

August 2024

# VIEW FROM THE LAKE

Abiding Peace Lutheran Church

## Valuing Small Steps by Pastor Serena

As our congregation launches a new Green Team initiative in response to the Bishop's Challenge for this year, I want to name the ways that a challenge like this can trigger anxiety.

We all care about the health of Creation. Of course we do. But the magnitude of the problems facing our planet, and the ways that those problems seem to be inescapably intertwined with our economy and way of life, make it feel impossible to make a difference. Scientists tell us that we have passed the point of no return on Climate Change, and the realities of suburban infrastructure make us entirely dependent on transportation by personal vehicles, and what can one person really do in the face of a global crisis? Understanding how big the problem is makes it feel pointless to do anything at all in response.

In contrast to that instinct toward helpless apathy, the Bishop's Challenge is to identify the small things that we can do. Care of Creation is not a "yes or no" proposition. There are a hundred different kinds of small changes that we can consider at the individual and community level. The Synod offers suggestions for congregations in five different categories: building; grounds; programs; worship & education; and community action & activism (see: <https://www.learnj.org/bishops-challenge>). The challenge is not to do EVERYTHING, but rather to identify the things that make sense for us. We have already started, purchasing washable mugs (with a donation and Thrivent money) to reduce our usage of disposable cups at fellowship hour.

Our new congregational Green Team will be exploring other actions that make sense for our congregation. As individuals we have similar opportunities to make the changes that work for us and the planet. Maybe it looks like reducing or eliminating red meat from your diet (because cattle has a disproportionate impact on carbon emissions relative to all other food sources), or being intentional about limiting single-use plastics, or looking for carpool opportunities or public transit when possible. Any individual step may or may not work for you, but the point is to figure out what small steps DO work.

No one change in your life is going to shift the needle of global environmental challenges, but small steps add up, especially when we are all doing something. And this is one more way that it matters that we are the Body of Christ. We do not approach the challenge of Care of Creation as isolated individuals. We are all in this together. When we each make small steps, and encourage each other in taking the steps that make sense for each of us, we can make big strides as a united body.



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

September 2024 newsletter deadline: 8/27  
Any news/ photos can be sent to Erin  
[aplcbuddlake@gmail.com](mailto:aplcbuddlake@gmail.com)

### 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 August

- Parmalat Milk
- Rice
- Vegetable Oil
- PB & Jelly
- Canned Fruit
- Juice
- Hot-Dogs and buns
- Soups
- Vegan/vegetarian protein options
- Toiletries
- Bread
- Meatballs  
(proteins & breads 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



## Office Hours

Pastor Serena will hold office hours on Thursdays in August. As always, check weekly bulletins and Monday e-blast for updates on the times she is scheduled to be in the office. 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 hold her office hours on Wednesday or Thursday of each week from 9:00-12:00.

She can always be reached via email: aplcbuddlake@gmail.com

## Officers

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

Cindy Pawlo  
Heather Nilsen  
Jackie King-Palermo  
George Pawlo

## Council Members

Cindy Pawlo  
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  
Mutal 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's August hours

### July 29 - Aug 4

Thursday, 8/1: 10:00am - 8:00pm

Sunday, 8/4: 9:00am-1:00pm

### Aug 5 - Aug 11

Thursday, 8/8: 10:30am - 8:30pm

Sunday, 8/11: 9:00am-2:00pm

### Aug 12 - Aug 18

□ Vacation

### Aug 19 - Aug 25

Thursday, 8/22: 10:00am - 8:00pm

Sunday, 8/25: 9:00am-2:00pm

### Aug 26 - Sept 1

Thursday, 8/29: 10:00am - 8:00pm

Sunday, 9/1: 9:00am-1:00pm

## August Readings

**8/4:** Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15, Psalm 78:23-29, Ephesians 4:1-16, John 6:24-35

**8/11:** 1 Kings 19:4-8, Psalm 34:1-8, Ephesians 4:25-5:2, John 6:35, 41-51

**8/18:** Proverbs 9:1-6, Psalm 34:9-14, Ephesians 5:15-20, John 6:51-58

**8/25:** Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18, Psalm 34:15-22, Ephesians 6:10-20, John 6:56-69

## Do you shop?

Interesting question, of course you do.

What we would like to know is what you purchase for and is used at and for Abiding Peace. This would not include goods that are given out to those in need, such as our Food Bank or the Soup Kitchen. We want to have a complete list of any and all types of things that are purchased and where they are purchased. If you buy something and give it as a donation, we want to know. Whatever it is, coffee, paper plates, computers, palms, wine, special celebration food, etcetera, we want to know. This would also include any repair or service people that came to the building. Do not assume that since Abiding Peace is billed for it, we know – the treasurer has enough responsibilities.

Why are we asking this? We are putting together a comprehensive list of where we can get what is needed when needed. We may even be able to work out an arrangement with some vendors if we find that there are several individuals buying for Abiding Peace at that vendor for a better deal.

So please, let Howard Corneilson (hgcorn@optonline.net) know what things you buy and where you buy them. Thank you for your help.



## It's Never too Late to Join Book Club!

If you missed the first book club session on *An Altar in the World*, don't worry. There is still plenty of inspiration to explore. We will be gathering on Zoom for two more sessions, considering quotes from the books and the ways that they call us to consider our own lives and practices so that we can better recognize the ways that God is evident all around us. Make sure to put the remaining sessions on your calendar, and consider picking up a copy of the book:

**Session 2 (chapters 5-8): Thursday, August 8  
@7:30pm**

**Session 3 (chapters 9-12): Thursday, August 29 @  
7:30pm**

## Sign Messages Wanted!

Want an easy way to help the church reach out to our community? Use your creativity to suggest new sign messages. Send your ideas to Pastor Serena.

**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

8/10 Don & Cecilia Bowe  
 8/20 Serena & Tyler Rice  
 8/28 Kevin Tangen  
 8/30 Laurel Kamin

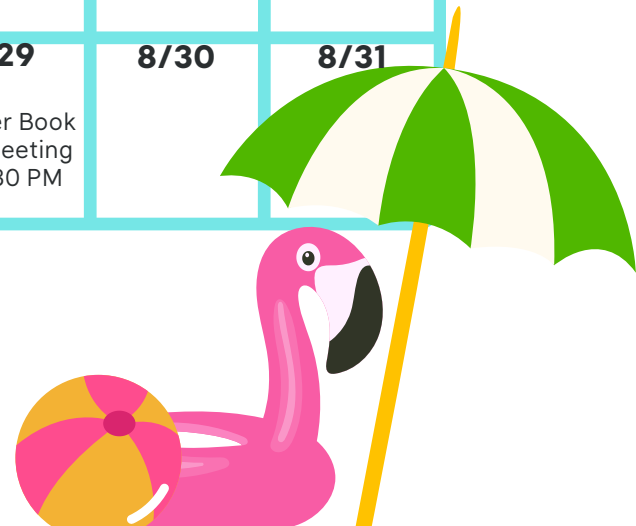


**Did we miss a milestone? Please email Erin (aplcuddlake@gmail.com) to keep us up to date!**

**SENIOR EVENTS**

Aug 21 Pool party at Pawlo's  
 Sept. 18 "UFO of God: The Extraordinary True Story of Chris Bledsoe"  
 Oct. 18 Halloween Party  
 Nov.29 Christmas/Holiday Party  
 This schedule is open to change.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>8/1</b> Value Alignment Training 6:30 PM (zoom)	<b>8/2</b>	<b>8/3</b>
<b>8/4</b> Worship 10:00 Sign Committee Open Invite Meeting 11:30	<b>8/5</b> Worship&Music Committee 1:00 (zoom) UFO Night 7:00 PM	<b>8/6</b> Faith Kitchen 9:00-12:30	<b>8/7</b> AA 6:30 PM	<b>8/8</b> Summer Book Club Meeting #2 7:30 PM	<b>8/9</b>	<b>8/10</b>
<b>8/11</b> Worship 10:00 Church Painting & Pizza Day 11:00	<b>8/12</b>	<b>8/13</b>	<b>8/14</b> AA 6:30 PM	<b>8/15</b>	<b>8/16</b>	<b>8/17</b>
<b>8/18</b> Worship 10:00 Guest Preacher Brigid Dwyer	<b>8/19</b>	<b>8/20</b>	<b>8/21</b> Seniors Pool Party @ the Pawlo's 2:00 AA 6:30 PM	<b>8/22</b> Prayer Service @Mt Olive Manor 4:30	<b>8/23</b>	<b>8/24</b>
<b>8/25</b> Worship 10:00 Council meeting 11:30	<b>8/26</b>	<b>8/27</b>	<b>8/28</b> AA 6:30 PM	<b>8/29</b> Summer Book Club Meeting #3 7:30 PM	<b>8/30</b>	<b>8/31</b>



**August 2024  
WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

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

	8/4	8/11	8/18	8/25
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Mary Karakove	Sandy Carlson	TBA	Shelli Skeels
<b>Counter</b>	George Pawlo	Ursula Schroeder	Howard Corneilson	Nita Persson
<b>Assistant Minister</b>	Sue Stirrat	Sandy Carlson	Maria Jerez	Mary Kasakove
<b>Lector</b>	Anna Santino	Roy Persson	Demetria Laird	Doug Laird
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Howard Corneilson	Cindy Pawlo	George Pawlo	Howard Corneilson
<b>Usher/Greeter / Acolyte</b>	Sandy Carlson	Howard Corneilson	Sandy Carlson	Cindy Pawlo
<b>Soloist</b>	Sibylle Schroeder	Maria Jerez	Sheeba David	Aaron Hyndman
<b>Accompanist</b>	Mary Kasakove	Praise Band	Karen Coates	George Pawlo
<b>Livestream Assistant</b>	Ray Mueller	Sheeba David	Nick Senior	Tyler Rice

**BREAD BAKING:** Serena Rice

