture, Reading in Context, pt. 2 via Zoom | 29 | 30 | 1 |