

VIEW from the lake

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



From the Vicar

Driving Out Fear

A friend of mine pastors a church in another state, and both he and his church have recently been the subject of hate speech by a number of white nationalists. The hate speech has come in response to the church's public efforts to promote interfaith dialogue and welcome of refugees, and one of the primary themes has been that this welcome is dangerous. The derogatory and sometimes violent language used is quite offensive, but I have been most struck by the power of *fear* in these messages. There is a clear underlying assumption that safety against external threats (real or imagined) is the ultimate value that must be protected.

As Christians, we have a radically different understanding of our ultimate value. In 1 John 4:18 we are exhorted that *"There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear expects punishment. The person who is afraid has not been made perfect in love."*

This is a challenging value to live into. Our world is full of messages about why we should be afraid, and the reality is that our world is not secure from all threats. Life never has been secure, and it never will be, but the assumption that safety is the ultimate good for which we should strive is perhaps stronger now than it has been in prior generations, because we have begun to believe the lie that safety is possible. Ironically, this powerful cultural value of safety has the effect of making us more open to fear, because, in reality, it is impossible to protect ourselves from all threats.

But scripture tells us *it is not safety that drives out fear, it is love*. The value of love and the value of self-protection often clash. When we love, we make ourselves vulnerable – whether that vulnerability is the emotional openness to another person in a close relationship, or the physical or economic vulnerability of welcoming strangers whom we cannot be absolutely sure are safe.

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March, 2017

April Newsletter Deadline
March 17, 2017

Worship: 10:00 am



**Daylight Savings
Time Begins
March 12
Turn clocks ahead**

**For hospitalization issues,
please call Vicar Serena at
908-458-3940**

OUR MISSION & PURPOSE

Abiding Peace Lutheran Church makes Christ known by welcoming everyone to a safe place to grow in faith and community 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	Howard Corneilson
Vice President	Robert Bowden
Secretary	Doug Laird
Treasurer	George Pawlo

Council Members

Gerry Ayotte	Heather Nilsen
Nancy Ayotte	George Pawlo
Robert Bowden	Pat Scalora
Howard Corneilson	Sibylle Schroeder
Doug Laird	Sue Schwier

Ministry Leaders

Arts & Crafts	Sibylle Schroeder
Christian Education & Youth	Karen Coates
Evangelism	Ed Sekula
Fellowship	Demetria Laird
Finance	Nancy Ayotte
Financial Secretary	Nita Persson
Messengers Dancers	Mary Kasakove
Mutual Ministry	<i>Vacant</i>
Property	<i>Vacant</i>
Social Ministry	Sibylle Schroeder
Seniors	Sibylle Schroeder
Stewardship	<i>Vacant</i>
Worship & Music	Mary Kasakove

OUR STAFF

Vicar:

Serena Rice
Cell: 908-458-3940

Music Director:

Ben Schroeder
benmschroeder@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant:

Christine Strobel
office@abidingpeacechurch.org
Monday-Friday: 9:00 am—12:00 Noon

Continued from page 1—Vicar's Column

The reality is that we cannot love in a risk-free way. But Jesus calls us to love anyway. And the amazing promise in God's word is that it is precisely this risky love that actually drives out fear. Thanks be to God.

Vicar Serena



From the Council President

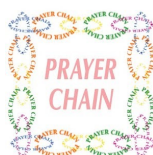
We decided to cancel our Sunday service on Sunday 12 February due to weather conditions. I was a bit hesitant to do that as the conditions in my area was not so bad in my mind. But hearing the concerns from others, it was decided to cancel. I am glad we did. As the morning went on, the weather got a lot worse, and by the time the service start time came, the road conditions were not good at all. Please keep in mind our closing policy:

During the winter it sometimes becomes necessary to cancel the worship service. If there is inclement weather headed our way please call the church at 973-691-9393. If worship has been cancelled there will be a message stating so.

If possible, an e-mail will also be sent to our membership. We will also attempt to contact (by phone) our members that do not have e-mail.

Also, please help our environment and work with Mount Olive recycling. There is a paper recycling container (for paper only) located in the narthex, close to the sanctuary doors. There is a bin in the kitchen for plastic and aluminum containers (thanks to Mary). Please help by using these receptacles.

Howard Corneilson
President



We are pleased to announce that APLC now has a Prayer Chain! If you have a prayer request that you would like the chain to work on, please call Christine in the church office; we will then notify

Eastlyn Rodriguez, head of the Prayer Chain, to put your request in motion. Thanks to Eastlyn, Sibylle Schroeder, and Shelli Skeels for volunteering for this important ministry!



I Just Love People

I signed up to write about stewardship this month and decided - with a little help from Vicar Serena - to share about my love for you and all people. When I was about 16, I made an apprenticeship to become a seamstress so that I could go to Fashion School later. To get to work, I had to take the bus, then the train and then walk about 20 minutes uphill. This gave me about 1.5 hours one way, each day where I could think about things. Teenagers like to think about things! One day I decided that I loved people and that it would be nice to just make a stranger smile each day. This was actually quite difficult because in the morning on the bus and train, people were still tired and where I walked there were not many people out, because it was an area with private homes. On my way home, I would run down the hill to catch the train and bus and everyone would be tired after work and not up to smiling. Though I gave up trying to make someone smile every day after a while, I learned that the decision that I love people was more of an insight, a realization that every person is beautiful, special and a gift from God. I learned that when I see the beauty of a person's radiant soul, their wonderful smile and unique presence, I am often deeply touched. Many years later a good friend of mine pointed out that this decision of loving people is what Jesus asks us to do - to accept others without judgment and to see their unique beauty, to see the gift that God gives us in each person and because of that, it is easy to share our resources to make life better for everyone. Each of you has a special place in my heart - thanks for being my APLC family.

Sibylle Schroeder

SNOW CLOSINGS

During the winter it sometimes becomes necessary to cancel the worship service. If there is inclement weather headed our way please call the church at 973-691-9393. If worship has been cancelled there will be a message stating so. Thank you!

Senior Ministry

Our first Senior meeting, where we plan the year, is coming up on March 22nd from 2 to 3 pm. This is our annual "Tea Party" and planning meeting of the year. Please note that we are moving our meetings to Wednesday! This will give Vicar Serena a chance to be part of our meetings if she is able and we could also schedule a Bible Study with her for one month if we want. Please put this date on your calendar and be ready to bring some finger sandwiches or other special little treats. Can't wait to see you all.

Love,
Sibylle

Lenten Focus on The Gifts of Confession

After a wonderfully extended Epiphany season we are finally approaching Lent. Lent is traditionally a time of reflection and confession, and the 500th Anniversary Year of the Reformation gives us a great opportunity to reflect on confession, possibly in a new way. Confession does not just relate to repentance, it also involves the positive confession of what we believe. We will be exploring what we, as Lutherans, confess in two special ways.

First, we will be holding an **adult forum** series meeting after worship on Sunday every week from March 5 – April 2. The series will be reflecting on *the gift of confession* by exploring the Small Catechism. Each week we will explore a different section of the catechism with the question "where do we find *the gifts of confession* in this expression of our faith?"

Second, our **mid-week Lenten services** will continue the themes from the prior Sunday's adult forum, engaging with the same confessional material in a more meditative form in our worship. As always, mid-week services will be preceded by pot-luck soup supper at 6:30, with service at 7:00, followed by choir.

Lent is a special time in the church year – a *gift*. Please join in these opportunities to explore and experience the gift of confession with your church community.



Food Pantry Needs



25 of each

Bread	Juice
Tomato Sauce	Rice
Pasta	Instant Potatoes
Canned Beans	Canned Fruit
Canned Meat or Tuna	Jelly
Peanut Butter	

50 of each

Vegetables
Soup (no broth)

All items must be current. All expired food will be thrown out. All items that have been previously opened will be thrown out. Please be mindful of this when cleaning out your pantry.

Faith Kitchen Shopping list for March 7 Kielbasa and Sauerkraut



~ 3 rings of Kielbasa
~ 2 large bags or 2 large cans of sauerkraut
~ 4 cans of whole potatoes

Please bring these items to church by Sunday, March 5. Let me know if you can come to help cook and serve or call with any questions
973-691-1910.

With gratitude,
Sibylle Schroeder



Have you remembered your Prayer Partner lately? Pray for her daily, send a card or leave a small gift now and then. If you do not know her, this is a great opportunity to meet and learn about someone new, or just to bond a little more with someone you already know. Make sure to have fun.



Sunday Scripture

March 5

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Psalm 32
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11

March 19

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 95
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42

March 12

Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17

March 26

1 Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41



March Birthdays

7 Sudhakar Kandikatla
8 Sibylle Schroeder
15 Christine Blackburne
19 Carolyn Blackburne
28 Karen Coates

“Unfinished Object” Night March 20 * 7:30 pm



Come and join us for Unfinished Object Night on the 3rd Monday of this month at 7:30pm. We have been having a wonderful time hanging out and finishing our UFO's. For information and to make sure it's on - call Sibylle at 973-691-1910.

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE
973-691-9393

or have someone call for you, if you are hospitalized.

Because of the HIPAA privacy laws, the church is **not** notified when you are admitted to a hospital, in order to protect your privacy. The only way we will know if you are in the hospital is if you or someone close to you lets us know. Thank

Please clip this article and keep it handy!

Social Ministry

Social Ministry would like to plan for the year. We will have a meeting on Wednesday, March 8th at 5:30. We will plan some of our Thrivent events for the year. Please let me know if you are a Thrivent member and would like to help us get some of the money for the garden, Faith kitchen, Mount Olive Manor, Thanksgiving/Christmas, Reformation and other events.

Thank you.
Sibylle

Thank You Corner

To Mary Kasakove – Thank you for getting us a recycling can! This congregation is so great about just jumping in and taking care of the little things to keep the church running well. Last month, that included Mary following up on an after-church conversation and bringing in a bin to collect recyclables in the kitchen. Having this can makes it a little easier for our church and our guests to make sure we are being good stewards of the earth's resources, and this in turn is a good witness to how we are called to act as God's people in creation. Yay for good stewardship in action! – *Vicar Serena*

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 March 17.



**Keep These Friends in Your
Heart & Prayers**

Keep These Friends in Your Prayers: Those who are sick or in need: Kathleen Mazzaghatti, Richard Biunno, Sue Schwier, Susan Jacob, Judy Jacob, Chris Killian, Roslyn & Kerry Winfield, Jean Eastman, Taryn & Little Frankie Parenello, Rob Heller, Jackson Hackelberg, Sue Corneilson, Florence Johnson, Neil Nilsen, Aimee L. Nilsen, James Paladino, Bill Price, Asta Mangan, Macy Sparozic, Oto Tubelis, Ray DeFelice, George Karl, Helen Michener, Gail Pinkham, Betsey Nardi, Briana Anderson, Hall Barker, Nancy & Gerry Appel, Ed Sekula, Gertrude Price, Regina Hand, Cecilia A. Bowe, Mary K. Laird, Marge Dunnican, Jack Pruden, Lisa Napolitano, Rev. Edward N. Corneilson, Jonathan Fornoff, Joellen Hansen, Wendy and John Morrell, Jim Tangen, Larry Clark, Kathi Buckley, Emily Dunbar, Jackie Darrow, Donna Ballotta, Rene Celada, Tony & Mickey Gasperine, Margie Greendyk, Carol Clark, Elaine Schmudde, Sandy Olson, Doris Conrad, April Inglin, Amy & Mark Super, Susan Ansari, Myra Charters, Abe Elias, Heather Austin, Marybeth Mueller, Sharon Puglia, Jeannine Anglum, Gary & Emilie Dunlap, Carol Giersch, Irv Catlow, Terry Jones, Johanna Pawlo, St. James Lutheran Church, Phillipsburg, NJ Those who are homebound: Ruth Petersen Those in mourning: The Rice Family

MARCH

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

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

MARCH	GREETER	USHER	LECTOR	ASSISTANT MINISTER	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	POWERPOINT
5	Howard Corneilson	Chris St. Genis	Jeanne Scalora	Mary Kasakove	Howard Corneilson	None
12	Doug Laird	Doug Laird	Dick Kamin	Barbara Prosser	Heather Nilsen	None
19	Don Bowe	Cindy Pawlo	Linda Venator	Dick Kamin	Christina Schroeder	None
26	Howard Corneilson	Ken Schwier	Shelli Skeels	Sibylle Schroeder	Doug Laird	None

COUNTERS: **5:** Howard Corneilson **12:** Nancy Ayotte **19:** George Pawlo **26:** Howard Corneilson
ALTAR GUILD: TBD

MARCH 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service	2	3 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	4 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
5 1ST SUNDAY/ LENT 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Adult Forum Series	6	7 9:00 am Faith Kitchen	8 5:30 pm Social Ministry Meeting 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 6:30 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Lent Service 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	9 7:30 pm Council Meeting	10 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	11 9:00 am Men's Ministry 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
12 2ND SUNDAY/ LENT 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Adult Forum Series 11:15 am Sunday School	13	14	15 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 6:30 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Lent Service 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	16	17 8:00 pm NA Mtg. NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	18 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
19 3RD SUNDAY/ LENT 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Adult Forum Series	20 7:30 pm Unfinished Object Night	21	22 2:00 pm Seniors Meeting 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 6:30 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Lent Service 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	23	24 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	25 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
26 4TH SUNDAY/ LENT 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Adult Forum Series 11:15 am Sunday School	27	28	29 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 6:30 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Lent Service 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	30	31 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	