

VIEW from the lake

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



From the Pastor

More Than Awareness

May, 2023

June Newsletter Deadline
May 29, 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

May is Mental Health Awareness Month and I have mixed feelings about it. On the one hand, an Awareness Month is certainly a vast improvement over earlier ways our society has dealt with the realities of mental illness, from shaming, to institutionalization, to blaming demonic activity. On the other hand, “awareness” is a fairly passive goal. It’s a place to start. We need to be aware of how widespread mental health challenges are to build adequate support systems. We need to be aware of effective treatments to effectively care for mental health needs. We need to be aware of the conditions and factors that exacerbate mental illness to make systemic changes that will make our society healthier. But awareness is only the precondition for any of these changes. We need awareness PLUS destigmatization. We need awareness PLUS investment in treatment. We need awareness PLUS policy changes that address environmental stressors. Awareness alone is not enough.

This raises the question for me of what the church can do including but not limited to raising awareness. In our congregation we have made some efforts to create a safe space. We have posted sign messages that share the Suicide Prevention/ Mental Health emergency number (988). We have held a service of healing specifically addressing the realities of mental health challenges, and provided resource lists. We occasionally offer referrals to counselling services. And I try to do a small part in destigmatizing mental health needs in my sermons and my other reflections and sharing. I hope that we are at least working to reverse the global church’s historic role in blaming and shaming those who struggle with their mental health.

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COUNCIL & MINISTRY LEADERS

Officers

President	Jackie King
Vice President	Aaron Hyndman
Secretary	Nick Senior
Treasurer	George Pawlo

Council Members

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

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

But I also wonder what else we might be able to do. Our little church already does a lot for our members and our larger community, and we certainly cannot fix a massive societal challenge all on our own. But I still think it's worth the question. And maybe that's what an "Awareness month" is really good for. Maybe the more we are reminded to be aware of the problem, the more we will be inspired to look for and work for solutions. So I'm flagging for us that this is a problem that impacts our community in many ways. And I'd love to hear your ideas for ways that we can help.

~ Pastor Serena

Why Do I Give?

"It's a wonderful place with beautiful people that continuously give to the works of the Lord. Being a part of that is important to me and the work abiding peace does is important. I want to help ensure that continues."



Faith Kitchen Shopping List for May 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

Food Pantry Needs—May

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:

- **Canned fruit**
- **Juice**
- **Hot-dogs and buns (please put these directly in the freezer)**



Intercongregational Committee Update

Our congregation has a long history of always being open to new ideas and trying different things. Some work out great and others not so much, but all such attempts are opportunities to try things, learn from them, and consider what God is calling us to do.

As you may recall, a handful of members have met over the past year and explored some options for service to our wider community that would bring together people of different generations. We checked into possible ideas of interest on both a state and a local community level, but due to a lack of need or resources, they didn't work out. Considering our church's overall priorities going forward, this committee is disbanding.

Thanks to the members involved, who will continue of course to serve Abiding Peace in other ways, and have reflected on what we have learned. For example, we recall that finding resources related to what we're exploring is extremely valuable in looking at approaches and steps to take. One important step is doing a needs assessment early in the process, which weeded out the project that the team originally considered.

And we affirm the value of bringing together members of different age groups in church activities. Along this line, watch for information in next month's newsletter inviting all of us from grade-school kids through seniors to gather in a hilltop observatory at a nearby state park some clear night this summer, meet up with local astronomers, and look through their telescopes!

~ Ray Mueller

Senior Meeting Schedule 2023

May 17 Movie

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"

Sept. 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 George Pawlo for a work project cleaning up the upper parking lot and driveway.

- Ray Mueller



The Seder Dinner returned to Abiding Peace this year, as a “Traditional Inclusive” Seder, complete with singing. We were blessed by the leadership of Rachel Marlowe.



— To Sue Stirrat for weeding in front of the church to make it beautiful and welcoming.

— To Mike & George for cleaning the trash from the yellow room.

The Messengers Dancers again graced our worship with a celebratory Hymn dance on Easter Sunday.



Sunday Scripture

May 7

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

May 14

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

May 21

Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10; 32-35
1 Peter 4:12-24, 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

May 28

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

May Birthdays

5 Shell Skeels
11 Jackie Schweir
26 Karina Laird
27 Catherine Blackburne
27 Maria Jerez—Kearney

Pastor Serena—MAY 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 1-May 7

- Wednesday, May 3, 12:00-9:00pm
- Sunday, May 7, 9:00am-12:00pm (offsite for pulpit swap)

May 8 – May 14

- Wednesday, May 10, 10:00am-8:30pm
- Saturday, May 13, 9:00am-3:30pm – Synod Assembly
- Sunday, May 14, 9:00am-12:00pm

May 15 – May 21

- Wednesday, May 17, 10:30am-9:00pm
- Sunday, May 21, 9:00am-1:00pm

May 22 – May 28

- Thursday, May 25, 10:30am-8:30pm
- Sunday, May 28, 9:00am-12:00pm

May 29 – Jun 4

- Wednesday, May 31, 10:30am-8:30pm
- Sunday, June 4, 9:00am-1:00pm

New ALPC FUNDRAISING PROGRAM

To help us raise funds for Abiding Peace with purchases we are already making. The program will be rolled out over the next month to include videos, a congregational lunch and learn, as well as informational emails.

The program is called RAISE RIGHT, and it allows us to raise funds by buying gift to pay for your everyday shopping and spending year-round. Groceries, dining out, home improvement, and everything in between. It's the most convenient and effective way to fundraise because earning becomes part of your everyday life. Plus, gift cards are great for helping you to set and keep a weekly budget.

How it works:

- Create a free account on the RaiseRight mobile app or at [RaiseRight.com](https://www.RaiseRight.com)
- Buy gift cards at full value from 750+ brands. Pick from eGift cards and physical gift cards. (The fee is only \$0.29 for each gift card purchase, regardless of the value).
- Our congregation will earn up to 20% on every gift card you buy.
- Use gift cards at full value for your everyday purchases.
- Watch our fundraising account grow throughout the year, thanks to the brands that give back to support your community!

Have questions or need our organization's enrollment code? Contact: Jackie King or Nick Senior at abidingpeacebuddlake@gmail.com

It's Grow Time!!

Yes, the dogwoods are in bloom and time to get those veggies in the ground. Please look for a sign-up sheet for what you can donate. Besides veggies, perennials, and other plant stuff; your time and help would also be greatly appreciated. Planting date (weather permitting) is planned for Saturday May 20th starting at 9:30 A.M.

~Sue Stirrat

MAY

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

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

May	ASSISTANT MINISTER	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	USHER/ GREETER/ ACOLYTE	SOLOIST	LIVESTREAM	LECTOR
7	Mary Kasakove	Sibylle Schroeder	Sandy Carlson	TBD	Ray Mueller	Demetria Laird
14	Demetria Laird	Howard Corneilson	Mary Kasakove	TBD	Nick Senior	Maria Jerez
21	Doug Laird	Maria Jerez	Howard Corneilson	TBD	Sheeba David	Sue Stirrat
28	Sibylle Schroeder	Mary Kasakove	Doug Laird	TBD	Tyler Rice	Sheeba David

COUNTER: 7: Sandy Carlson **14:** Howard Corneilson **21:** George Pawlo **28:** Nita Persson

ALTAR GUILD: Mary Kasakove

BREAD BAKING: Sibylle Schroeder

EASTER FLOWER CONTRIBUTIONS

In the flurry that is Holy Week bulletin preparations, we failed to include the dedications for Easter Flowers in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Each of these gifts was made with love and intention, and we wish to acknowledge them here:

In memory of: Jean-Baptiste Elias Ason, Brian A. Asong, Helen Adams, Bert Muller, John, Termgard, & John Monselo, Margaret & James Reilly, the Larsons, the Hansons, the Carlsons, Jason Horn, Sue Mehlburg, Joseph & Inez Hyndman, Jorge & Cecelia Masculino, Thomas & Elaine Marlowe, Elena Soriano, Trudy Price, Richard Biunno, Ann Ascot, and loved ones.

In celebration of: The Lairds' grandchildren and children and our Risen Lord.



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 Wetzell, Patricia Coats, Alia Duffy, Patrick Buinno, Harold Olsen, Neil Nilsen, Aimee Nilsen, and Joy Laird.

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

MAY 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 10:00 am Service 12:00 pm MOCA Walk for Compassion	1	2 6:00 pm Children's Church Zoom	3 11:30 am W&M committee Zoom 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm Bible Study Reconciling Scripture, Law & Gospel pt. 2 via Zoom	4 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	5	6
7 10:00 am Pulpit Swap – Peter Froelke preaching 11:30 am Raise Right Learn and Lunch	8	9 6:00 pm Children's Church Zoom	10 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm Bible Study Reconciling Scripture, Canon of Scripture pt. 1 via Zoom	11 7:00 pm Long Range Planning Meeting via Zoom 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	12	13 9:00am—3:30pm Synod Assembly @ Grounds for Sculpture—Hamilton NJ
14 10:00 am Service 11:15 am Mother's Day Brunch	15	16 6:00 pm Children's Church Zoom	17 4:30pm Prayer Service @ Mt. Olive Manor 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm Bible Study Reconciling Scripture, Canon of Scripture pt. 2 via Zoom	18 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	19	20
21 10:00 am Service 11:30 am Balcony Conversation OR Confirmation Class	22	23 6:00 pm Children's Church Zoom	24 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm Bible Study Reconciling Scripture, Metaphor of the Manger pt. 1 via Zoom	25 7:00 pm Guided Meditation 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	26	27
28 10:00 am Service 11:15 am Intergenerational Sunday School OR Balcony Conversation	29	30 6:00 pm Children's Church Zoom 7:00 pm Council Meeting	31 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm Bible Study Reconciling Scripture, Metaphor of the Manger pt. 2 via Zoom	1 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	2	3