



The Seasons of Life

Do you ever find yourself asking the question, “Lord, where are You?” Psalm 139:7-10 reminds us that God is near, even when His presence is difficult to perceive, and even when you’re completely unaware of Him.

David reflects, “Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?” (Psalm 139:7). In asking these questions, David communicates that no matter where we might go, the Lord is right there with us. What a comfort to realize we are never beyond the reach of a God who is full of loving-kindness, mercy, and comfort.

In fact, our heavenly Father is and has been with believers every single day. We walk in the presence of the living God, whose Spirit lives in us (John 14:16-17). No matter what season of life you are in—no matter how long, short, painful, or easy it might be—God wants you to know you are never alone. What is more, He wants you to remember that the darkness is not dark to Him (Psalm 139:12). He knows what is up ahead and will be with you as you face it.

Our faithful and omnipresent God is a friend who sticks closer than a brother (Proverbs 18:24). He will never leave or forsake you in any season of your life.

Each year, we watch summer turn to fall, which then gives way to winter. And though the timing is less predictable, our lives similarly go through different seasons. Some months are brimming with joy while others are a struggle of hardship. But one thing that stays the same throughout is the faithfulness of God.

In his first letter to the Corinthians, Paul writes, “God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord” (1:9). The Lord always does what He says He will do. He keeps His promises to you and will be with you in all seasons (Hebrews 13:5). That means no matter how dark, depressing, or hopeless your circumstances seem, or how good, these three things are true:

1. God will be faithful to you because that is His very nature (Deuteronomy 32:4).
2. God knows all about your situation; you are never alone (Psalm 139:1-5).
3. God can meet all of your needs and equip you for every phase of life (Philippians 4:19).

Remember, you will change and seasons will change, but God is always the same. He won’t ever fail you or forget you. He is with you on this day or any other. Great is His faithfulness!



We are excited to once again have VBS at Abiding Savior this summer.

Abiding Savior’s VBS will launch kids on a cosmic quest where they’ll have a blast shining Jesus’ light to the world. Stellar rockets kids on an out-of-this-world adventure that’s light years of faith-building fun.

If you haven’t volunteered yet, please complete a volunteer registration form, and help us share Jesus’ wish with up to 140 children.

Click [here](#) to register your child for VBS and/or to volunteer.

 **Abiding Savior Lutheran Church, School & Preschool**
23262 El Toro Road
Lake Forest, California 92630
Church: 949.830.1460

Church Staff

Reverend Glenn Lucas, Senior Pastor
Dr. Christian Guebert, Director of Music
Chris Vick, IT Specialist
Janet Calhoun, Church Secretary
Tricia Stroube, HR/Office Manager
Lisa Taylor, Accounting
Laura Lyons and Jennifer Kranawetter, Admin Assistants to Pastors
Lori Beniche, Director of Communications
Linda Bo, Editor of Day by Day

Church Officers

Miguel Campos, President
Daniel Carrillo, Vice President
Sara Helmreich, Secretary
Abigail Wichmann, Treasurer
Erica Volz, Congregation Liaison

School Staff

School.....949.830.1461
Donna Lucas, School Principal
Yesi Naber, Admissions Director
Keigh Lee Horn, School Secretary
Marika Parent, School Secretary
Extended Care949.837.4289
Deana Hicks, Extended Care Director

Preschool Staff

Preschool Center949.837.4292
Mary Wolfenbarger, Preschool Director

Church Office Hours

Monday through Friday
8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

School Office Hours

Monday through Friday
7:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Preschool Office Hours

Monday through Friday
8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Visit us on our website at
abidingsavior.com



abidingsaviorlakeforest



abidingsavior

Fourth of July Float



We are looking for someone with good ideas to help with the church float on July 4. If you are interested in helping or have an idea to help create our float, please contact Lori Beniche at (949) 300-1051 or email lbeniche@abidingsavior.com.

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study

Starting **Sunday, May 7** at 9:15 to 10:00 a.m. in the Adult Education Room across from the Worship Center, we begin a new 10-week study of the 10 Commandments. This is not the same approach that you remember from your confirmation studies, a set of rules about what we should and should not do, although it is that of course. Rev. Albert Tate is the speaker, and this is the description of the study: *Are the Ten Commandments just a list of rules we are supposed to obey? Do they still apply today? And if so, how do we apply the commandments to our lives?*

In this ten-session series, Pastor Albert Tate takes us through the Ten Commandments and shows us how we were first loved by God and what it looks like to love Him in return. God wrote a love letter through His commandments so that we could know His heart and learn to love others in the same way.

