

# VIEW FROM THE LAKE

Abiding Peace Lutheran Church

## BEING RESURRECTION PEOPLE

The season of Easter focuses our attention on the significance of the resurrection, not only as a tenet of our faith but as a truth that shapes our lives. We are called to be People of the Resurrection, to embody that transformation that comes from the promise of the empty tomb.

In part, this transformation is about embracing new life in whatever form it takes, including changes to the forms of community and practice that we are accustomed to sharing. Jesus was the same Jesus when he rose again, but he was also different. He bore the scars of his crucifixion, but he also appeared in locked rooms and disappeared from a table after breaking bread. Being people of the Resurrection means that we expect Jesus to do unexpected things and to show up in unexpected places. And this expectation frees us to learn and grow and celebrate the power of Jesus' way to move us out of our comfort zones.

And we actually can *celebrate* this freedom because the other part of being Resurrection people is embracing the freedom from fear. When death is defeated there is nothing left to fear on an ultimate level, and this faith calls us to let go of the less eternal kinds of fear.

Not that such letting go is easy! There is a lot of fear in the air these days and it can be suffocating. It can trap us in a defensive posture of constantly scanning for threats and trying to keep ourselves safe. This was the situation in which Jesus's first disciples found themselves in when he appeared to them in a locked room and commissioned them to go and share the good news. I don't imagine they found this commissioning easy. But they did understand the power of the Resurrection to free us from fear and to call us into something new.

That is our challenge and our invitation this Easter season: to set aside fear, to hear Jesus' call to share the good news of God's grace and love for the oppressed and rejected, and to live as Resurrection People.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen. He is Risen  
Indeed! Alleluia!

June 2025 newsletter deadline: 5/27  
Any news/ photos can be sent to Erin  
[aplcbuddlake@gmail.com](mailto:aplcbuddlake@gmail.com)

**Worship: 10:00 AM**  
**Online/ In-person**



### Our Mission and 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](http://www.abidingpeacechurch.org)

# COUNCIL & MINISTRY

## Food Pantry Needs for May

- Canned fruit
- Canned vegetables
- Soups
- Juice
- Hot dogs & buns
- Frozen meatballs
- Mashed Potato mix
- Crackers
- Gluten free pastas

## Our Staff

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

Music Director:  
Ben Schroeder  
benmschroeder@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant:  
Erin Porter  
aplcbuddlake@gmail.com

## Pastor's Hours

### Apr 28 – May 4

- Tuesday 4/29 – Thursday 5/1: away on retreat, no in-person office hours
- Sunday 5/4: 9:00am-1:00pm

### May 5 – May 11

- Thursday, May 8: 10:00am-9:00pm
- Sunday, May 11, 9:00am-12:00pm

### May 12 – May 18

- Wednesday, May 14: 9:30am-7:30pm
- Sunday, May 17, 9:00am-2:00pm

### May 19 – 25

- Thursday, May 22: 10:00am-9:00pm
- Sunday, May 25, 9:00am-2:00pm

### May 26 – June 1

- Thursday, May 29: 10:00am-9:00pm
- Sunday, June 1, 9:00am-12:00pm

## Officers

Co-Presidents  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

Shelli Skeels / Heather Nilsen  
Aaron Hyndmann  
Jackie King-Palermo  
George Pawlo

## Council Members

Christine Resciniti  
Ken Schwier  
Shelli Skeels  
Sibylle Schroeder  
Heather Nilsen

Jackie King-Palermo  
Maria Jerez-Kearney  
Charlie Palermo  
Aaron Hyndman

## Ministry Leaders

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

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

Pastor Serena will hold office hours on Thursdays (and one Wednesday) in May. As always, check weekly bulletins and Monday e-blast for updates on the times she is scheduled to be in the office and free for drop-ins. 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.

## May Readings

### 5/4

Acts 9:1-20  
Psalm 30  
Revelation 5:11-14  
John 21:1-19

### 5/11

Acts 9:36-43  
Psalm 23  
Revelation 7:9-17  
John 10:22-30

### 5/18

Acts 11:1-18  
Psalm 148  
Revelation 21:1-6  
John 13:31-35

### 5/25

Acts 16:9-15  
Psalm 67  
Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5  
John 14:23-29

## **Council met on April 13. Key discussions and decision below:**

### **Budget challenges:**

YTD we are now behind \$9,589. Spending has been a bit higher than we projected in our budget due to heavy costs for snow plowing/shoveling/salting and heating (natural gas)

Thrive project donations are separate, and are covering the costs of the A.C. installation and patio sealing.

