



# VIEW

## from the lake

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



### From the Vicar

#### Advent: Active Waiting

December, 2017

January Newsletter Deadline  
December 21, 2017



**Worship: 10:00 am**

**For hospitalization or other  
pastoral care needs, please call  
Vicar Serena at 908-458-3940**

**2018 Pledge Total:  
\$115,980**

#### **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)

In seminary they teach us that Advent is an “eschatological” season, a season where the church focuses on the already/not yet reality of the Christian faith. Professor O. Wesley Allen, Jr. uses a metaphor to explain what this means. *Imagine that you are driving on a two-lane country road at night. As a cautious driver, you may turn on your brights and maybe edge toward the center of the road for safety. But suppose that you are driving up a hill and you notice the glow of the headlights from an oncoming car. You cannot see the car itself yet, but you will still lower your high beams and make sure to move back into your own lane. Your behavior has changed “already” even though the other car is “not yet” fully revealed.*

Our advent theme of **Active Waiting** will explore this idea that *our behavior is changed by our expectations* about what we do not yet see. Throughout the season we will be looking at ways that we are called to stay active even as we know that we have to wait for the fulfillment of God’s plan for the world. Our Advent waiting is not passive. We do not know how long we will wait for the fulfillment of God’s plan, but the expectation that God intends to save the whole world from sin and death changes how we experience the time of waiting. We know that what we do with our lives is part of what God is doing with the world.

During our mid-week services we will reflect on the stories of three biblical characters who had to wait. Joseph will teach us about **working** during seven years of waiting (Gen. 29:15-20). The Prophetess Anna will teach us about **worshipping** during a lifetime of waiting (Luke 2: 36-38). And Mary will teach us about **witnessing** as she waited for the arrival of Jesus (Luke 1:46-55). **Working, Worshipping, and Witnessing.** That is the invitation of an Advent of Active Waiting.

Vicar Serena

## ***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**

## **Vicar Serena's December Schedule**

Week of November 27—December 3

- Wednesday, Nov. 29: 10:30 am—9:00 pm
- Sunday, Dec. 3: 8:30 am—2:30 pm

Week of December 4—10

- Wednesday, Dec. 6: 10:30 am—9:00 pm
- Sunday, Dec. 10: 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Week of December 11—17

- Wednesday, Dec. 13: 10:30 am—8:00 pm
- Thursday, Dec. 14: 7:00 pm—9:30 pm
- Sunday, Dec. 17: 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Week of December 18—24

- Wednesday, Dec. 20: 10:30 am—8:00 pm
- Sunday, Dec. 24: 9:00 am—11:30 pm

Week of December 25—31

- Vacation

## **Messengers Dancers are Helping To Share the Story of Christmas**

On Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5pm, “Child of Promise,” an ecumenical program telling the nativity story through liturgical dance, song, puppetry, skits, and more will be presented at the Port Morris United Methodist Church on 296 Center Street in Landing. A freewill offering for a local charity will be taken. Participating in the program are Abiding Peace Lutheran Church, St. James Episcopal Church, St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church, St. Margaret of Scotland Roman Catholic Church, and Port Morris United Methodist Church. Parking is on the street, and in the small lots directly behind the church and on Main Street. For more information, contact Port Morris UMC at 973-347-0381.



## Advent Mid-week Services

In the midst of the bustle of the holiday season, it can feel difficult to find space for renewal. It feels like there is never enough time for everything, and in that rush we can lose something precious about this time of year. Sometimes having something to schedule on the calendar can help us to make time for our souls to pause and receive the promises of Advent. We invite you to experience the hope, peace, joy, and love of the season together with your APLC family by adding our Advent mid-week services to your holiday plans:

- ~ Wednesday, Dec. 6 – **WORKING** – 6:30 Soup dinner; 7:00 – Service of readings, songs, and reflection.
- ~ Wednesday, Dec. 13 – **WORSHIPING** – 6:30 Soup dinner; 7:00 – Service of readings, songs, and reflection.
- ~ Wednesday, Dec. 20 – **WITNESSING** – 6:30 Soup dinner; 7:00 – Service of readings, songs, and reflection.



## Sunday School Schedule For 2017

~ 12/3  
~ 12/10



## Seasonal Thoughts

The year is drawing to a close, at least the calendar year that is, and one gets busy with all the trappings of the season from defrosting the Thanksgiving turkey to the last chorus of “Auld Lang Syne” sung in the early hours of New Year’s Day. The season passes so quickly in this fast paced world, especially in this day of instant communication and Tweeting every last thing on your mind. We’re trying to get all the decorations up, presents wrapped and parties attended even though we do think about whose birthday we are celebrating at last on Christmas Eve. And with the years this time goes faster and faster and the future continues to be getting here sooner. But at least on Christmas Day we may remember how past Christmases were celebrated with the joy and happiest of friends and family that are here and those that have gone away. Try to remember the past through the holidays and the rest of the year as well. Time passes so quickly. Demetria and I have had so many memories of Christmases past right here at Abiding Peace. We can remember being in this church family for some three decades, a whole generation and we have watched so many of the kids of our friends grow up with their own families. That’s how we also feel the most about being at Abiding Peace with the friends we have known and loved over these many years; the ones we have worshiped with, shared meals with, met in their homes and visited other places with. So much has been given to us and to each other that the whole congregation can never forget. And in this season of giving we should all remember what we all have gotten from our church and its people and that we can gladly return to it. Not just what we are giving to keep a roof over our heads, but also giving that goes out into the community and the world. Giving is a part of the Christian world and giving is what Christians do from their heart. Remember that.. “you will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.” [2 Corinthians 9:11] Have a blessed and full holiday season.

Doug and Demetria Laird



### Faith Kitchen Shopping list for December 5 Italian Chicken

- ~ 10-12 chicken thighs **or** 5-6 large chicken breasts
- ~ 1 (14 1/2 oz) can cubed tomatoes
- ~ 3-5 large fresh tomatoes
- ~ 1 container feta cheese

Please bring these items to church on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. 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

**There will be no shopping list for January since we have Thrivent money to cover the food needed.**



**December 9 \* 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: Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:10-8.

Bring a friend or neighbor. Enjoy fellowship and reflection before your 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**

### Hospitality Habits

Abiding Peace is a welcoming church. Our new members tell us their stories of how welcomed they felt when they first stepped through the doors. Visitors tell us how warm and inviting their visiting experience is. Our mission statement affirms that “we are a supportive and accepting place to grow in faith.” We are justifiably proud of our community character. That doesn’t mean that we have nothing left to learn.

On the **December 3**, the first Sunday of the new church year, Assistant to the Bishop Rev. Kimberly Vaughn will be preaching for us, and then guiding us in a workshop about examining and building our “hospitality habits.” I encourage everyone to consider staying after service for this equipping conversation about how we can expand our culture of welcome in order to meet the needs of our larger community. (See flier on next page or details.)

### “Unfinished Object” Night

There will be no UFO Night in December. If you need help with a project before Christmas, see Sibylle on Sunday.



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!**



## HOSPITALITY HABITS

### What are yours?

Who are the people in your congregation's neighborhood?

How does your congregation welcome visitors? How do you know that it works?

What makes you feel welcome or unwelcome when you visit a church?

What are some creative (not scary!) ways to welcome new visitors?

**What:** A workshop on hospitality, or how to welcome strangers into your congregation.

**Where:** At your church!

**Who:** For church councils, ushers, greeters, pastors, deacons, anyone who cares about welcoming strangers!

*For more information or to schedule a workshop, contact: Rev. Kimberly A. Vaughn, Assistant to the Bishop, New Jersey Synod at 609.586.6800, ext. 117 or [kvaughn@njsynod.org](mailto:kvaughn@njsynod.org)*



**New Jersey Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



## Sunday Scripture

### December 3

Isaiah 64:1-9  
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19  
1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
Mark 13:24-37

### December 10

Isaiah 40:1-11  
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13  
2 Peter 3:8-15a  
Mark 1:1-8

### December 17

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11  
Psalm 126  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
John 1:6-8, 19-28

### December 24

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16  
Luke 1:46b-55  
Romans 16:25-27  
Luke 1:26-38

### December 31

Lessons & Carols

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## Prayer Partner Cookie Exchange

The Prayer Partner Cookie Exchange will be Sunday, December 10. All Prayer Partners are encouraged to attend and bring a gift for their 2017 Prayer Partner as well as cookies to share with everyone. We will also be choosing new Prayer Partners for 2018.