It is hard to imagine how anyone who joins us for this study would not be blessed by this time together with God's handwritten love letter to His people.

Wednesday Morning Adult Bible Study

Join us Wednesday mornings at 9:00 AM in the Gathering Grounds Coffee Shop for Bible Study. Come study the Word of God!

Abiding Savior Church Food Pantry

Abiding Savior's Food Pantry continues to be busy serving our community. We have had many first-time clients coming in this year for assistance. We have received some generous donations, but we still need the following items;

- Canned fruit
- Canned spaghetti sauce
- Boxed pasta and spaghetti
- Boxed cereal
- Small canisters of coffee
- canned chicken
- 1 and 2 pound bags of rice
- 5 lb. packages flour

**CHURCH
OFFICE
CLOSED**

Please note, the Church Office will be closed on Monday, May 29, in honor of Memorial Day.

If you have a pastoral emergency when the church office is not open, you can call **661.505.8152** to be connected to the pastor's emergency line. In particular, we ask you to notify the church office if you or anyone in your family is hospitalized.



Ladies Night Out

Janice Trumbauer

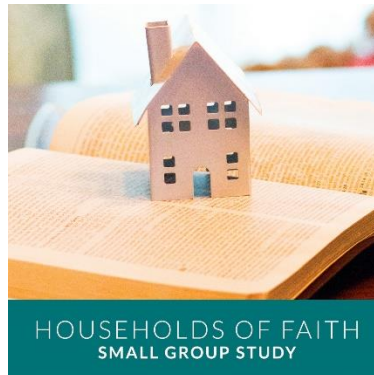
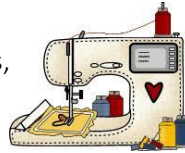
Women's Fellowship Ladies Night Out has been a great success. Our Easter craft went to many homebound church members as well as many of our senior members.



Thank you to all who have come to join in the fun, fellowship and crafts. Our May meeting is Monday, May 1, and we will be having Tea and Trivia Night. We meet in the Adult Ed Room from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM and of course there's a potluck (A-L salad, M-Z main dish). Contact Janice Trumbauer at (949) 609-9766 with any questions. This will be our last meeting before summer break. We look forward to starting again in October with a BUNCO night of fun! So, mark your calendars for the first Monday of the month.

Sew 'n Sews

Join the Sew 'n Sews, Saturday, May 6, upstairs in Room E125. We just finished 9 walker totes and were able to give 2 of them to church members of Abiding Savior. We finished 6 pillowcases that went to CHOC Hospital. If you like to sew or want to learn how, you should plan on joining us. For more information contact Janice Trumbauer at krafter@cox.net or call (949) 609-9766. Happy Stitching!



Not until the Reformation were marriage and family restored to a place of honor within the Christian community. Read the article:

<https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1019&context=church-history-pubs>.

Martin Luther's views on marriage and family have revealed a radical departure from the traditional views of his times. He elevated marriage and family to a place of honor and respectability at a time when the single life and celibacy were celebrated as a higher state of spirituality.

To view the LHM *Households of Faith* video promo, go to:

<https://www.lhm.org/studies/studyvideofull.asp?ID=33849&fid=3006&mode=>

LHM Vision Cruise



Join LHM President & CEO Kurt Buchholz and other LHM leaders for the LHM Vision Cruise upon the Mediterranean, October 16-28, 2023. You will see the Bible come alive right before your eyes in places where many momentous events of our faith occurred. Embarking and culminating in Greece with additional stops along the way, this trip offers a chance to walk in the footsteps of Jesus and the apostle Paul as you tour Jerusalem, Bethlehem, the Galilee region, Limassol, Athens, Corinth, and other locations.

In addition to visiting a variety of historic sites, you will have a chance to interact daily with ministry leaders from LHM's headquarters and meet with various ministry center staff and partners to hear about the innovative ways they are sharing the hope and love of Christ with people in other countries. This experience will allow you to gain a deeper appreciation of God's Word and a better understanding of how the Holy Spirit is working through LHM to reach people worldwide with the Gospel.

Participants will travel on the luxurious Azamara Journey cruise ship, which provides world-class dining options, spa experiences to relax and refresh, and all new entertainment offerings. The onboard experience will be matched only by the immersive cultural encounters you will experience on shore. The spectacular sightseeing opportunities and the Christian fellowship with new friends will make this an experience you will never forget.

Learn more about this once-in-a-lifetime adventure and reserve your spot today at lhm.org/visioncruise.

Ladies Guild Scholarship Recipients

Jeanne Grovom

The Ladies Guild is pleased to announce that the following will receive scholarships for the 2023-2024 school year:



Aine Molvik will be attending Concordia University St Louis in the Deaconess program. She is currently attending

Concordia University Irvine and has been doing ministry work on campus and at local churches.



Haley Babineau will attend Concordia University Irvine for a Master of Arts in Education. This is a ten-

month program of 30 units. Haley currently is the second grade teacher and volleyball coach at Abiding Savior.



Stephanie Rivers will finish her last two classes of student teaching. She will be student teaching at Abiding Savior and St. John's

Lutheran School in the fall and will receive her BA Degree in Early Childhood Education and Early Childhood Special Education January 2024. Stephanie is currently the lead teacher of the youngest 2-year-old classes at Abiding Savior.

L.A. Bronze Handbell Choir Concert



Abiding Savior Members Laura and MJ Siegert are members of the L.A. Bronze Handbell Choir. Below is information about their upcoming concert.

**L.A. Bronze in Concert
at Red Hill Lutheran Church
May 28 @ 4:00 PM
13200 Red Hill Avenue
Tustin, CA 92780**

This bell choir rings advanced pieces of music with energy and excitement. The concert is free.

Meals for Karen O'Brien

The Meal Train team is currently providing meals for Karen O'Brien as she recovers from a broken leg and surgery over the next couple months. She will have 2-3 months of recovery, so we are helping her out a little with meals as she won't be able to fully walk for a while. If you can help, please sign up here:

<https://mealtrain.com/lyvkmw>

If you would like to join the Meal Train volunteers for future meals, please contact Laura Mehrley at lkmehrley@gmail.com.

Gratitude and Generosity

This is a powerful story on the fact that thankfulness inspires generosity.

A blind boy sat on the steps of a building with a hat by his feet. He held up a sign which read, "I am blind, please help."



There were only a few coins in the hat—spare change

from folks as they hurried past. A man was walking by. He took a few coins from his pocket and dropped them into the hat. He then took the sign, turned it around, and wrote some words. Then he put the sign back in the boy's hand so that everyone who walked by would see the new words.

Soon, the hat began to fill up. A lot more people were giving money to the blind boy. That afternoon, the man who had changed the sign returned to see how things were. The boy recognized his footsteps and asked, "Were you the one who changed my sign this morning? What did you write?"



The man said, "I only wrote the truth. I said what you said but in a

different way. I wrote, 'Today is a beautiful day, but I cannot see it.'"

Both signs spoke the truth. But the first sign simply said the boy was blind, while the second sign conveyed to everyone walking by how grateful they should be to see.

We see from this story that when the people walking by were inspired, they wanted to be generous.

Moral of the Story: Be thankful for what you have. Be creative. Be innovative. Think differently and positively.

When life gives you a 100 reasons to cry, show life that you have 1,000 reasons to smile.

The most beautiful thing is to see a person smiling... And even more beautiful is, knowing that you are the reason behind it!!

Preschool

Mary Wolfinbarger
Preschool Director



Abiding Savior Lutheran Preschool is offering a nine-week Christ-centered, developmental, fun-filled summer session beginning June 12 with two different options, including Preschool Camp and Kindergarten Readiness Camp. The focus of Preschool Camp is on fun and social development with weekly themes, music, science, outdoor discoveries, and art. Kindergarten Readiness Camp is offered for all children entering Kindergarten or Transitional Kindergarten in the fall. Kindergarten Readiness Camp is a bridge from our play-based program to the more academic setting of Kindergarten. We focus on small group work, worksheets, phonics, handwriting, and math, including the use of manipulatives. Each child will receive the Handwriting Without Tears - Get Set For School Workbook.

The camp will begin Monday, June 12, and end Friday, August 11. The camp will be available for a total of nine weeks. We will be closed on Tuesday, July 4, observing the Independence Day holiday. We will be closed from August 14-25 for planning and cleaning. Preschool will open for the 2023-2024 School Year on August 29. We will be offering a half-day camp from 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM, a school day camp from 8:30 AM – 3 PM, or an all-day camp from 7:45 AM – 5:15 PM. Your selections can be for 2, 3, 4, or 5 days of the week and any number of the available weeks as long as we have availability. We have limited space in the Summer Camp program, so if you are interested in having your child participate in the camp experience, please get your registration form and fee in soon. We will only be accepting students enrolled at Abiding Savior for the 22-23 or 23-24 school years. If you have

any questions or concerns, please contact Mary Wolfinbarger at mwolfinbarger@abidingsavior.com. We are excited to share a fun and faith-filled summer with you and your family!