### **Rain Garden update:**

Rutgers team will be completing the land survey and submitting the final design, to include ground cover rather than bushes to keep maintenance low.

### **Partnership efforts:**

Potential partnership with Adult Medical Day Care program discussed in detail, but Council ultimately decided that our site is not appropriate for the needs of the potential partner and raises too many safety concerns.

To correlate with the Mt Olive Pride Party on June 8, the church will be providing space for a Mutual Aid concert on June 7.

### **Constitution Update:**

The Council will be reviewing updates to the Constitution at their May meeting and bringing it to a congregational vote in June.

## **PRIDE PARTY PLANNING**

As you may remember, the township passed an ordinance in December that prohibits the flying of pride flags on township properties. However, the Mayor and the Recreation Department have offered space at Turkey Brook Park for a Pride event in June. Accordingly, a family-friendly PRIDE PARTY is in the works for Sunday, June 8, from 2:00pm-6:00pm. We have the chance to help Pride Mt Olive make this event a great success and set a precedent for the coming years. Erin and Pastor Serena are already collaborating with Pride Mt Olive's organizer for music, programming, food trucks, etc. If you would like to be involved, either in the planning or on the day of the event, please let Pastor Serena know. Many hands makes light work.







Our lovely dancers on Palm Sunday!



**Thanks a Bunch!**

**Thank you to Ursula Schroeder for donating the pansies in the entrance courtyard.**

### **Senior Meeting Schedule 2024**

**May 21** Picnic at Turkey Brook Park or Schooley's Mountain

**June 21** Delaware River Railroad Wine Tour

**July 16** Pool Party at the Pawlo's House

**August 20** Movie

**September 17** Book Review: "Somewhere Beyond the Sea" (Cerulean Cronicles 2) and "Lessons in Chemistry"

**October 15** Halloween Party

**November 19** Christmas/Holiday Party

*\*This schedule is open to changes\**



## MAY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

May 5 - Shelli Skeels  
 May 11 - Jackie Schwier  
 May 24 - John and Sue Stirrat  
 May 26 - Karina Laird  
 May 27 - Catherine Blackburne  
 May 27 - Maria Jerez-Kearney

Did we miss a milestone? Please  
 email Erin  
 (aplcbuddlake@gmail.com) to  
 keep us up to date!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
.	.	.	.	<b>5/1</b> Choir 7:30 PM	<b>5/2</b>	<b>5/3</b> Zumba @ 9:00
<b>5/4</b> Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School during worship	<b>5/5</b> Worship & Music Committee @ 1:00pm via Zoom	<b>5/6</b> Faith Kitchen @ 9:30-12:30	<b>5/7</b> AA @ 6:30pm	<b>5/8</b> Choir 7:30 PM	<b>5/9</b>	<b>5/10</b> Zumba @ 9:00 Interfaith Vigil for Immigrants @ 2:00pm, Trinity UMC
<b>5/11</b> Worship 10:00 AM Mother's Day Brunch	<b>5/12</b>	<b>5/13</b>	<b>5/14</b> Clergy Cluster Meeting 10:00am Blood Drive 1:00-6:00pm Unfinished Objects Gathering 2:00pm AA @ 6:30pm	<b>5/15</b> Choir 7:30 PM	<b>5/16</b>	<b>5/17</b> Zumba @ 9:00
<b>5/18</b> Worship 10:00am Sunday School during worship Council Meeting 11:30	<b>5/19</b>	<b>5/20</b>	<b>5/21</b> AA @ 6:30pm WELCA zoom: Faithful Welcome @ 7:00pm	<b>5/22</b> Prayer Services for Mt Olive Manor @ 4:30pm Choir 7:30 PM	<b>5/23</b>	<b>5/24</b> Zumba @ 9:00
<b>5/25</b> Worship 10:00 AM Walk for Compassion @ 1:00pm	<b>5/26</b>	<b>5/27</b>	<b>5/28</b> AA @ 6:30pm	<b>5/29</b> Choir 7:30 PM	<b>5/30</b>	<b>5/31</b>