Thanks.  
Demetria



## Food Pantry Needs

Bread  
Vegetables  
Tomato Sauce  
Pasta  
Peanut Butter  
Jelly  
Parmalat Milk

To start the New Year off right, Social Ministry is asking each of you to fill a bag with the above items so we can have a full food pantry. Thanks!

## Thank You Corner

Sometimes outreach looks like a ride. Thank you to Alexis, Jeanne & Pat for providing transportation for residents of Mt. Olive Manor to come to our Reformation service and Fair. They received so much from their participation and felt truly welcomed by our community. Thank you!

Thank you, thank you, thank you to George Pawlo. We all have a warm building, and Vicar was saved an inevitable panic attack if she would have had to handle the insanity of the boiler replacement negotiation. You are our hero George!

*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 December 21.*

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## What do you want to Learn in 2018?

Our mission statement says that Abiding Peace is *a supporting and accepting place to grow in faith*. That growth includes our intentional investment in adult Christian education. As we head into 2018, let's talk together about how we want to focus our learning and what resources we want to explore to nourish our spiritual growth.

All who are interested in being part of that planning are encouraged to attend a planning meeting on **Sunday, January 7, at 11:30** (following worship & fellowship). Bring any ideas or resources you would like to propose, or just come to be part of the discussion.

## A Prayer from Abiding Peace

Our most recent mid-week study explored the topic of cultivating our spiritual formation through prayer, and it was a wonderful four weeks of discussion, exploration, and practice. As part of the study we looked at “praying between the lines” of the Lord’s prayer to grasp the deep meaning of each of the petitions in this prayer, and then wrote our own version of the prayer to express that meaning. It is a wonderful expression of the heart of our community, and we wanted to share it with the whole church:

Heavenly Father-Mother God, creator of the universe,  
in and beyond our realm,  
You are holy, sacred, and blessed, and we honor you.  
Let all your creation be united, and let us see how that  
is true now,  
and also hope for its completion.  
Sustain us and all people – give us what we need and  
not what we want.  
Continually forgive us as we inevitably mess up,  
And help us to keep forgiving others.  
Keep us out of trouble and guide us away from temptation (especially when we want it).  
Because you are in charge and we trust you.  
You are the one who pulls us toward you and you  
CAN do this – always.  
Amen

## Thanksgiving Baskets

Thank you to Thrivent and the members of Abiding Peace for your generous donation of food to fill our Thanksgiving baskets. You have made it possible for members in our community to enjoy a Thanksgiving meal.



## The Spirit of Abiding Peace

If I have food, you will eat.  
If I have water, your thirst will be quenched.  
If I have shelter, you will have a place to rest your  
head.  
If I have hands, yours will be in mine.  
If my arms can enfold, you will be held.  
If my legs function, I will walk beside you.  
If my eyes see, I will see God in you.  
If my heart beats, you will be loved.

~ Submitted by Alexis Sweeney

## In Coping

This is the life we know  
but not the life to come  
on this Earth, we won't let go  
until we glimpse His kingdom

Baptized and called blessed  
our faith and hope is strong  
we all will be at rest  
and nothing will be wrong

Hunger and thirst no more  
tears and pain washed away  
life eternal evermore  
into His hands one day.

~ Submitted by Sue Stirrat



## 500th Anniversary of the Reformation And Fair

Our Reformation Fair for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation was very successful. Not only did we have a good time and enjoyed the great food, we also made over \$300 for charity from our craft and bake sale table. A big thank you to everyone that helped make this possible!



*The many people involved  
in the Reformation*



*Henry VIII!  
Still imposing*



*Happy 500th Anniversary*

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## Bake Sale Was a Great Success!

Vanessa, Marco, and Alex Ponce, and Alaina & Maddox Rice (as well as the many wonderful Abiding Peace bakers) helped to make the first children & youth event of the Mt. Olive Interfaith Alliance a wonderful event. Together they stood in the cold & wind to share their smiles with the community and to raise money and collect food donations for the Mt. Olive Food Pantry. Their hard work paid off. We stocked 3 shelves in the pantry with food donations and raised \$374 for food purchases!

The Pantry director was so grateful, and so impressed by the children's example of giving back and working together. She has invited all the children to come to the food pantry for an education event to learn more about the great program they were supporting. We will be looking for dates in the new year to take a Sunday School trip to the pantry with our new friends.





# DECEMBER

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

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

DECEMBER	GREETER	USHER	LECTOR	ASSISTANT MINISTER	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	POWERPOINT
3	Don Bowe	Doug Laird	Maria Jerez-Kearney	Sibylle Schroeder	Howard Corneilson	None
10	Howard Corneilson	Cindy Pawlo	Dick Kamin	George Pawlo	Heather Nilsen	None
17	Doug Laird	Pat Scalora	Linda Venator	Dick Kamin	Mary Kasakove	None
24	Alexis Sweeney	Ken Schwier	Demetria Laird	Doug Laird	Christina Schroeder	None
31 Lessons & Carols	Don Bowe	Alexis Sweeney	TBD	Maria Jerez-Kearney	Sibylle Schroeder	None

**COUNTERS:** 3: Nancy Ayotte 10: George Pawlo 17: Howard Corneilson 24: Nita Persson

31: Nancy Ayotte

**ALTAR GUILD:** Mary Kasakove

**Keep these friends in your hearts and 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, Jackson Hackelberg, Sue Corneilson, Neil Nilsen, Aimee L. Nilsen, James Paladino, Asta Mangan, Macy Sparozic, Oto Tubelis, 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, Jim Tangen, Kathi Buckley, Jackie Darrow, Donna Ballotta, Rene Celada, Tony & Mickey Gasperine, Margie Greendyk, Carol Clark, Sandy Olson, Doris Conrad, April Inglin, Amy & Mark Super, Susan Ansari, Myra Charters, Heather Austin, Sharon Puglia, Jeannine Anglum, Gary & Emilie Dunlap, Carol Giersch, Johanna Pawlo, 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, Jan Breeman, Wayne Marks, David Steitiz, Lynn Peterson, 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  
*Those who are homebound:* Ruth Petersen



## December Birthdays

4 Carol Biunno  
10 Don Bowe  
15 Pat Scalora

17 Edward Venator  
20 Barry Kullack  
23 Jeanne Scalora

25 Howard Corneilson  
29 Emily Prosser  
30 Alice Kandikatla

# DECEMBER 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				<b>2</b>	<b>1</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	<b>2</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
<b>3</b> <b>1ST SUNDAY/</b> <b>ADVENT</b> 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Sunday School 11:30 am Hospitality Habits (w/ Rev. Kimberly Vaughn of Synod) 5:00 pm Child of Promise @ Port Morris United Methodist Church	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 9:00 am Faith Kitchen	<b>6</b> 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 6:30 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Advent Service 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	<b>9</b> 9:00 am Church Family Breakfast 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
<b>10</b> <b>2ND SUNDAY/</b> <b>ADVENT</b> 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Sunday School 11:30 am Prayer Partner Cookie Exchange	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 6:30 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Advent Service 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>14</b> 7:30 pm Council Meeting (All are welcome)	<b>15</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	<b>16</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
<b>17</b> <b>3RD SUNDAY/</b> <b>ADVENT</b> 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6:30 pm AA Mtg. 6:30 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Advent Service 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>21</b> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	<b>22</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	<b>23</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
<b>24</b> <b>4TH SUNDAY/</b> <b>ADVENT</b> <b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b> 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service 10:15 pm Christmas Eve Service	<b>25</b>  <b>MERRY</b> <b>CHRISTMAS</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.	<b>30</b> 8:00 pm NA Mtg.
<b>31</b> <b>1ST SUNDAY/</b> <b>CHRISTMAS</b> <b>LESSONS &amp;</b> <b>CAROLS</b> 9:30 am Music Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship						