



VIEW

from the lake

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



From the Pastor

Holy Play

A few weeks ago, a pastor-friend shared a beautiful quote (from writer and theologian Mike Yaconelli) that both challenges and inspires me:

“Play is an expression of God's presence in the world; one clear sign of God's absence in society is the absence of playfulness and laughter. Play is not an escape; it is the way to release the life-smothering grip of busyness, stress, and anxiety. Playfulness is a modern expression of hope, a celebration of the flickering light of the gospel that plays with the dark by pouncing on the surrounding darkness like a cat toying with a mouse.”

I will admit that this would probably NOT be my instinctive way of describing the gospel, but I want it to be. What is more, I think it is true. I think playfulness does reveal to us something essential about God's essence – God's will for connection and joy for their own sake, needing no other justification.

What would it mean if we could truly embrace the holiness of play? What if we could long for play not ONLY as a release from “the life-smothering grip of busyness, stress, and anxiety,” or even for the sake of fun, but as a chance to catch a glimpse of the face of God? Could that shift the way that we think about God? The way that we pray? The way that we bear witness to the gospel in our lives?

Summer is often thought of as the season for play because it means a break from school for children, and longer days in which the end of the workday does not mean the end of the light. Scripture and faith also use light as a metaphor for God, because in the light we are able to see more clearly. So, July seems like a good month in which to challenge ourselves to *see* God in every opportunity for play. Whether it's outdoor activities, or vacations, or get-togethers with friends, or the chance to play with any children (or children at heart) in our lives, let each moment of play be a reminder to us that God is the source of joy.

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July, 2022

August Newsletter Deadline
July 18, 2022

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.

Phone: 973-691-9393
Website: www.abidingpeacechurch.org

COUNCIL & MINISTRY LEADERS

Officers

President	Jackie King
Vice President	Shelli Skeels
Secretary	Sheeba David
Treasurer	Nick Senior

Council Members

Sandy Carlson	Cindy Pawlo
Sheeba David	Ken Schwier
Maria Jerez-Kearney	Nick Senior
Jackie King	ShelliSkeels
Heather Nilsen	

Ministry Leaders

Arts & Crafts	Sibylle Schroeder
Christian Education & Youth	<i>Vacant</i>
Evangelism	<i>Vacant</i>
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
Cell: 908-458-3940

Music Director:

Ben Schroeder
benmschroeder@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant:

Christine Strobel
office@abidingpeacechurch.org

Continued from page 1—Pastor's column

I'd love to hear back from you all at the end of the month with any ways this practice has changed your spiritual life.

~ *Pastor Serena*

July Pastoral Coverage

Pastor Serena will be on leave from July 4-31. During that time, she will be taking a complete respite from church responsibilities and relationships in order to focus on deep spiritual and personal renewal. Please refrain from reaching out (by phone, text, messenger, etc.) for the four weeks of her leave. If you have a matter that you would like her to follow-up on after her return from leave, you may e-mail her at her church e-mail (pastorserena@optimum.net) which she will be checking once she returns in August.

For pastoral care needs during the 4 weeks that Pastor Serena is away, there are two local pastors available for emergency calls:

- Pastor Fred Becker: (973) 366-2821 (O) or (617) 642-6557 (H)
- Pastor Julia Haspel: (201) 337-4900 (O)

In addition, three members of the Abiding Peace Congregation are available for prayer and support as part of the congregation's pastoral care team:

- Sibylle Schroeder: (973) 459-0908 (C)
- Ray Mueller: (973) 691-2088 (H)
- Cindy Pawlo: (908) 852-0139 (H)

One or more of the available resources may not be in town on any given day, but reach out if you have a need, and someone will be there for you. This is what it means to be community.

Sunday Scripture

July 3

2 Kings 5:1-14
Psalm 30
Galatians 6:1-16
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 10

Amos 7:7-17
Psalm 82
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

July 17

Amos 8:1-12
Psalm 52
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42

July 24

Hosea 1:2-10
Psalm 85
Colossians 2:6-19
Luke 11:1-13

July 31

Hosea 11:1-11
Psalm 107:1-9, 43
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21

Senior Meeting Schedule 2022

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 7/20 | Movie: Matinee in Hackettstown |
| 8/17 | Games |
| 9/21 | Book Review: The House in the Cerulean Sea by T.J. Klune |
| 10/19 | Halloween Party |
| 11/16 | Party with music by Lynn Peterson
~ maybe a craft? |



CROSS ROADS CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER

Cross Roads Camp Summer Opportunities

Work at Camp This Summer!

If you know any young adults (aged 18 and up) who are looking for a meaningful summer job that will build their faith and connect them to community, tell them about Crossroads camp! Applications for the Cross Roads Summer Staff 2022 are LIVE! They are hiring awesome young adults who would be a great fit for any of our open positions next summer. Employment runs from mid-June through mid-August 2022. [Click here](#) to apply or to download a flyer to share with young adults in your community.

Summer Camp Registration Is Open

Registration for Summer Camp 2022 at Cross Roads is now open! Explore all the offerings for youth in grades 2-12 as well as family camp programs on the [Cross Roads website](#). You will never regret a week spent building faith and community at Cross Roads.

Come to Family Camp!

In the middle of August, Pastor Serena will be serving as the Chaplain at nearby Crossroads Camp (the Outdoor Ministry program of the Lutheran Synod, and Episcopal Diocese). Unlike the kids camps of earlier in the Summer, August 14-21 is “family camp,” a chance for households of all ages and types (no kids required) to gather together at camp for learning, fellowship, worship, and time in nature. The Rice family has been going every year that it has been offered since 2017 because it is such wonderful time together, and they would love to see some of their Abiding Peace family there this year. Family Camp has two sessions: Sunday – Friday (**August 14-19**), and Friday – Sunday (**August 19-21**). You can sign-up for one or both. Price is very reasonable and varies depending on the accommodations you choose (The Christ Center is like hotel living – private bedrooms and baths; or you can choose cabin camping, with a shared bath house). Plus, the food is excellent! If you are interested, talk to Pastor Serena for more information, or register at <https://www.crossroadsretreat.com/family-camp/>



Faith Kitchen Shopping List for July 5

Kielbasa/Sauerkraut

- ~ 4 large cans or 8 small cans whole potatoes (preferably with a pull tab)
- ~ 2 large bags of sauerkraut
- ~ 1 large or 3 small packages of Kielbasa

Please bring these items to church on Sunday, July 3.

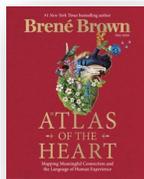
If you have any questions, please call me and let me know, 973-459-0908.

With gratitude,

Sibylle Schroeder, Social Ministry

Summer Book Club

As you might have seen in Pastor's "Weekly Wisdom" reflections the past few weeks, our Summer Book Club read this year will be Atlas of the Heart by Brene Brown. Because Pastor Serena will be away for July, we will hold two book club session in August, on 8/3 and 8/24 in the evening. If weather is nice, it would be great to hold them in person outside, but we'll play that by ear. If you want to get started on the reading, you can order the book online or pick it up at most bookstores.



July Birthdays

- 7 Joan Blackburne
- 8 Dick Kamin
- 10 Roy Persson
- 19 Robbie Cranmer
- 20 Steven Tangen
- 30 Patricia Persson

July Anniversaries

- 6 Christina & Chris Belfiore
- 14 Bill & Leann Clark
- 19 Jim & Kathy Tangen

Thank You Corner

Special thanks go out to all those who donated their time and energy into getting our garden ready - Kaitlyn, Faith, Dierdre, Pat Scalora, and John. Also thanks to Sibylle, Mike, Christina, Pastor Serena, Cindy, George, Mary and Nestor's Greenhouse for their donations of vegetables and plants. Regrets if anyone has been left out; even good wishes from all is greatly appreciated. ~ Sue Stirrat

Thanks to Don Larson for the beautiful new shelves on the wall behind the keyboard in the sanctuary, and also for providing a larger audio mixing board in memory of his father, Donald H. Larson. ~ Ray Mueller

If you would like to express a "Thank you" in next month's newsletter, please send a brief paragraph to Christine (chstrobel@optonline.net) by July 18.