Registration for the 2023-24 school year has begun. If you know of anyone who would benefit from our Christ-centered developmentally appropriate program, please have them contact our Preschool Director, Mary Wolfinbarger, for more information on the center or to schedule an appointment for a tour, at (949) 837-4292 or mwolfinbarger@abidingsavior.com. You can also visit our website at www.abidingsavior.com.

Upcoming dates include:

May

- 1 – 5 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 11 Evening with Mom (preschool only)
- 12 Muffins with Mom (PTL)
- 18 Open House
- 24 Parent Appreciation
- 27 Memorial Day Preschool and Extended Care Closed

June

- 2 Last Day of School 11:30 Dismissal
- 2 4 PM Preschool Graduation
- 5-9 Preschool and Extended Care Closed to Prepare for Summer
- 12 Summer Camp Begins

Elementary School

Donna Lucas,
School Principal



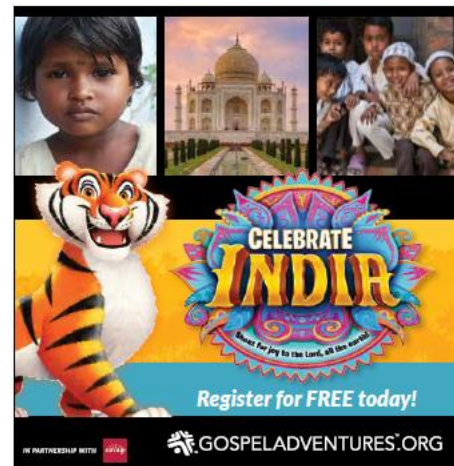
You're invited to come pray over our children, our school, our staff, and our community Wednesday mornings from 8:15 AM - 8:45 AM in the Gathering Grounds.

Together let's rise up to directly impact our children and community for Christ by gathering parents to pray!



The Gospel Adventures Show is a weekly kids program created in partnership by [Lutheran Hour Ministries](#) and [Group Publishing](#). Through Bible Stories, songs, storytelling, and activities, kids will encounter clear and compelling Gospel themes. Join our hosts, [Ben](#) and [Noah](#), as they teach listeners about Jesus and His love for us!

Hear the Bible stories again in the [Friends With God Story Bible](#). To listen to great songs, like our theme song *Light of the World*, search for Lifetree Kids or group music on your favorite music streaming service or visit youtube.com/lifetreekids.



This year's Gospel Adventures™ is *Celebrate India!*

Teach your children about the foods, animals, people, and places of India with **Gospel Adventures**. Kids will be introduced to kids just like them living in India who carry their faith with them through day-to-day life. Join us as we shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth with *Gospel Adventures: Celebrate India!*

CHILDREN'S Sunday School

With Easter Sunday and the school's Easter break, Sunday School classes did not meet each Sunday, but class times still were filled with Bible stories and activities.

Deviating a bit from Bible lessons the children learned about St. Patrick, who transformed Ireland into a predominately Christian country, baptizing over 100,000 people.

Turning to the children's guidebook, they saw how He cares for all His creatures. They were reminded of the grateful, precious rains that the Lord has showered upon us. Through the narrative the children could see how water provides life to the birds and animals, nourishes crops and livestock in order for us all to live and grow. As the Beatitudes express, if God cares for the flowers of the fields, and birds in the air, how much more does He care for us. The children named many professional sports teams named after birds and animals, in homage to God's creatures.

On Palm Sunday, the children read the greatest Bible story, the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead. They also observed Good Friday—being taught about sin, identifying a sin they are guilty of, writing it down on paper, taping it to a cross, then painting over it with red paint. By this, the children were told His blood was shed to cover all our sins. Furthermore, an explanation of "Good Friday" was presented. Although it was an excruciating "bad" day for Jesus which led to His death, it was "good" for us as sinners because it resulted in the

forgiveness of all our sins. They also made Easter greeting cards for the church's shut-ins.

For a special event, they went outside to the playground and lunch area to hunt for Easter eggs, which they thoroughly enjoyed.

In the photo below, you will see them gathered together, presumably to compare their treasures. One child found the "goose that laid the golden egg." Actually, it was a gold-colored plastic egg, but he was disappointed because there was nothing inside, whereas the other eggs all had treats inside.



When the children were asked if anything else was found empty on Easter, some responded that it was the tomb where Jesus had been buried. The child with the gold-colored egg was given a special treat, and for a couple of children who found no egg, those who found more than one were encouraged to offer an egg to them.



At Abiding Savior Sonshine Camp, we know that through faith we can accomplish anything. Through exciting and creative STEAM enrichment activities; all campers will

explore science, technology, mathematics, arts, athletics, self-esteem, values, and more in a Christ-Centered atmosphere!

There will be no camp on Tuesday, July 4th. Our camp is open to all children entering 1st – 6th grade in the fall. **If you are interested in 1st – 6th grade Summer Camp click here.**

Download and fill out the registration forms using Adobe Acrobat, not in your web browser. Once completed, you can save the PDF, print, sign, scan, and submit it by email to Ms. Deana Hicks, Director of ESC at:

dhicks@abidingsavior.com

You can also contact the school office for a registration packet to be emailed or mailed.

2024 Tournament of Roses Theme – "Celebrating a World of Music: The Universal Language"

The 2024 theme brings us together through music. In a world of different cultures, beliefs, hopes, and dreams, one language unites us all — music. The sound, texture, rhythm, form, harmony, and expression meld together to move, soothe, excite, and delight the world.

The Lutheran Hour Ministries Float Committee has been meeting to decide on our 2024 Rose Parade float. We are now awaiting Tournament of Roses approval of the details.

The LHM float is a self-funded project of the Lutheran Hour Ministries Float Committee and the Southern California District of the International Lutheran Laymen's League. The float is not included in LHM's operating budget.

If being a part of the Rose Parade has been on your bucket list, visit petalpushers.org to learn more about volunteer opportunities.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 6p-Women's Fellowship Night 7p-Elders Bible Study 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	2 5p-Pickleball 7:15p-Praises Ring Rehearsal	3 9a-Wednesday Bible Study 3p-Girl Scout troop 4613 7:30p-Chapel Choir 7:45p-AA	4 8a-Coffee Shop Open 7:30p-Abiding Praise Practice	5 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	6 9a-Altar Guild Prep 10a-Sew 'n Sews 5p-Praise Worship Service
7 Worship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar 2p-Cub Scouts Raingutter Regatta	8 6:30p-Women's Bible Study 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	9 2:30p-Women's Fellowship Planning Meeting 5p-Pickleball 6p-Rock of Aging on Zoom 7:15p-Praises Ring Rehearsal	10 9a-Wednesday Bible Study 11:30a-Ladies Guild Meeting 6p-Confirmation 7:45p-AA	11 8a-Coffee Shop Open 7:30p-Abiding Praise Practice	12 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	13 9a-Altar Guild Prep 5p-Praise Worship Service
14 Mother's Day Worship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar	15 6p-Cub Scout Den Meeting 7p-Elders Bible Study 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	16 5p-Pickleball 7:15p-Praises Ring Rehearsal	17 9a-Wednesday Bible Study 3p-Girl Scout troop 4613 6p-Confirmation 7:30p-Chapel Choir 7:45p-AA	18 8a-Coffee Shop Open 7:30p-Abiding Praise Practice	19 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	20 9a-Altar Guild Prep 5p-Praise Worship Service
21 Confirmation Sunday Worship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar	22 6:30p-Women's Bible Study 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	23 5p-Pickleball	24 9a-Wednesday Bible Study 7:30p-Chapel Choir 7:45p-AA	25 8a-Coffee Shop Open 4:30p- Fine Arts Festival 7:30p-Abiding Praise	26 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	27 9a-Altar Guild Prep 5p-Praise Worship Service
28 Pentecost Sunday Worship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar	29 Memorial Day Offices and School Closed 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	30 5p-Pickleball	31 9a-Wednesday Bible Study 3p-Girl Scout troop 4613 7:45p-AA			

WORSHIP | COMMUNION SCHEDULE

In Person Informal Worship – Saturday 5:00 PM

In Person Classic Worship – Sunday 8:00 AM

In Person Abiding Praise Worship – Sunday 10:15 AM

Live Stream Abiding Praise Worship Via You Tube – Sunday 10:15 AM

Communion Offered Weekly

Communion Offered 1st and 3rd Weeks

Communion Offered 2nd and 4th Weeks



Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

23262 El Toro Road
Lake Forest, CA 92630

Return Service Requested
Time Dated Materials

HAPPY

Mother's Day

WISHING OUR ASLC MOMS A BEAUTIFUL
AND BLESSED MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND!

 **Abiding Savior Lutheran
Church, School & Preschool**

SHE OPENS HER MOUTH IN WISDOM & THE
TEACHING OF KINDNESS UPON HER TONGUE
PROVERBS 31:26



*The Gathering
Grounds Coffee Shop*

IS NOW OPEN

on Thursday mornings for all parents and guardians after
school drop off. Come and join us for coffee, cake and
conversation. Meet new families or chat with old friends.

Thurs | 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM