



VIEW from the lake

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



From the Pastor

Active and Innovative

July, 2019

August Newsletter Deadline
July 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

Each year, after the conclusion of Synod Assembly, I take our church contingent out to lunch and we spend a little time processing what we heard and experienced during the gathering. This year the Abiding Peace group was just Lynn Peterson and I, but our conversation was just as rich and thoughtful as in years when the group has been larger. Each year I ask the attendees what one (1) word they would use to capture their most central learning or experience. Lynn's word was ACTIVE.

Lynn shared about how impressed she was by all the things that are happening in the ELCA churches in New Jersey, and the kind of impact that these ministries can have. I think it was an encouragement to Lynn to feel connected to all of the people in our Synod, and to know that the work of our church is part of a much bigger mission that is reaching into people's lives all over our state. Her reflections reminded me of the Presiding Bishop's four emphases for understanding what church is all about in the ELCA: "We are church, we are Lutheran, we are church together, and we are church for the sake of the world."¹ Our identity as a church community – at both the congregational and the Synod levels – connects the practice of our faith with the activities of our lives, serving the needs of the world. Our faith is not a passive thing that we just believe, it is ACTIVE!

For my part, my word for Synod Assembly this year was INNOVATION. In part, that's because of our church's involvement in the Leadership for Faithful Innovation program, which was highlighted in the Assembly program this year. Innovation is on my mind. But it also stood out to me because of the joy I experienced

¹To read more about Bishop Eaton's four emphases, you can read about it on the ELCA page: <https://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/7649>

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
Mutual Ministry	Heather Nilsen
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

in this gathering around the church's ability to grow and explore new practices for the sake of our mission in the world. In the world of church, "innovation" is not a buzz word, or a way to camouflage dissatisfaction with what we already have. Rather, it's a recognition of how powerfully present God's Spirit always is among God's faithful people, and the way the Spirit moves to draw us out of our comfort zones and into God's life-changing work.

The church is Active. God's Spirit guides us in Innovation. We have a lot to be excited about!

Pastor Serena

Ideas for Rally Day Service Project Needed!

July is here, and hopefully we are all making the most of the sun and fun of Summer. But we know that September and Rally Day will be here before we know it, and that means another chance for our congregation to do the work of reaching out to our community's needs.

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday will be held on September 8 this year. This is an effort of ELCA churches across the country to get practical about the gospel's call to be about the work of doing God's Kingdom work here and now. So, if you have any ideas for a good community project for *God's Work, Our Hands Sunday* – drop a note to Pastor Serena. Let's be part of making sure our community knows that "whoever you are, and wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are most welcome here to receive God's goodness, mercy, and love... through our hands."





We like to say church is a verb, because the church is the people and the work that we do together. While this is true, the church building (noun) is an important tool in doing that work.

On June 19, Joe gave a great, little “lesson” at the end of worship about our *Holy, NOT Holey* roof campaign. We informed the congregation about the deteriorating condition of the roof over the sanctuary and the anticipated cost of approximately \$15,000 needed to rectify the problems. We also mentioned that at the present time the church does not have the funds to accomplish this, and we are asking the community to come together to help. These necessary repairs will protect the space for all of our members to come and celebrate God’s grace and mercy, and we would appreciate your support for this project benefiting our church community.

With your support, we can replace the roof over the sanctuary so that the only holy water will be in the font. We are asking the members and friends of Abiding Peace to contribute to this effort, according to your ability. We understand that financial situations vary, so the campaign will run from July to December to give people time to budget, as they are able. By knowing that people will be making future contributions, we can borrow money from other areas in the church budget so that we can fix the roof before the next winter. We need to make this happen sooner than later. Together, we can reach our goal of \$15,000 and fix our “holey” roof.

On behalf of our church community at Abiding Peace, we would like to thank you in advance for your support. Your contribution will ensure that we have a place to gather and celebrate our good God and to share our lives. Thanks again for all your support of our church community and for helping to ensure the future of our place of worship and ministry.

-- The Roof Campaign Team

Senior Meeting Schedule 2019

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.

For the Senior trip to the Valley Shepherd Creamery on July 18th, we will meet at 1:30 at church so we can car pool. Please, if you are able, bring some of your favorite ice-cream to be stored in the church freezer for our return. I was reading up on the tour at the creamery and it doesn't seem worth the money, so we will explore the surroundings, sample some cheese and buy cheese rather than spend the money on watching a movie about cheese making. When we return to church, we will enjoy our ice-cream and if any is left it can be shared on the following Sunday. Hope to see you there - any questions, please call Sibylle at 973-691-1910

“Unfinished Object” Night July 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.



Faith Kitchen Shopping List for July 2

Pasta Salad

- ~ 1 box of macaroni noodles
- ~ 1 pack of cooked, peeled eggs (19 oz.)
- ~ 1/2 lb. thick sliced salami or salami ends
- ~ 1/2 lb. thick sliced Swiss cheese or Swiss ends
- ~ 1 cucumber
- ~ 1 tomato
- ~ 1 green pepper

Please bring these items to church on Sunday, June 30th.

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

General Budget Financial Summary

	May	Y-T-D
Budget	\$12,244	\$ 61,220
Income	\$ 9,847	\$ 57,868
Expenses	\$11,770	\$ 61,715
Surplus/(Deficit) to Spending	\$(1,924)	\$ (3,847)
Surplus/(Deficit) to Budget	\$(2,397)	\$ (3,352)

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



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

July 7

Isaiah 66:10-14
Psalm 66:1-9
Galatians 6:1-16
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 21

Genesis 18:1-10a
Psalm 15
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42

July 14

Deuteronomy 30:9-14
Psalm 25:1-10
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

July 28

Genesis 18:20-32
Psalm 138
Colossians 2:6-19
Luke 11:1-13

July Birthdays

7 Joan Blackburne
8 Dick Kamin
10 Roy Persson
19 Robbie Cranmer
20 Steve Tangen
28 Leann Clark
30 Patricia Persson

July Anniversaries

6 Christina & Chris Belfiore
19 Jim & Kathy Tangen

Spiritual Life Inventory, Part 3 Personal Spiritual Practices

The results from the Spiritual Life Inventory (SLI) survey – which our church participated in last November – are so rich that we are taking our time to explore them all. While there is much to celebrate in the vitality of our congregation’s faith and commitment, the most useful insights are to be found in the areas where we are struggling. This feedback is an important tool to help us recognize where there are unmet needs, or hidden concerns, that could benefit from some attention.

In June’s article on the SLI, we looked at the indications that our congregation struggles to know *how to talk about our faith* with others, or to recognize for ourselves the ways that God is active and present in our daily lives. That challenge potentially connects with a second challenge (which is this month’s focus): the need for more guidance in *cultivating personal spiritual practices*. While 100% of the respondents said they come to church to connect with God, that’s not necessarily translating into the Monday-Saturday week. Only 58% said their spiritual growth is rapid or steady, and 28% said they want to grow spiritually, but they feel stalled. As the pastor of this church, my response to that 28% is to ask “how can we help?” More than a quarter of our congregation is not getting what they need to grow the way that they want to, so we need to innovate! We need to find ways to help our members, all of our members, experience God’s active, growing presence in their lives.

The SLI offers some insights that can help to get us started. It asked questions about a variety of spiritual practices, which revealed that both *prayer* and *family relationships* are a primary source of spiritual growth for most people in the church. But other practices are being practiced less often, things like *reading the Bible* on our own, having *spiritual conversations* with family or close friends, or taking action to address problems in our world through *advocacy or service*. There are a wealth of spiritual practices out there, things that other faithful people have practiced and found to be sources of growth and connection to God. The challenge for our church is to find ways to facilitate access to these practices, so that our members can find the practices that nourish their lives and faith.

Continued next column

Continued—Personal Spiritual Practices

Our Mutual Ministry team has been ruminating on this question for the past several months, and we have begun to have exciting conversations about the ways that we connect to God in our daily lives. We are five unique people, so different practices appeal to different members of the team. Our hope is to share our learning and exploration with the rest of the church as well. That will start with a regular column in the monthly newsletter, exploring a different spiritual practice each month. Then, in December, Abiding Peace will hold our first **Advent Retreat** on the first Sunday of Advent. We will gather after worship and offer hands-on training, exploration, and resources to help our community engage with the exciting call to cultivate new spiritual practices into our daily lives.

Pastor Serena's July Schedule

Week of July 1 – July 7

- Wednesday, July 3: 10:00am – 9:00pm
- Sunday, July 7: 8:30am – 2:00pm

Week of July 8 – July 14

- Wednesday, July 10: 10:00am – 8:00pm
- Sunday, July 14: 9:00am – 1:00pm

Week of July 15 – July 21

- Wednesday, July 17: 10:30am – 8:00pm
- Thursday, July 18: 6:30 – 9:00pm
- Sunday, July 21: 9:00 – 1:00pm

Week of July 22 – July 28

- Tuesday, July 23: 12:30pm – 1:30pm (off-site)
- Thursday, July 25: 10:30am – 9:00pm
- Sunday, July 28: 9:00am – 1:00pm

Week of July 28 – August 4

- **Monday – Saturday – Chaplain at Crossroads Camp, no office hours**
- Sunday, August 4: 8:30am – 4:00pm

Get Ready for the Summer Book Club!

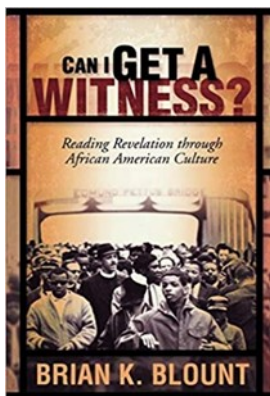
It's not too late to participate in the **Summer Book Club**! If you did not sign-up for the group order, you can still order the book on [Amazon](#) (or from your favorite local book store).

This year, the education planning committee selected ***Can I Get A Witness?*** by Brian Blount. The book is a carefully researched – but also readable – exploration of the book of Revelation, which unpacks this often mis-understood book by recognizing the importance of context, both the original author's and our own, and be *revealing* (see *what I did there?*) the way that the Christian call to witness is an ethic for response to struggle and suffering.

Why this book? Good Question:

- Revelation can be one of the most intimidating and confusing books in the Bible – this study will help us to understand and connect to it in a new way!
- Reading the Bible through a certain culture, especially if it's not our own, helps us to understand the role that we play in interpretation.
- This book offers us the chance to find the relevance of Revelation in our own lives.

The first session of the Book Club (focusing on the Introduction and chapters 1-2) will be Wednesday, July 17, so get reading! Can't wait to talk about what we all get out of it!



Cow Challenge

Believe it or not, the most exciting thing about the Bishop's Cow Challenge was NOT that Pastor Serena dressed up in a cow suit and moooooo-ed her way into our congregational proclamation of the Pentecost story. Even more exciting is the difference this challenge made to giving for World Hunger!

In May of 2018, Bishop Tracie Bartholomew challenged each congregation in NJ to raise money for ELCA World Hunger. The numbers are in and these are the results:

- 130 Congregations out of 160 participated.
- Out of the 130 congregations, 33 are new congregations that have not made a gift in the past 5 years to World Hunger.
- Out of these 33, 23 have met or exceeded the \$500 dollar challenge, with an offer from an anonymous donor to match their gifts. This amounts to \$11,500 from the donor!
- Over half of our congregations (88) who have supported World Hunger in the past, increased their giving.
- All together, that means that the NJ Synod has double our giving to World Hunger. **\$362,000** of actual dollars has been received over the last 12 months, and there is still more money coming in!

This effort is a witness to what we can do when we work together and respond to Christ's call to reach out to our neighbors in need. Thank you for your part in this witness of generosity!



Sea Turtle Recovery Project

The Mount Olive High School MATE (Marine Advanced Technology Education) team called Loggerhead ROV is doing a supply drive for the Sea Turtle Recovery Center located in West Orange, New Jersey.

Abiding Peace is in the process of getting Thrivent money to help complete this project. However, the following items are still needed.

- ~ Medium exam gloves
- ~ Large exam gloves
- ~ Small exam gloves
- ~ Dish sponges with scrub side
- ~ Small or regular size bottles of Dawn dish soap
- ~ Paper towels
- ~ Free and clear laundry detergent
- ~ 4x4 inch gauze
- ~ Postage stamps
- ~ Tall kitchen trash bags (heavy duty)

Gift Cards:

- ~ Amazon (used for any supplies, equipment, etc.)
- ~ Home Depot (used for plumbing repairs, equipment, etc.)
- ~ CVS (used for medical supplies, cleaning supplies, etc.)
- ~ Staples (computer Ink, office supplies)

Please put all donations in the blue bin located outside the church office.

Thank you for your generosity.



Fellowship Reminders

July is National Ice Cream Month. In honor of that APLC is having an ice cream social on Sunday, July 21. Sign up sheet to come!

happy national ice cream month!



Living Lutheran

Living Lutheran subscription is coming. If you currently receive it please let us know if you want us to renew your subscription. Or, if you want to starting receiving it, please let us know as well. The cost is \$8.95/year. Pay directly to the church.

JULY

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

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

JULY	GREETER	USHER	LECTOR	ASSISTANT MINISTER	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	POWERPOINT
7	Ken Schwier	Cindy Pawlo	Lynn Peterson	Doug Laird	~ George Pawlo ~ Maria Jerez-Kearney	Alexis Sweeney
14	Carol Biunno	Pat Scalora	Alaina Rice	Maria Jerez-Kearney	~ Mary Kasakove ~ Doug Laird	Sue Stirrat
21	Howard Corneilson	Alexis Sweeney	Shelli Skeels	Dick Kamin	~ Heather Nilsen ~ Joe Barrett	Jeanne Scalora
28	Pat Scalora	Doug Laird	Joe Barrett	Mary Kasakove	~ Howard Corneilson ~ George Pawlo	Sue Stirrat

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

ALTAR GUILD: Nita Persson

BREAD BAKING: Jeanne Scalora



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, Cecilia A. Bowe, 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, Cora Woodruff, Madeline Gasperine, Anja Zwicker, Mary Kathryn Laird, Sandy Siewert, Norton Woodruff, David Dearman, Bob Vanderhoof, Max Levinston, Sharon Puglia, Juli Pullara, Rich Apgar, Michael Krush, Judy Wayman, Tamsin Skeels, Don Larsen, Sandy Olson, Col. Phillip E. Miller, Jim Kosiorek, Randy Esposito, Pat Linn, Eleonor Braun, Daniel LeFave, Jim and Patricia Porter, David Coyne, Megan McGuire, Benjamin Nersesian, Donna Woody, Gillian George

Those in mourning: the Anderson family, the Sekula family, the family of Rev. Edward N. Corneilson

JULY 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 9:00 am Faith Kitchen	3 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:00 pm Open Space	4	5 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	6 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
7 4TH SUNDAY/ PENTECOST 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:30 am Confirmation Class	8	9	10 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:00 pm Mid-Week Taize Service	11	12 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	13 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
14 5TH SUNDAY/ PENTECOST 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 3:00 pm Mt. Olive Carni- val	15 7:30 pm Unfinished Object Night	16	17 4:00 pm Taize Service @ Mt. Olive Manor 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:00 pm Summer Book Club	18 2:00 pm Senior Meet- ing: Valley Shepherd Creamery 7:00 pm Council Meeting (All are welcome)	19 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	20 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
21 6TH SUNDAY/ PENTECOST 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:30 am Adult Forum: Our Congregation Story, Part 2	22	23	24 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 7:00 pm Open Space @ Jersey Girl Bar	25 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	26 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	27 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
28 7TH SUNDAY/ PENTECOST 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:30 am Luther's Hymns	29	30	31 6:30 pm AA Mtg.			