



# VIEW

## from the lake

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



From the Vicar

### Missional Learning

February, 2018

**March Newsletter Deadline**  
**February 15, 2018**

*Worship: 10:00 am*

**For hospitalization or other  
pastoral care needs, 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](http://www.abidingpeacechurch.org)

As part of the final stage of my preparation for ordination, I will soon be preparing my final candidacy essay for consideration by the Synod Candidacy Committee in the Spring. The theme for this essay must focus on **missional leadership**. The essay guidance's on what this means calls for leaders to be "prepared for ministry in light of God's mission for the sake of the world." I think this call applies equally well to the congregation as a whole as it does to the ordained leader.

Being **missional** means that we recognize the role of preparation in the life of faith; it means remembering that we are about God's mission (rather than programs, or even just our own spiritual growth); and it means that our ministry is for the sake of the world. Over the next few months (as I ponder and write my approval essay), I will be using this newsletter space to invite you all into reflection on these three elements of this missional understanding of the church. This month, I will focus on preparation, or **missional learning**.

The focus of my intern project at Abiding Peace has been the development of a robust adult education program for the congregation. This was a clear desire of the community, and an exciting opportunity for me, but it is also essential to the life of a missional community. Missional congregations (and leaders) must be prepared. This means knowing the content of our faith, and grappling with how to understand the wisdom of scripture, learning the skills that help us to live out our faith every day, and exploring the intersections between our faith and the world around us. Preparation and learning is not an optional ad-on for participation in the life of faith; it is a necessary resource for missional living.

*Continued on page 2*

## **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 ad hoc planning team has developed a varied calendar of adult education offerings for 2018, including Bible studies, a Lenten series on the Faces of Christ, exploration of the meaning of our liturgy, and opportunities for loving dialogue about current issues in our world. There will also be opportunities for congregation-directed learning, including learning to history of favorite hymns, and identifying tough biblical texts that we want help to understand. I encourage you all to give feedback in selecting the topics for these studies, and I also encourage you to look for ways to participate in the educational offerings in 2018. Continued learning is part of how we invest in our call to be a missional church.

*Vicar Serena*

## **Vicar Serena's February Schedule**

Week of Feb. 5—Feb. 11:

- Thursday, Feb. 8: 10:30am—9:30pm
- Sunday, Feb. 11: 9:00 am—3:00 pm

Week of Feb. 12—Feb. 18:

- Wednesday, Feb. 14: 10:30am—9:00pm
- Sunday, Feb. 18: 9:00am—2:00pm

Week of Feb. 19—Feb. 25:

- Wednesday, Feb. 21: 10:30 am—9:00 pm
- Sunday, Feb. 25: 9:00am—2:00pm

Week of Feb. 26—March 4:

- Wednesday, Feb. 28: 10:30am—9:00pm
- Sunday, Mar. 4: 9:00am—2:00pm

## **“Unfinished Object” Night**

There will be no UFO Night in February.



## Lent Happenings



### SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, February 13. Anyone involved in cooking should plan on being at church by 5:00 pm.

### ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE Wednesday, February 14 @ 7:30 pm



This year we will observe Ash Wednesday at Christ Episcopal Church, 369 Sandshore Road, Budd Lake NJ. Participating in the service will be Rev. Ellen Kohn-Perry of Christ Episcopal Church, Rev. Meekyung Choi Kim of Flanders United Methodist Church, Rev. Rick Oppelt of Flanders United Presbyterian Church and Vicar Serena Rice for Abiding Peace.

Ash Wednesday begins our Lenten journey; the Imposition of Ashes reminds us of our mortality, the need for self-examination and repentance. Sharing this service with our brothers and sisters of other denominations makes the experience even more meaningful.



### LENTEN WORSHIP AND SOUP SUPPERS

Abiding Peace's annual Lenten Worship & Soup Suppers begin on Wednesday, February 21. Each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. members and friends join together for an informal soup supper. Please sign up to bring your favorite soup recipes on the bulletin board in the narthex. A brief Lenten service will be held at 7:00 p.m. Please plan to make these meaningful gatherings a part of your Lenten discipline.

Why do we give to church?

I imagine there are many more answers to that question than there are members of this congregation. I don't think any of us have only ONE reason for giving. Hopefully our reasons include our recognition that the resources we have are gifts from God, and our desire to support the mission of our church, and our commitment to this community that depends on the collaborative effort of many people working and giving together. You could probably add many more equally essential reasons that you contribute to the financial support of our congregation.

I have been reminding myself and others of these truths in the past month. That's because some people in church circles are worried. Recent federal changes decrease the tax incentives for charitable giving, and some people fear this will mean that many people will stop giving to support their churches (or at least substantially reduce their gifts). I understand where these fears come from, but I don't believe that tax write-offs are really what motivate donations to the church. Maybe deductions make it easier to balance tight budgets – and that is a legitimate concern – but it's not our "why." We don't give to the church because it's good for our bottom line anymore than we give to the church in order to earn spiritual brownie points. Stewardship is not about economic or spiritual calculus, it's about identity. It's about knowing that we are called to be part of God's work in the world, and finding joy in that opportunity.

So, why do we give to the church? We give because of what we value, not because of the value we hope to get out of it.

"Tell us what  
you think!"



*Did you join any of the Reformation-themed learning opportunities in 2017?*

*Did you attend any of the congregation's adult forum or social statement discussions over the last year?*

*Did you participate in the mid-week Bible studies, or take part in the series on personal prayer?*

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, we need your feedback. Revamping the congregation's adult education program has been the focus of Vicar Serena's intern project, and participant evaluation is an important part of the project. By the end of January, Vicar Serena will be distributing surveys to gather feedback about what worked, what didn't, and what might help our adult education program to better serve your spiritual needs. Please take the time to fill them out thoughtfully and return them. Your responses help to invest in the growth of our whole community.



### Sunday School Schedule For 2018

2/11  
2/25

### Assistants Needed

Adding an additional communion assistant has helped the serving of Holy Communion run smoothly but it also means that another person is required. Please consider volunteering for this simple duty. There is no formal reading required. The communion assistant simply helps serve the wine, either with the pouring chalice or common cup. The only speaking required is the simple message "The blood of Christ shed for you".

If you would like to be a Communion Assistant please contact Christine Strobel in the church office so that she can put you on the schedule, which will be sent to you each month. If you have any questions, please speak to Vicar Serena or Mary Kasakove.

COME SERVE  
WITH US

### Thank You Corner

A very big thank you to Sue Stirrat for rescuing Vicar Serena when her car broke down in Dover. Sue had volunteered to deliver food and ended up delivering Vicar instead. It is such a blessing to have willing, happy, volunteers who jump to answer need. Thank you Sue!!! 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](mailto:chstrobel@optonline.net)) by February 15.*

**This is a gentle reminder that if you have forgotten to submit payments to cover altar flowers or subscriptions for Living Lutheran Magazine, you can submit at any time.**

**Thank you.**





### Faith Kitchen Shopping List for February 6 Chili Rice Dish

- ~ 1 can of diced tomatoes (14 and 1/2 oz.)
- ~ 1 large can red kidney beans (40 oz.)
- ~ 1 bag of chili seasoning mix (1.25 oz.)
- ~ 2 green peppers and 1 onion
- ~ 1 pkg. ground turkey (about 1.3 lbs.)

I will pick up the rice.

Please bring these items to church on Sunday, February 4th.

Let me know if you can come to help cook and serve or call with any questions 973-691-1910.

Thank you,  
Sibylle Schroeder  
Social Ministry



**February 10 \* 9:00 am**

Church Family Breakfast will be held on the second Saturday of each month.

Following the breakfast will be a short Bible study based on the readings for Sunday. The readings are: 2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9

Bring a friend or neighbor. Enjoy fellowship and reflection before you start your busy Saturday chores!

The Seniors Group will be on winter break until March. Please stay in touch with each other and call if there is anything you need.

Hugs to everyone—Sibylle



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

**Please clip this article and keep it handy!**

## Sunday Scripture

### February 4

Isaiah 40:21-31  
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c  
1 Corinthians 9:16-23  
Mark 1:29-39

### February 18

Genesis 9:8-17  
Psalm 25:1-10  
1 Peter 3:18-22  
Mark 1:9-15

### February 11

2 Kings 2:1-12  
Psalm 50:1-6  
2 Corinthians 4:3-6  
Mark 9:2-9

### February 25

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16  
Psalm 22:23-31  
Romans 4:13-25  
Mark 8:31-38



### Food Pantry Needs

**Bread  
Vegetables  
Tomato Sauce  
Pasta  
Peanut Butter  
Jelly  
Parmalat Milk**

**Social Ministry is asking each of you to fill a bag with the above items so we can have a full food pantry. Thanks!**





## Christmas Eve at APLC



## February Birthdays

- 4 Christopher Laird
- 4 Alex Ponce
- 10 Kendra Prosser
- 17 Hannah Mueller
- 23 Ken Schwier



### February Fellowship Reminders

We will be celebrating Valentine's Day on February 11 so bring an appropriate dessert to share with everybody.

Our annual chili cook-off will be Saturday, February 24 at 5:30 pm. It's a great way to warm up on a cold night so come for some great chili and great fellowship. Hope to see everyone there. See page 6 for details.

In Christian Fellowship,  
Demetria Laird



### 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!

## Chili Cook-Off

It's time for our Annual Chili Cook-off again. Come and join us Saturday, February 24th at 5:30 pm for a hot time and some pretty good chili as well. Prizes will be awarded for the hottest chili so we will be recruiting judges. Anyone interested in becoming a judge should let me know by February 18th. There will be a sign-up sheet available soon. If you don't want to make chili we will also need desserts and other items such as cheese, sour cream, bread, etc. Hope to see everyone there.

In Christian Fellowship,  
Demetria Laird



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## SOMEWHAT OFFICIAL RULES FOR A CHILI COOK-OFF

### 1) SELECTION OF THE JUDGES

Proper judges for any Chili Cook-off should have three principal values:

- a) A complete lack of values or principles, such as integrity. No one with integrity would even attend a Chili Cook-off, let alone judge one. Sales ability counts for extra points if you can sell Spam as real food.
- b) A bribability or sleaze factor, such that judging could be listed on the IRS form under "occupation". Check for questionable occupational ties such as contractor, financial planner, or health care professional.
- c) Taste buds that have visible scar tissue. No one who can even spell "filet de boeuf marchan d'vin", or knows what it is, could hope to qualify.

### 2) QUALITIES THAT DETERMINE A WINNING CHILI

Chili should be made with:

- a) Absence of any form of vegetable matter. Chili is a meat dish, an entrée. It is NOT a casserole. Corn and beans should be an instant disqualification. Selected peppers are permitted only if ground to a size small enough to escape visual detection.
- b) Density or viscosity. The serving spoon, when placed vertically into the chili pot, should remain erect without help. Chili placed onto a cracker remains there and doesn't trickle down your sleeve. When you water down chili, it is no longer chili. It is soup. Soup is for Wednesdays in Lent.
- c) Applicable "after\_\_\_\_\_" words. *Afterburn*, such that after a spoonful, it doesn't really matter whether or not they removed your tonsils as a child. *Afterglow*, animals and small children stand next to you outside 'cause you're very warm, all over. Other "after—" words that could be applied include *afterlife*, *aftertaste*, and *aftermath*. Do not try to use *afterburner*—this is a church event!
- d) Fear. The fear that if you burp, you will melt fillings, crowns, and do serious damage to nasal passages.

**GOOD LUCK!**

# FEBRUARY

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

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

FEBRUARY	GREETER	USHER	LECTOR	ASSISTANT MINISTER	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	POWERPOINT
<b>4</b>	Howard Corneilson	Cindy Pawlo	Bob Peterson	Maria Jerez-Kearney	~ Howard Corneilson ~ Mary Kasakove	Sue Stirrat
<b>11</b>	Doug Laird	Pat Scalora	Sue Stirrat	George Pawlo	~ Maria Jerez-Kearney ~ Doug Laird	Vanessa Ponce
<b>18</b>	Alexis Sweeney	Ken Schwier	Linda Venator	Barbara Prosser	~ Heather Nilsen ~ Cindy Pawlo	Alexis Sweeney
<b>25</b>	Don Bowe	Alexis Sweeney	Karen Coates	Sibylle Schroeder	~ Christina Schroeder ~ Howard Corneilson	Marco Ponce

**COUNTERS:** 4: George Pawlo 11: Howard Corneilson 18: Nancy Ayotte 25: George Pawlo  
**ALTAR GUILD:** TBD

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**Keep these friends in your hearts and prayers:** *Those who are sick or in need:* Richard Biunno, Sue Schwier, Susan Jacob, Judy Jacob, Sue Corneilson, Ed Sekula, Cecilia A. Bowe, Rev. Edward N. Corneilson, Amy Super, Susan Ansari, Margie (Lynn Peterson's Aunt), Dale (Lynn Peterson's aunt), Kevin Kieran, Howard Corneilson, Nancy Gallo, Nancy Doyle, Ely Blahut, Bill von Minden, Jennifer and Hunter Koscheff, Kim Prentiss, David Steitiz, Evan Geutler, Laura Dennis, Doug Laird, St. James Lutheran Church, Phillipsburg, NJ, the residents and staff of Mt. Olive Manor, Ray & Rose (Jeanne Scalora's brother and sister-in-law), Audrey Gregg, Kristin Halecky, Diane Salje, the Nelkirk family, Bill Price, Rob Heller, Lloyd Kabsley, Diana Arroyo Perez, Gertrude Price, April Inglin, Kathleen Mazzagati, O. Kelley Anderson and family *Those in mourning:* The Peterson family



# FEBRUARY 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	<b>3</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
<b>4</b> <b>5TH SUNDAY/ EPIPHANY</b> 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:30 am Adult Forum: Beth Gebhart of LSM	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 9:00 am Faith Kitchen	<b>7</b> 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>8</b> 3:00 pm Mt. Olive Birthday Party 7:30 pm Council Meeting (All are welcome)	<b>9</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	<b>10</b> 9:00 am Church Family Breakfast 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
<b>11</b> <b>TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD</b> 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Sunday School	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 6:00 pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	<b>14</b> <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service @ Christ Episcopal Church	<b>15</b> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	<b>16</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	<b>17</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
<b>18</b> <b>1ST SUNDAY/ LENT</b> 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:30 am Adult Forum: Finding the Face of Christ in Unexpected Places	<b>19</b> <b>PRESIDENT'S DAY</b> Office Closed	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 4:00 pm Taize Service at Mt. Olive Manor 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 6:30 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Mid-week Lenten Service 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	<b>24</b> 5:30 pm Chili Cook-off 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
<b>25</b> <b>2ND SUNDAY/ LENT</b> 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Sunday School 11:30 am Adult Forum: Finding the Face of Christ in Unexpected Places	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 6:30 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Mid-week Lenten Service 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal			