

# VIEW FROM THE LAKE

## ABIDING PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

### MESSY METAPHOR

BY PASTOR SERENA

As many of you know, I did not grow up in a liturgical church tradition, so much of the traditional imagery associated with church seasons was something I got to discover once I found the Lutheran church. I must also admit, however, that I did not always really pay much attention to it. It was the Lutheran theology that pulled me into this branch of Christ's church much more than the forms and depth of the worship. It took until I was responsible for actually planning the flow and content of the liturgy for me to really appreciate the significance and intention behind so many of the things that add layers of meaning to our worship.

I remember during my first Easter season at Abiding Peace seeing the banners and altar paraments for the first time, decorated with beautiful butterflies, and just thinking, "Oh, that's pretty. I guess that's sort of a spring image." It wasn't until I mentioned them to Mary and she replied that butterflies were a traditional image for Easter because of the association of new life coming from the grave that I put the pieces together. We don't have butterflies on our Easter linens because they are "pretty." They are a powerful symbol of resurrection. The flightless caterpillar must be enclosed in its cocoon tomb and die to its former life in order to emerge as a butterfly.

The metaphor is a powerful one... but it's definitely not pretty. Not if you know anything about what happens during the metamorphosis. Without getting into the gooey details (and they are gooey), the caterpillar essentially has to dissolve so that all of the building blocks of its physical body can be reorganized from one configuration to another. The result can be breathtakingly beautiful, and the ephemeral nature of that beauty can create an illusion of fragility, but the process to get there is born out of the enormous strength required to let go of what is known in order to allow for transformation.

As our congregation is facing a tremendous task of transformation this year, I deeply appreciate this Easter metaphor. Not because of its beauty but because of its messiness. There is a comfort in the reminder that change usually involves taking things apart before they can be put back together. And there is encouragement in the truth that sometimes what looks like fragility is really courageous strength. This is the heart of the story we find in the empty tomb. The evidence that new life comes through the death of what came before, and even though the process can be very messy, the result is worth it.

**WORSHIP: 10:00 AM ONLINE/  
IN-PERSON**

**MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: 4/27  
ANY NEWS/ PHOTOS CAN BE SENT TO ERIN  
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 APRIL

- Parmalat Milk
- Crushed Tomatoes
- Beans
- Rice
- Vegetable Oil
- PB & Jelly
- Canned Fruit
- Juice
- Hot-Dogs and buns
- Vegan/vegetarian soups
- Vegan/vegetarian protein options
- Toiletries
- Re-usable bags!  
(proteins & breads must go directly into freezer)

**THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR COMMUNITY!**  
-ERIN

### 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**

### 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 limited office hours in April due to vacation and continuing education. 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 be on tour the first week of April, and will be in the office Tuesday from 9:00-12:00. After that, she'll be back to Thursdays from 9:00-12:00, and can always be reached via email: aplcbuddlake@gmail.com

### PASTOR'S APRIL HOURS

#### April 1 – 7: Vacation

For emergency pastoral needs, contact  
Pastor Peggy Ludlow (973) 827-5251

#### April 8 - 14

Wednesday, 4/10 – 12:00pm – 8:00pm  
Sunday, 4/14 – 9:00am – 1:00pm

#### April 15 -21

Wednesday, 4/17 – 10:30am – 8:30pm  
Sunday, 4/21– 9:00am – 2:00pm

#### April 22-28

No weekday office hours – Continuing  
Education retreat  
Sunday, 4/14 – 9:00am – 1:00pm

### APRIL READINGS

4/1

Acts 4:32-35  
Psalm 133  
I John 1:1-2:2  
John 20:19-31

4/14

Acts 3:12-19  
Psalm 4  
I John 3:1-7  
Luke 24:36b-48

4/21

Acts 4:5-12  
Psalm 23  
I John 3:16-24  
John 10:11-18

4/28

Acts 8:26-40j  
Psalm 22:25-31  
I John 4:7-211  
John 15:1-8

## LITTLE LEARNERS SUNDAY SCHOOL!

At the request of one of our families we have launched a new mid-service Sunday School program targeted to children from preschool to Kindergarten age. Our own Children's Librarian Heather Nilsen has put together an age-appropriate format for teaching our little ones about God's love for them and the world through song, story, and craft. To balance the needs of our families and teachers, the class will be held every other week during worship. See below for the schedule through the rest of Spring, and make sure to invite any little ones in your life who might benefit from this offering:

April 7, 21  
May 5, 19  
June 2, 16, 30

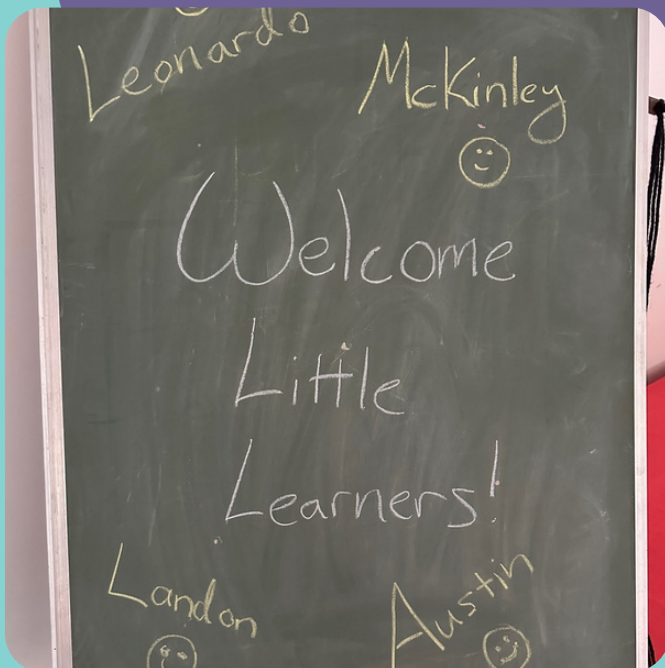
## A NOTE FROM JEN!

There is a need for computers by people who cannot afford computers. I have a friend who takes these unused computers and makes new ones for people in need.

Anyone who has computers or computer parts, they no longer need can donate them to this endeavor.

Please call Kate Draven  
862 324 3679.

If anyone needs help with their computers feel free to contact her.



## THE WINNERS CIRCLE!

Congratulations to our chili cook-off winners! First place went to Jackie Palermo; second place went to Rosalyn Diamant; third place went to Aaron Hyndman. Great job, everyone!!

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS!**

- 4/3 - Nancy Ayotte
- 4/5 - Anoop Kandikatla
- 4/8 - Sue Stirrat
- 4/10 - John Cranmer and Demetria Laird
- 4/22 - Mary Kasakove and Krista Persson
- 4/26 - Jim Tangen
- 4/29 - Cindy Pawlo

**DID WE MISS A BIRTHDAY? PLEASE EMAIL ERIN (CAPLCBUDDLAKE@GMAIL.COM) TO KEEP US UP TO DATE!**

**SENIOR EVENTS**

- April 17 Tea Party
  - May 15 "If" movie
  - June 19 Frelinghuysen Arboretum
  - July 17 Games
  - 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
	4/1	4/2	4/3	4/4	4/5	4/6
4/7 Worship 10:00 Sunday School during 10:00 service	4/8	4/9 Faith Kitchen 9:00am-12:30pm Worship&Music Committee meeting 1:00pm	4/10 Outreach Team meeting - Social Media Policy 1:00pm AA 6:30 PM	4/11 Financial Strategy Team meeting 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:45pm	4/12	4/13
4/14 Worship 10:00 Congregational Forum: Sustainability & Stakeholders	4/15	4/16	4/17 Prayer Service at Mt Olive Manor 4:30pm  AA 6:30 PM	4/18 7:45pm – Choir Rehearsal	4/19	4/20
4/21 Worship 10:00 Sunday School Church Council 11:30am	4/22	4/23	4/24 Seniors Ministry Tea Party 2:00pm  AA 6:30 PM	4/25 7:45pm – Choir Rehearsal	4/26	4/27
4/28 Worship 10:00 Forum: Mental Health Stigma Free pledge	4/29	4/30				

April 2024  
WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

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

March	4/7	4/14	4/21	4/28
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Demetria Laird	Demetria Laird	Demetria Laird	Demetria Laird
<b>Counter</b>	Sandy Carlson	Anna Santino	George Pawlo	Howard Corneilson
<b>Assistant Minister</b>	Sibylle Schroeder	Demetria Laird	Sandy Carlson	Sheeba David
<b>Lector</b>	Mary Kasakove	Anna Santino	Roy Persson	Doug Laird
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Doug Laird	Sibylle Schroeder	Mary Kasakove	Cindy Pawlo
<b>Usher/Greeter/Acolyte</b>	Cindy Pawlo	Howard Corneilson	Sibylle Schroeder	Mary Kasakove
<b>Soloist</b>	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
<b>Livestream Assistant</b>	Sheeba David	Ray Mueller	Tyler Rice	Nick Senior

**BREAD BAKING:**

Serena Rice