

VIEW FROM THE LAKE

THE NEWSLETTER OF ABIDING
PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH -
BUDD LAKE, NJ



DECEMBER 2023

JANUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE:
DECEMBER 27TH

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

From the Pastor

IN AND OUT OF TIME

Can filling out your calendar be a spiritual practice?
Yes... but it takes some set-up to explain
how.

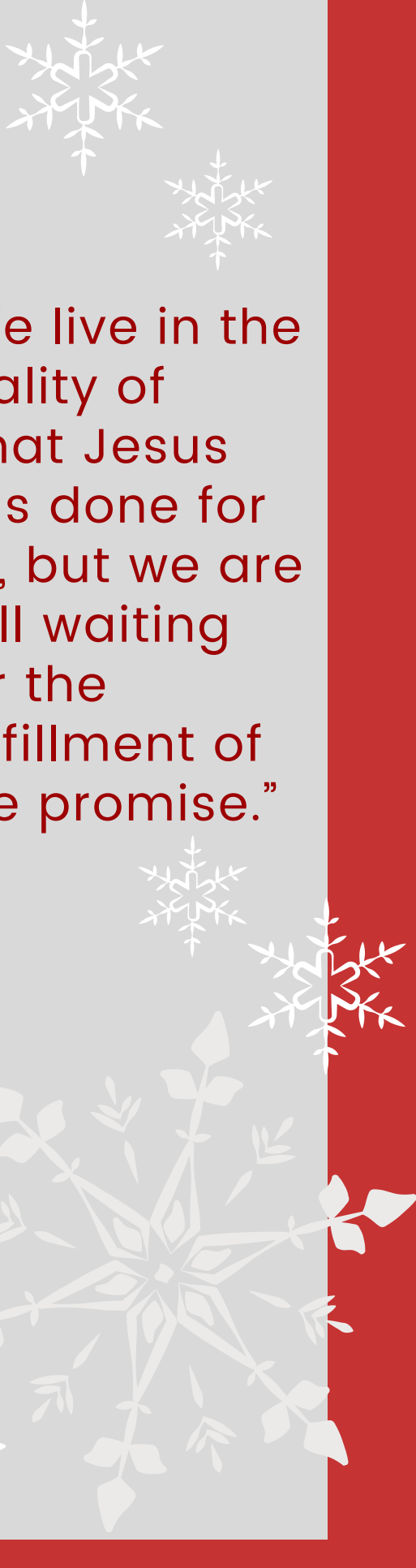
Let's start with the season of Advent. Advent begins the church year with a time of anticipation. While cultural Christmas is full steam ahead as soon as the leftover turkey is packed away in the fridge, the church holds back, calling us to a time of intentional waiting. The baby is not yet born. God-with-us is not yet with us in the timeline of the sacred story. So, we are reminded that part of our reality as Christians is that we are a people who live in a time in between. We live in the reality of what Jesus has already done for us, but we are still waiting for the fulfillment of the promise. And during this time of waiting, we are called to tasks of preparation. Advent preparation is not about decorating the tree and wrapping the presents. It is about preparing our hearts to receive the gift God has for us: the inbreaking of his radically different vision for the world. Anticipation... waiting... in-between-time... preparation. These are themes that all revolve around the ways that we experience and engage with time.

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During this Advent season, our community will be intentionally focusing on the meaning of time. Specifically, our Advent theme explores the double meaning of being out of time. On the one hand, this is a cultural season when we are likely to experience anxiety around running out of time. There is so much to do, and the days counting down to Christmas are so short and go so fast. It is easy to find ourselves subject to the relentless demands of time and its inexorable progress. In contrast, this season also reminds us that God's perspective on time is very different from our own. In fact, God exists outside of time. This external perspective is one of the things that separates us from God, yet the promise of the Christmas season is that God is going to enter time and experience it in the same way that we do - as an inevitable and one-directional progression. In the breaching of that barrier God both joins our experience of being subject to time, but also challenges our anxiety about the march of time. God does not worry about time slipping away or moving too fast. God is with us in our time but also free from its constraints.

Which brings us to the question of using our calendars as a spiritual practice. Our calendars reflect the ways that we organize our time. They can also represent the stress that revolves around time, and our efforts to keep a handle on the activities that fill up our time. They can be a tool OR a tyrant. So, as part of our Advent practices this year, we will be offering a devotional resource that engages us in patterns of starting time, marking time, making time, breaking time, taking time out, and moments in time in which we will use our calendars and other resources to reflect on our experiences of time and to make intentional decisions about our use of time as a way to connect with God during this busy season. This offering will include a post-worship forum on December 3, as well as a weekly devotional resource. Our hope is to get grounded in the Advent time in a way that also pulls us out of time in communion with God.

Pastor Serena



“We live in the reality of what Jesus has done for us, but we are still waiting for the fulfillment of the promise.”

Council & Ministry Members

Officers

President	Howard Corneilson
Vice President	Aaron Hyndman
Secretary	Nick Senior
Treasurer	George Pawlo

Council Members

Cindy Pawlo	Sheeba David
Ken Schwier	Maria Jerez-Kearney
Nick Senior	Howard Corneilson
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
Mutal Ministry	Heather Nilsen
Property	<i>Vacant</i>
Social Ministry	Sibylle Schroeder
Seniors	Sibylle Schroeder
Stewardship	Nick Senior
Worship & Music	Mary Kasakove

Food Pantry Needs December

The food pantry was nicely stocked by a donation from the Mount Olive Democrats food drive, but we would still be grateful for...

- Mac & Cheese (regular or gf)
- Pasta (regular or gf)
- Crushed Tomatoes
- Beans
- Rice
- Vegetable Oil
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Canned Fruit
- Juice
- Hot-Dogs and buns (please put these directly in the freezer)
- Vegan/vegetarian soups
- Vegan/vegetarian protein options (anything frozen must go directly into freezer)



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



Thank You!

A big Thank You to Robert and Ray for your commitment and contributions to the Financial Strategy team that has helped to lead our congregation into this time of discernment about how God is calling us to serve God's mission in the world. You both model the kind of non-anxious leadership that helps our community to lean into faith over fear.

- Pastor Serena

Office Hours

Pastor Serena will hold office hours on Thursday each week in Advent. 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.

Erin will also be in the office on Thursdays, and can be reached by email: aplcbuddlake@gmail.com

December Readings

12/3	12/10
Isaiah 64:1-9	Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19	Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13
1 Corinth. 1:3-9	2 Peter 3:8-15a
Mark 13:24-7	Mark 1:1-8

12/17	12/24
Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11	2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Psalms 126	Luke 1:46b-55
1 Thes. 5:16-24	Romans 16:25-27
John 1:6-8, 19-28	Luke 1:26-38

12/31
Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Psalm 148
Gal. 4:4-7
Luke 2:22-40

11/27-12/3

- ☐ Thursday, 11/30 - 10:30pm-9:00pm
- ☐ Sunday, 12/3 - 9:00am-1:00pm

12/4-12/10

- ☐ Thursday, 12/7 - 10:30pm-9:00pm
- ☐ Sunday, 12/10 - 9:00am-1:00pm

12/11 - 12/17

- ☐ Thursday, 12/14 - 10:30pm-9:00pm
- ☐ Sunday, 12/17 - 9:00am-1:00pm

12/18 - 12/24

- ☐ Thursday, 12/21 - 10:30pm-9:00pm
- ☐ Sunday, 12/24 - 9:00am-12:00pm;
5:30pm-12:00pm

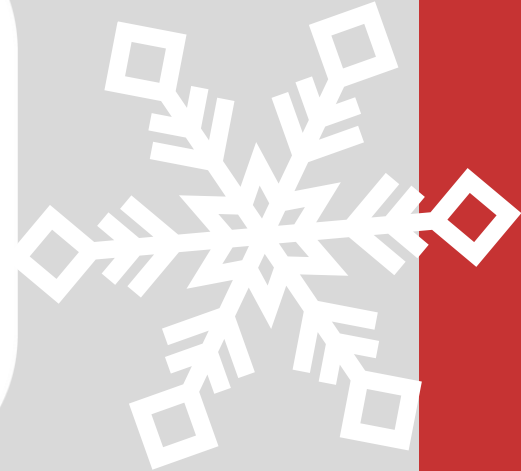
12/25-12/31

- ☐ No weekday office hours
- ☐ Sunday, 12/31 - 9:00am-12:00pm

December Birthdays!



12/4 - Carol Biunno
12/10 - Don Bowe
12/17 - Edward Venator
12/25 - Howard Cornielson
12/29 - Emily Prosser
12/30 - Alice Kandikatla



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

December Happenings

Every Wednesday - AA at 6:30pm

Dec. 3 - Advent Forum: Out of Time @ 11:30am

Dec. 4 - Worship & Music Committee @ 12:30pm via Zoom

Dec. 5 - Faith Kitchen @ 9:00am-12:30pm

Dec. 7 - Advent soup supper @ 7:00pm

Dec. 7 - Advent mid-week service @ 7:30pm

Dec. 7 - Choir rehearsal @ 8:00pm

Dec. 10 - Prayer Partner Gift Exchange @ 11:30am

Dec. 11 - Council meeting @ 7:00pm via Zoom

Dec. 14 - Advent soup supper @ 7:00pm

Dec. 14 - Advent mid-week service @ 7:30pm

Dec. 14 - Choir rehearsal @ 8:00pm

Dec. 17 - Discernment Forum - Our Story So Far @ 11:30am

Dec. 21 - Lessons & Carols service @ Mt Olive Manor @ 4:30pm

Dec. 21 - Advent soup supper @ 7:00pm

Dec. 21 - Advent mid-week service @ 7:30pm

Dec. 21 - Choir rehearsal @ 8:00pm

Dec. 24 - Advent-Christmas Pageant @ 10:00am

Dec. 24 - Candlelight Christmas Eve Service @ 7:00pm

Dec. 24 - Candlelight Christmas Eve Service with Choir @ 10:15pm

December Worship Assistant Schedule

It is your responsibility to find a replacement if you cannot serve

December	12/3	12/10	12/17	12/24 (am)	12/24 (7:00pm)	12/24 (10:15pm)	12/31
Altar Guild	Sibylle Schroeder	Mary Kasakove	Mary Kasakove	Mary Kasakove	Mary Kasakove	Mary Kasakove	Mary Kasakove
Counter	Nita Persson	Howard Corneilson	Anna Santino	George Pawlo	TBA	TBA	Sandy Carlson
Assistant Minister	Maria Jerez	Sue Stirrat	Mary Kasakove	Doug Laird	TBA	TBA	Sheeba David
Lector	Anna Santino	Demetria Laird	Sue Stirrat	Sheeba David	TBA	TBA	Doug Laird
Communion Assistant	Sibylle Schroeder	Mary Kasakove	Maria Jerez	Cindy Pawlo	TBA	TBA	George Pawlo
Usher/Greeter/Acolyte	Sandy Carlson	Doug Laird	Sibylle Schroeder	Howard Corneilson	TBA	TBA	Cindy Pawlo
Soloist	TBA	TBA`	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Livestream Assistant	Ray Mueller	Nick Senior	Sheeba David	Tyler Rice	TBA	Tyler Rice	Ray Mueller

Bread Baking: Serena Rice

Worship Assistants!
Sign-ups for the **Christmas Eve Services** are posted outside of the office.

KEEP THESE FRIENDS IN YOUR HEARTS AND 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, Jim Tangen, Elisabeth & Otto Schroeder, Don Larsen, Joseph Horn, Ryan Manhardt, Evelyn Woodruff, Grace Bessasparis, Jackson Cook, Donna Fahy, Jeanne Scalora, Valeriy Braginet, Linda Kahler, Mark Dennis, Mike Urodzinski, John Corneilson, Tim O'Connor, Karen & Ken Predmore and family, David Breault, Charles Wetzell, Patricia Coats, Alia Duffy, Harold Olsen, Neil Nilsen, Aimee Nilsen, Joy Laird, Lydia Millner, Dean Kowal, April Inglin, Bella Adams, Bodhi Maslow,, Rick & Jeni Oliva, Barbara Pinekenstein, Mike Blondina & family, Joan Lewis, Susan & William Swainy, Scott Schaefer, Audrey Moehringer, Tara Woodard-Lehman, and Peter Arzikovic.

Those in mourning: the family of Elfriede Kiesling, the family of Pat Scalora, the family of Kenneth Johanson (uncle of Lynn Peterson), the family of Elise Holck, and the family of Joey Gear (cousin of Brittanie Scalora).