Anniversary Videos on YouTube

If you missed either of our recent main anniversary events and want to catch up on the videos shown, here are links:

Abiding Peace: Celebrating God's Faithfulness Since 1971 (50th Anniversary Dinner video)

<https://youtu.be/TW5vECVP1-c>

The History of Abiding Peace: Celebrating God's Faithfulness (50th Anniversary Worship video)

<https://youtu.be/ygWlOdLT8Qw>

Also, here's a kind of video time capsule of members' talents from a show more than twenty years ago:

Abiding Peace Talent/No Talent Night of September 2000

<https://youtu.be/sPTFAJeKmg0> (this one can't be found by searching on YouTube - you'll need to use this link)

50 Years of Serving

We have completed our celebration of fifty years of serving God and our community, even though it was a year late due to Covid. Now it is the time to keep up the work we have been doing and look for new ways to serve our Lord for the next 50 years.

Our celebration went very well, and I want to thank all of those who participated on the fiftieth Anniversary Committee, whether for only a few meetings or lasting the three years that it wound up to be. There are a few special acknowledgements that must be made:

- To Ray Mueller for his magnificent work putting together the videos that were shown and the picture collages that have been posted on our web site.
- To Doug Laid who took many of the pictures and digitized old photos so they could be used in our many pictorial displays.
- And a special thanks to Ben Schroeder for the composition of the new Abiding Peace Anniversary Liturgy we are now using at our services.

I also want to thank our former pastors who were able to join us for a Sunday in the time leading up to our celebration. It is a shame that a conflict in Ukraine kept one of our pastors, who had intended to come from being with us.

It is my understanding that all who attended the dinner at the Holiday Inn enjoyed the event. The Holiday Inn treated us very well and the food was wonderful. I hope all who came had an enjoyable time and had a chance to reminisce.

Our Sunday Celebratory Service was outstanding. The video Ray put together was amazing as was Pastor Serena's dialogue to go with it. If you were not there, you must see it. Check it out at our web site or on Facebook.

I must say that for me, this whole adventure has been something else. As a charter member, I had to see that this celebration was realized. I must admit, I had a lot of mixed emotions working on this committee. While going over all the events and achievements Abiding

Continued next column

Continued from previous column —50 Years of Serving

Peace has accomplished has been very joyful, going through all the pictures of members and friends that have moved on or passed away does leaves a hole in my heart.

Howard Corneilson,
50th Anniversary Committee Chair

My Abiding Peace Story

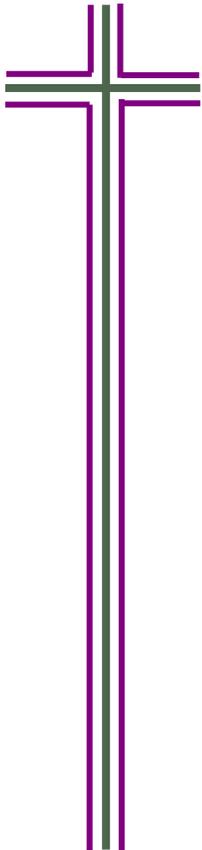
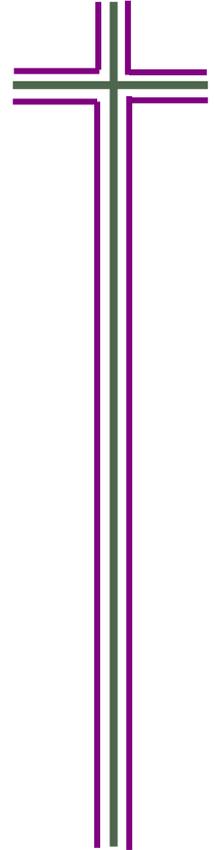
Our family started to come to APLC in the summer of 1987, prompted by our friend Sue Schwier. Ben and Christina always enjoyed the activities including the craft fair, choir and youth activities.

I want to tell you the story, though, of one extraordinary person who walked in one night and asked if he could join the choir—Imré Domonkos; a little old man, his hair cut by himself, looking (and smelling) like a hobo. I give much credit to our “men’s section” who made room for him. No problem! Later, Imré told me that he had not been welcomed at other local churches!

He was such a treasure to my family, though, and over time I learned he had been a professor at Cornell University, spoke six languages, and used to have a newspaper in Budd Lake. He would come during the craft fair, sit in the kitchen, and read poetry.

To this day, sometimes I open a book and one of his little notes might fall out. One day I realized that he had no food in his house and I started to bring him food from our food pantry, or I would call when I went shopping to see if he needed something. His wife had passed away and he really enjoyed being able to come to APLC and be part of our family. He taught me so much about not judging another person.

~ Sibylle Schroeder



JULY

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

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

JULY	ASSISTANT MINISTER	USHER/ GREETER/ ACOLYTE	SOLOIST	LIVESTREAM
3	Demetria Laird	Howard Corneilson	TBD	Tyler Rice
10	Mary Kasakove	Cindy Pawlo	TBD	Ray Mueller
17	Sibylle Schroeder	Sandy Carlson	TBD	Nick Senior
24	Sue Stirrat	Doug Laird	TBD	Sheeba David
31	Sheeba David	Mary Kasakove	TBD	Ray Mueller

COUNTER: George Pawlo

ALTAR GUILD: 7/3: Sandy Carlson, 7/10: Demetria Laird, 7/17: Shelli Skeels, 7/24: Sibylle Schroeder, 7/31: Cindy Pawlo

BREAD BAKING: None



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, Kenneth Johanson, Karen Qualls, Nancy Ayotte, Elfriede & Dick Kiesling, Jim Tangen, Elizabeth & Otto Schroeder, Don Larsen, Joseph Horn, Ryan Manhardt, Dan Scouten, Evelyn Woodruff, Grace Bessasparis, the Appel family, Jackson Cook, Arthur Schenk, Donna Fahy, Joey Scollins, Jeanne Scalora, Valeriy Braginets, Chris Bauer, Brenda Anderson, Linda Kahler, Pat Scalora, Mark Dennis, Mike Urodinski

Those in mourning: Friends and family of Walter Pasuco, friends and family of Rudy Oeckinghaus, those mourning David Coyne, the VanHouten family, Millie Miller on the death of her sister, the Scalora and Crescenzo families on the death of Jeanne's cousin Sandy, the Scalora family on the death of Pat's sister Sally, the family of Gary Siess, the family of Jim Cook, the family of Bryce Rosen, the family of Betty Curlander, the family of Jay Mohundro, the family of Carla Schechner, the family of Steve Sammarco, the Laird family, the Gasparine family, the Biunno family, the family and friends of Brian Asong, the Ayotte family on the death of sister-in-law and aunt Sandy Olson, the Cortese and Tangen families, the Peterson family, the family of Heinz Nothaft on the loss of their grandson, the Price family

JULY 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 4TH SUNDAY/ PENTECOST 10:00 am Webcast Worship/In-Person	4	5 9:00 am Faith Kitchen	6 6:30 pm AA Mtg.	7	8	9
10 5TH SUNDAY/ PENTECOST 10:00 am Webcast Worship/In-Person	11	12	13 6:30 pm AA Mtg.	14 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	15	16
17 6TH SUNDAY/ PENTECOST 10:00 am Webcast Worship/In-Person 11:30 am Ice Cream Social	18 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 7:00 pm UFO Night	19	20 6:30 pm AA Mtg.	21 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	22	23
24 7TH SUNDAY/ PENTECOST 10:00 am Webcast Worship/In-Person	25	26	27 6:30 pm AA Mtg.	28 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	29	30
31 8TH SUNDAY/ PENTECOST 10:00 am Webcast Worship/In-Person						