



VIEW

from the lake

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



From the Pastor

Who is My Neighbor?

When I first answered the call to Abiding Peace I did not quite know how it was going to work to be a “commuting pastor,” living about an hour’s drive away from the congregation. Now, 2 ½ years into our ministry together, I can confidently say it’s working well. I use my hours in the car to listen to books or podcasts that nourish my soul; Lay leaders in the church continue to lead many ministries well, with no need of my interference; I am able to stay connected with church members through phone, text, and e-mail on days I am not in town. Most importantly, we love each other, and a little distance does not interfere with that.

But I am conscious of one challenge: I don’t have the chance to participate in many town activities outside of the church, because I don’t live here. In a very literal, geographical sense... I am not a neighbor to the larger Mt. Olive community. In a logistical sense, distance is a barrier.

I have been reflecting on that challenge in the context of the recent Justice Gathering of the Lutheran Episcopal Advocacy Ministry. The theme for this year’s Gathering was “Who Is My Neighbor?” The Gathering provided speakers, workshops, and worship to guide us in reflecting on people and groups that we might not automatically think of when we imagine who our neighbors are: people struggling with addiction, and people who have been incarcerated, and people experiencing homelessness, and people seeking asylum, to name a few. These are groups of people whose life experiences put them at a real distance from me... and because of that it can be hard to know how to be neighbors.

April, 2019

May Newsletter Deadline
April 25, 2019

Worship: 10:00 am

**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

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COUNCIL & MINISTRY LEADERS

Officers

| | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| President | Heather Nilsen |
| Vice President | Gerry Ayotte |
| Secretary | Howard Corneilson |
| Treasurer | Nancy Ayotte |

Council Members

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Gerry Ayotte | Cindy Pawlo |
| Nancy Ayotte | Pat Scalora |
| Howard Corneilson | Sibylle Schroeder |
| Ray Mueller | Alexis Sweeney |
| Heather Nilsen | |

Ministry Leaders

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Arts & Crafts | Sibylle Schroeder |
| Christian Education & Youth | Karen Coates |
| Evangelism | Ed Sekula |
| Fellowship | Demetria Laird |
| Finance | George Pawlo |
| Financial Secretary | Nita Persson |
| Messengers Dancers | Mary Kasakove |
| Intern Committee | Shelli Skeels |
| Property | <i>Vacant</i> |
| Social Ministry | Sibylle Schroeder |
| Seniors | Sibylle Schroeder |
| Stewardship | Ray Mueller |
| 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
Monday-Friday: 10:00 am—1:00 pm

Continued from Page 1—Pastor's Column

Just like not living in Mt. Olive makes it harder for me to be a neighbor in this town, living our lives at a distance from people who are struggling with many of the social ills of our time makes it hard to know how to be a neighbor. But Jesus doesn't call us to be neighbors only to those close to us – geographically or experientially – he calls us to recognize as neighbors those whom we least expect... the "Samaritans" in our lives. Recognizing our neighbors can be hard to do, especially in these deeply divided times. But maybe one way forward to is try to move a little closer.

Pastor Serena

April Fellowship Reminders

We have two events coming up in April. The first is our Passover Seder which will be on April 18th at 6:30 pm. This will be followed by our Maundy Thursday service. There will be a sign-up sheet for both food and attendance. For those planning on bringing food please bring it to church by 6:00 pm. Also rather than cleaning up immediately following the dinner it would be appreciated if it could be done after the Maundy Thursday service.

Our second event is our Easter Brunch on April 21st following our Easter service. A sign-up sheet for this will also be provided. Please sign up to bring something since we always have a decent attendance at our Easter service and the brunch following it.

In Christian Fellowship,

Demetria Laird



I know, thinking of Stewardship does not necessarily start going inward, but Pastor's Lenten Theme is "Transformation" and I'm just wondering! Wondering if I'm just too busy - busy with daily life, busy with work - yes, and too busy with doing things for others - so busy that in all of this, I lose the connection. My connection to God, my presence or awareness of God in the now?! Don't get me wrong - I love all of it - but I want more! Especially NOW - in this time of Lent and in this time of uncertainty of the world - I want MORE. I want more so that there is deeper meaning in all I do and all I give and in breathing and praying and living and laughing and crying. Deeper meaning, deeper connection to all and to God.

"Unfinished Object" Night April 15 * 7:30 pm



Come and join us for Unfinished Object Night at 7:30 pm. 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.



Sacred Dance News

On Ash Wednesday the Messengers Dance Ministry welcomed Serena Rice as our newest dancer. We look forward to more occasions to dance our faith together.

Senior Meeting Schedule 2019

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| April 7 (Sun.) | Harmonium Concert: St. Matthew's Passion ** |
| April 17 (Wed.) | Games |
| May 29 (Thur.) | Outing to Hackettstown and to a local restaurant to discuss the book: "The Cemetery Keeper's Wife" by Maryann McFadden |
| June 19 (Wed.) | Movie: Bohemian Rhapsody Or Green Book or.... |
| July 18 (Thur.) | Valley Shepherd Creamery in Long Valley |
| August 21 (Wed.) | Picnic at the Pawlo's or Outing to Well-Sweep Herb Farm |
| Sept. 19 (Thur.) | Picnic at the Pawlo's |
| October 23 (Wed.) | Halloween Party |
| November 21 (Thur.) | Christmas Party |

This schedule is open to changes.

** by Johann Sebastian Bach, 1:30 pm. St. Mary's Abbey at Delbarton, 230 Mendham Rd., Morristown, NJ. Please order your tickets at www.harmonium.org at let Sibylle know if you need a ride.





Faith Kitchen Shopping List for April 2

Italian Chicken

- ~ 10-12 chicken **thighs** or 5-6 large chicken **breasts**
- ~ 1 (14½ oz.) can cubed tomatoes
- ~ 3-5 large fresh tomatoes
- ~ 1 container feta cheese

Please bring these items to church on Sunday, March 31st.

Please 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



April 13 * 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: Zechariah 9:9-10; Psalm 118:1-4, 19-29; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 19:28-44.

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



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

April 7

Isaiah 43:16-21
Psalm 126
Philippians 3:4b-14
John 12:1-8

April 21

Isaiah 65:17-25
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Acts 10:34-43
Luke 24:1-12

April 14

Zechariah 9:9-10
Psalm 118:1-4, 19-29
Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 19:28-44

April 28

Acts 5:27-32
Psalm 118:14-29
Revelation 1:4-8
John 20:19-31

April Birthdays

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

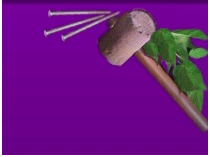
April Anniversaries

5 Gerry & Nancy Ayotte
5 Ray & Mary Beth Mueller
7 Mike & Sibylle Schroeder
9 Jan and Pat Persson
24 Dick & Laurel Kamin
25 Doug & Demetria Laird

Lent Happenings



Lenten Dinner Church



Abiding Peace's annual Lenten Dinner Church continues on Wednesday, April 3 and 10 at 6:45 pm where members and friends join together for an informal dinner. Please sign up to bring your favorite soup recipes, a salad, or a main dish on the bulletin board in the narthex. Please plan to make these meaningful gatherings a part of your Lenten discipline.

Commit yourself to Walk the entire
Path with Jesus

Maundy Thursday, April 18 * 7:30 pm

Onward in His footsteps treading.
Come together at 6:30 pm for a traditional
Passover Seder as Jesus and his followers would
have observed it. Gather in the sanctuary for the
foot washing and stripping of the altar.

Good Friday, April 19 * 7:30 pm

Let us ever die with Jesus.
Come hear a dramatic reading from the Passion according to St. Mark. Follow Jesus to
Golgotha. See his ultimate
sacrifice for our sins.

Easter Vigil, April 20 * 7:30 pm

Let us ever live with Jesus.
Light the Easter Fire and return it to the
sanctuary to begin the Easter Feast.

Pastor Serena's April Schedule

Week of April 1 – April 7

- Wednesday Apr 3: 10:30am – 8:30pm
- Friday, Apr. 5: 7:00 – 9:00pm
- Sunday, Apr 7: 9:00am – 1:00pm

Week of April 8 – April 14

- Tuesday, April 9: 10:30am – 1:30pm (off-site)
- Wednesday, April 10: 10:30am – 8:00pm
- Thursday, April 11: 7:00pm – 9:00pm
- Saturday, April 13: 9:00am – 3:00pm
- Sunday, April 14: 8:30am – 1:00pm

Week of April 15 – April 21

- Thursday, April 18: 10:30am – 9:00pm
- Friday, April 19: 6:00pm – 9:00pm
- Saturday, April 20: 6:30pm – 9:00pm
- Sunday, April 21: 9:00am – 1:00pm

Week of April 22 – April 28

- Vacation week

Week of April 29 – May 5

- Sunday, April 28: 4:00pm – Tuesday, April 30: 1:00pm (off-site training)
- Sunday, May 5 : 9:00am – 1:30pm

General Budget Financial Summary

| | February | Y-T-D |
|-------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Budget | \$12,244 | \$ 24,488 |
| Income | \$10,931 | \$ 20,876 |
| Expenses | \$12,484 | \$ 24,676 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) to Spending | \$(1,553) | \$ (3,800) |
| Surplus/(Deficit) to Budget | \$(1,313) | \$ (3,612) |

The chart above reflects giving and spending for all budgeted items. Designated (pass through) giving and spending is not included.

Hospitality in Food Handling

You may have noticed the new signs in the kitchen and buffet areas asking everyone to be conscious of safe food handling procedures. One of the wonderful things about this congregation is how much we eat together. Sharing meals or nibbles is part of what creates the sense of family that we share. And just like in our families, we sometimes need reminders to make sure that we are not sharing our germs along with our conversation and care. Please keep these guidelines in mind as you prepare and handle food together:

- Always wash your hands before preparing or setting out food for church events.
- Always use serving utensils to serve food. (In the case of finger food – for example, carrots or bunches of grapes – touch only the food you are picking up.)
- If you are handling food (such as slicing bread), use a napkin to hold the food, rather than touching it directly with your hands.



Would You Recommend Abiding Peace?

I hope the answer is yes, and if so, why not do it? There are a few easy ways to share your love for Abiding Peace:

- 1) Anyone with a Facebook account can write a short **review of the church** to help boost our church profile. Go to the church Facebook page: Facebook.com/abidingpeacechurch; click on “Reviews” on the menu along the left-hand side of the page, and click “yes” to recommend Abiding Peace, then write a brief review (25 words or more) about why you like the church.
- 2) **Share a sermon** post with a friend. Our weekly sermons are available in written form and audio recordings, both accessed through the blog page of our website: (<https://www.abidingpeacechurch.org/blog>). If a message strikes you, or might bless a friend or family member, why not send them a link? You can also sign-up to get the sermons automatically sent to your e-mail, or follow the church’s audio-postings on soundcloud: (<https://soundcloud.com/serena-rice-720659529>)
- 3) **Have a conversation.** Even in our technological age, personal connections are still important. You never know when the story you share about how your life has been touched by God’s Spirit and God’s people might be exactly what someone else needs to hear to find hope, or to finally step through the doors of the church. After all, we are part of the *Evangelical* Lutheran Church in America. Let’s share the good news that our lives are better when we find God in community.



Coming up on 50 years

We had the second meeting of our 50th anniversary (which will be in May 2021) in March. Yes, I know it is a bit in the future, but it takes a good deal of planning to celebrate an event like this.

We have a preferred offsite celebration date of May 22nd 2021. We are working on selecting a venue for that date and would welcome any suggestions. We are leaning toward a buffet as it should be less of an organizational effort and more flexible for last minute changes in attendees.

A celebratory service for May 23rd is being considered. We will invite the New Jersey Bishop to attend that service. Also being considered is having our choir joined by former members for the celebration.

We have invited a number of clergy formally involved with Abiding Peace to join us for a Sunday during the months prior to our celebration and have confirmed the following:

Pastor Jim Parks (our mission developer) on April 11, 2021

Pastor Dale Selover on February 28, 2021

Pastor Linn Fisher on May 16, 2021

It will be great to have them with us again.

Our next meeting will be Sunday April 28th following our service. Come and join us. We appreciate all input and suggestions.

Howard Corneilson



Keep These Friends in Your
Heart & Prayers

Keep these friends in your hearts and prayers:

Those who are sick or in need: Richard Biunno, Susan Jacob, Judy Jacob, Sue Corneilson, Ed Sekula, Cecilia A. Bowe, Rev. Edward N. Corneilson, Susan Ansari, Margie (Lynn Peterson's Aunt), Dale (Lynn Peterson's aunt), Kevin Kieran, Howard Corneilson, Nancy Doyle, Eli Blahut, Bill von Minden, 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, Diane Salje, the Nelkirk family, Bill Price, Rob Heller, Diana Arroyo Perez, Gertrude Price, April Inglin, Kathleen Mazzagati, Jeff Kamin, Dominick Gattone, Gloria Stuart, Isabella Adams, Lynn Peterson and family, Fran Mountjoy, Don Bowe, Jozef Molitoris, Cora Woodruff, Madeline Gasperine, Anja Zwicker, Barbara Pinekenstein, Mary Kathryn Laird, LuAnn Price, Sandy Siewert, Craig Yandrow, Norton Woodruff, David Dearman, Bob Vanderhoof, Ken Anderson, Max Levinston, Sharon Puglia, Juli Pullara, Rich Apgar, Michael Krush, Judy Wayman, Leo Inglin, Sr., Tamsin Skeels, Don Larsen, Sandy Olson, Col. Phillip E. Miller, Jim Kosiorek, Randy Esposito

APRIL

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

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

| APRIL | GREETER | USHER | LECTOR | ASSISTANT MINISTER | COMMUNION ASSISTANT | POWERPOINT |
|-----------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|--|----------------|
| 7 | Doug Laird | Doug Laird | Alaina Rice | Sibylle Schroeder | ~ Howard Corneilson ~ Maria Jerez-Kearney | None |
| 14 | Pat Scalora | Pat Scalora | Jeanne Scalora | Alexis Sweeney | ~ Mary Kasakove ~ Doug Laird | None |
| 21 | Alexis Sweeney | Alexis Sweeney | Shelli Skeels | Maria Jerez-Kearney | ~ Heather Nilsen ~ Cindy Pawlo | Marco Ponce |
| 28 | Howard Corneilson | Cindy Pawlo | Linda Venator | Dick Kamin | ~ George Pawlo ~ Pat Scalora | Alexis Sweeney |

COUNTERS: 7: George Pawlo 14: Howard Corneilson 21: Nancy Ayotte 28: George Pawlo

ALTAR GUILD: Mary Kasakove

BREAD BAKING: Sibylle Schroeder

APRIL 2019

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 9:00 am Faith Kitchen | 3 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 6:45 pm Lenten Dinner Church 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal | 4 | 5 7:30 pm Game Night 8:00 pm NA Mtg. | 6 8:00 pm NA Mtg. |
| 7 5TH SUNDAY/LENT 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Sunday School 11:30 am Adult Forum: De-churchifying God Talk 1:30 pm Harmonium concert, St. Mary's Abbey at Delbarton, Morristown, NJ | 8 | 9 | 10 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 6:45 pm Lenten Dinner Church 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal | 11 7:30 pm Council Meeting (All are welcome) | 12 8:00 pm NA Mtg. | 13 9:00 am Church Family Breakfast 8:00 pm NA Mtg. |
| 14 PALM SUNDAY 8:45 am Worship & Music Committee Meeting 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:30 am Adult Forum: Palm Sunday Activity | 15 7:30 pm Unfinished Object Night | 16 | 17 2:00 pm Senior Meeting; Games 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal | 18 6:30 pm Passover Seder 7:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service | 19 7:30 pm Good Friday Service 8:00 pm NA Mtg. | 20 7:30 pm Easter Vigil 8:00 pm NA Mtg. |
| 21 EASTER SUNDAY 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Children's Activity 11:30 am Easter Brunch | 22 | 23 | 24 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal | 25 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE | 26 8:00 pm NA Mtg. | 27 8:00 pm NA Mtg. |
| 28 2NDSUNDAY/EASTER 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:30 am 50th Anniversary Planning Meeting | 29 | 30 | | | | |