

# VIEW from the lake

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



From the Pastor

## Ministry Mindset

Over the next two months you'll be hearing more than usual about our church finances. In part that is due to the season (October-November is "stewardship time" in the church world), and in part it is due to some hard realities about the congregation's current financial situation. We always have these conversations first at the Council - to think and pray together about how to approach the budgetary side of leading the congregation into a new year of ministry - and I will admit that I was feeling a little bit anxious going into the September meeting, knowing this topic was on the agenda.

And then... it turned out to be one of the most inspiring Council meetings we have had in a long time. We talked about all the hard things - the monthly budget shortfall, the long-term capital needs of the building, the drop in membership - but the context of the conversation was not about anxiety and handwringing. It was about what God is calling us to do and to be as God's church in this time and place. Because that calling is what lies at the center of our identity as Abiding Peace. We believe that we have been called together as a community of faith to actually have an impact. We exist to grow faith, and to practice love for God and our neighbor, and to make a real difference in the lives of people both inside and outside our congregation. Making decisions about our budget and our building are a necessary part of equipping that mission, but they are not the central thing. They are just a part of the means. The central thing is discerning how God is calling our congregation to minister in this particular time and place, and then committing to do that.

The financial challenges the congregation is facing are giving us the chance to **ask the big questions about our mission**, the questions that are easier to ignore when everything is stable and we can just keep going along the way that we always have. On November 19, the Council will be leading a special

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October, 2023

October Newsletter Deadline  
October 24, 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](http://www.abidingpeacechurch.org)

**COUNCIL & MINISTRY LEADERS**

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
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:**

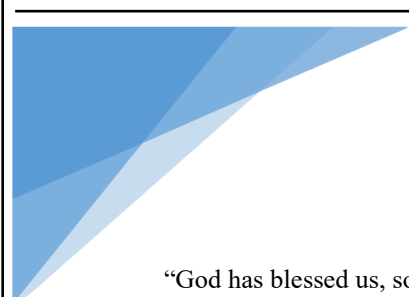
Kev Schneider  
 aplcbuddlake@gmail.com

*Continued from page 1—Pastor’s Column*

congregational meeting to explore three different visions of where God is leading us in terms of the shape of our congregational ministry. We will explore what it would look like to make more significant budget cuts to maintain our current model of ministry; what it might look like to leverage our building as a shared-space resource for the larger community; and what it might look like to sell the building to shift our ministry model more substantially. Even listing out these different exploratory options in a newsletter article will, I expect, raise some big emotions and concerns in the congregation, but I want to encourage you to genuinely see this as an opportunity. When we are comfortable, it’s easy to get complacent and to avoid curiosity about what God is up to among us. Right now, we have the chance to explore and discern together. And that is the plan. To explore these questions together. To do this discernment as a community - with thoughtful leadership from the Council, but with the full participation of the congregation.

Each week we pray to God in worship: “thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” This prayer is a central part of who we are as church: we are people who are defined by our participation in God’s work in the world. There are lots of different ways that work can happen, and as long as we listen for God’s leading, we will nurture the kind of ministry mindset that will continue to nurture our community.

*~ Pastor Serena*



*Why Do I Give?*

“God has blessed us, so let us share with the church and others.”

November 2022 – Survey Response

### All Saints Remembrances

For our service of All Saints Sunday, Abiding Peace will be remembering in our prayers those who have left this life during the past year. If you would like the name of a loved one included in these prayers, please send an email to Kev Schneider (aplcbuddlake@gmail.com) by Monday, Oct. 30.

As in past years we will also include in the service a time for worshipers to come forward and light a candle in remembrance of any loved ones who has departed.



### Faith Kitchen Shopping List for October 2023

- 3 rings of kielbasi
- 6 cans of whole potatoes
- 2 large bags of saurkraut

If you have any questions, please call me and let me know, 973-459-0908.

With gratitude, *Sibylle Schroeder*—Social Ministry



### Senior Meeting Schedule 2023

**Oct. 18** Halloween Party

**Nov. 29** Christmas/Holiday Party

*This schedule is open to changes.*

### Food Pantry Needs— October

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:

- **Mac & Cheese**
- **Pasta**
- **Crushed Tomatoes**
- **Beans**
- **Rice**
- **Vegetable Oil**
- **Peanuts Butter & Jelly**
- **Canned fruit**
- **Juice**
- **Hot-dogs and buns (please put these directly in the freezer)**



### Thank You Corner

— Many thanks to George Pawlo and Mike Schroeder for your hard work on removing the warped wood from our cross on the hill between the parking lots. It looks much better now!

~ Pastor Serena

# Sunday Scripture

## October 1

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32  
Psalm 25:1-9  
Philippians 2:1-13  
Matthew 21:23-32

## October 8

Jeremiah 18:1-6  
Psalm 139:1-18  
II Corinthians 4:1, 5-7  
Romans 8:14-19, 26-27

## October 15

Isaiah 25:1-9  
Psalm 23  
Philippians 4:1-9  
Matthew 22:1-14

## October 22

Isaiah 45:1-7  
Psalm 96:1-13  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
Matthew 22:15-22

## October 29

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18  
Psalm 1  
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8  
Matthew 22:34-46

# October Birthdays

8 Lynn Peterson  
14 Thomas Blackburne  
23 Marco Ponce  
31 Maddox Rice

# October Anniversaries

2 George and Cindy Pawlo  
15 Carol and Richard Biunno  
21 Jim & Maria Kearney  
30 Rod and Barbara Prosser

**Did we miss a birthday? Please email Kev ([aplcbuddlake@gmail.com](mailto:aplcbuddlake@gmail.com)) to keep everything up to date!**

## Unfinished Object Night October 9 \* 7:00 pm

Come and join us for Unfinished Object Night at 7:00 pm. For information and to make sure it's on call Sibylle at 973-691-1910.



## Pastor Serena— OCTOBER OFFICE-HOURS:

Pastor Serena will hold office hours on either Wednesday or Thursday each week, with the exception of a vacation week (split between two half-weeks). 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](mailto:pastorserena@optimum.net). Her day off is Saturday, so please refrain from sending non-emergency messages or calls on Saturday.

Oct 2-8 (1/2 of week - vacation)

- Wednesday, 10/4 - 10:30am-8:30pm
- Sunday, 10/8 (Vacation Sunday)

Oct. 9-15

- Wednesday, 10/11 - 12:00pm-9:00pm
- Sunday, 10/15 - 9:00am-2:00pm

Oct. 16-22 (1/2 of week - vacation)

- Wednesday, 10/18 - 10/20 - vacation (no office hours this week)
- Sunday, 10/22 - 9:00am-4:30pm

Oct 23-29

- Wednesday, 10/25 - 12:00pm-9:00pm
- Sunday, 10/29 - 9:00am-2:00pm

Oct 30-Nov 5

- Wednesday, 10/25 - 12:00pm-9:00pm
- Sunday, 10/29 - 9:00am-2:00pm

## Sunday, 10/1 10:00 am

Pet owners are invited to bring their pets or pet photos to our regular Sunday worship service.

Dogs must be leashed.  
Cats and critters in cages and carriers please.

Fellowship for all following the service. For more information call (973) 691-9393.



**All are welcome**

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

October	10/1	10/8	10/15	10/22	10/29
Altar Guild	Sibylle Schroeder	Sibylle Schroeder	Sibylle Schroeder	Sibylle Schroeder	Sibylle Schroeder
Counter	Howard Corneilson	Anna Santino	George Pawlo	Nita Persson	Ursula Schroeder
Assistant Minister	Sibylle Schroeder	Sue Stirrat	Maria Jerez	Sandy Carlson	Sheeba David
Lector	Demetria Laird	Maria Jerez	Anna Santino	Sue Stirrat	Mary Kasakove
Communion Assistant	Maria Jerez	Mary Kasakove	Doug Laird	Cindy Pawlo	George Pawlo
Usher/Greeter/Acolyte	Mary Kasakove	Howard Corneilson	Sandy Carlson	Doug Laird	Cindy Pawlo
Soloist	Sheeba Davud	Demetria Laird	TBD	TBD	TBD
Livestream Assistant	Tyler Rice	Ray Mueller	Nick Senior	Sheeba David	Nick Senior

**BREAD BAKING:** Sibylle Schroeder



*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, Valeriy Braginets, Linda Kahler, Mark Dennis, Mike Urodzinski, Karen & Ken Predmore and family, David Breault, 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, Mike Blondina & family, Michael LeFave, and Joan Lewis.

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

*Please note: names of those in mourning will be listed for 6 months but please keep them always in your pray-*

# OCTOBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 10:00 am Blessing of the Animals in worship 11:00 am Pumpkin Spice Coffee Hour	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 9:00 am Faith Kitchen	<b>4</b> 1:00 pm Worship & Music Committee via Zoom 7:30 pm NT Background Study: Jewish Context, via Zoom	<b>5</b> 6:00 pm Children's Church 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 10:00 am Service, Guest Preacher Pastor Joy Kulvicki 11:30 am Vocation Spotlight: Sibylle Schroeder	<b>9</b> 7:00 pm Unfinished Objects Night 7:00 pm Synod Anti-racism Team meeting - open invite via Zoom	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 4:30 pm Prayer Service @ Mt. Olive Manor 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm NT Background Study: Greco-Roman Context, via Zoom	<b>12</b> 6:00 pm Children's Church 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 10:00 am Service 11:30 am Council meeting	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 2:00 pm Senior's Ministry—Halloween Party 6:30 pm AA Mtg.	<b>19</b> 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 10:00 am Service 2:30 pm Brave Space Rebooted @ Mt Olive Senior Center	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <i>Deadline for November Newsletter Submissions</i>	<b>25</b> 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm NT Background Study: The Historical Jesus, via Zoom	<b>26</b> 6:00 pm Children's Church 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 10:00 am Confirmation & Reformation Sunday 11:30pm Reformation Faire & Lunch  <i>Deadline for October Flower Orders</i>	<b>30</b> <i>Deadline to submit names for inclusion in the Prayers for All Saints Sunday</i>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm NT Background Study: The Afterlife in Greek, Roman & Jewish Thought	<b>2</b> 6:00pm Children's Church 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>