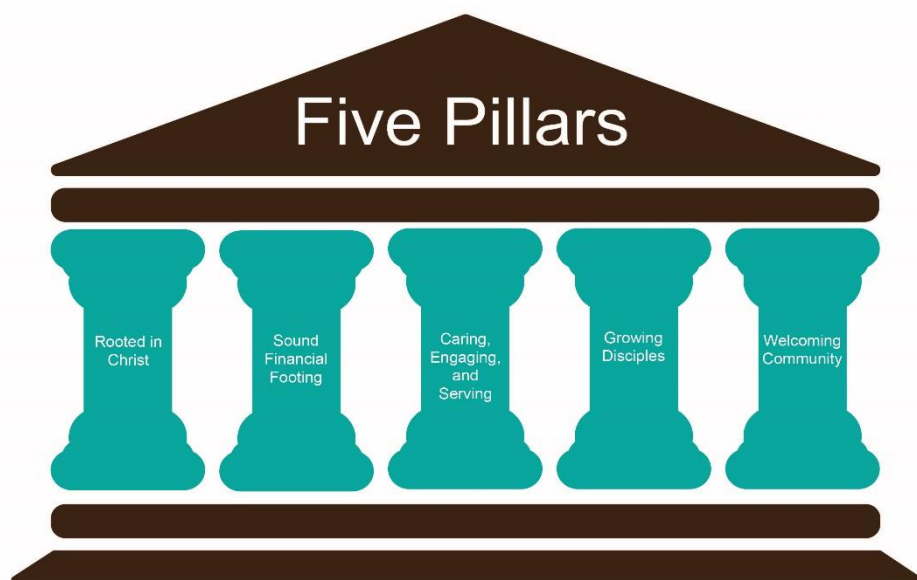




Abiding Savior
Lutheran Church

August 2024

Day By Day



Ministry Expansion Campaign

As most of you know, the congregation met a few weeks ago to talk about the collective direction of our church and where we see our ministry going. Following that meeting, we are excited to announce the launch of a **"Ministry Expansion Campaign"** for the church. During the meeting, we reflected on the words and phrases we identify as our church, the things we see that we are good at, and what we want to do going forward. We developed all those words and phrases, synthesized them, combined them, and distilled them to form a Guiding Statement that will serve as a compass for our journey.

Guiding Statement: Abiding Savior is a loving community rooted in Christ that welcomes, engages, and cares for all people and generations through service and discipleship.

This Guiding Statement can be divided into pillars. We have divided it into five pillars, which show how we will implement the Guiding Statement. Five is not a magic number; it could have been three to be the Trinity, and it could have been twelve to be disciples of Jesus. We will focus on these five things as a church as we embark on this "Ministry Expansion Campaign" together.

The first pillar is **Rooted in Christ** because we understand that the root needs to be in Christ and that everything we do happens through Jesus.

The second pillar is **Sound Financial Footing**, which is the realization that if we want to do ministry together as a church, it requires finances, so getting that ministry on solid ground requires financial footing.

The third pillar is **Caring, Engaging, and Serving**; this shows how we demonstrate Christ's love to others through those very tangible things that we can do as a congregation.

The fourth pillar is **Growing Disciples**. That is our commandment. We are called to go forth and make disciples in all nations, and we will put that into action as a church.

The fifth pillar is a **Welcoming Community** because that's how others perceive us in the church as we conduct our mission.

These five pillars are designed as we're going forward in the "Ministry Expansion Campaign" **TOGETHER**, and as part of that "Ministry Expansion Campaign," it requires money, effort, and time; as part of that process, we're going to be asking you as part of the campaign that we're embarking on through LCEF to look at those things. If you look at the pamphlet in advance for the annual meeting, Pastor Lucas has put together some charts. If you look at those charts, you can see that we as a congregation collectively can do a lot better, and so we see that as an opportunity and room for improvement.

We are all excited about the path the Lord is setting before us, and we invite you to join us in prayer as we embark on this journey together. Take some time to reflect on how you can contribute to the growth of our ministry. We are excited about what the Lord has for our church family!

More will be forthcoming, but so you know, we put those things together in our Guiding Statement, and we will move forward as a united congregation!



Joyfully and Intentionally Making Disciples Who Make Disciples Through Baptism and Nurturing

 **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
Tricia Stroube, HR and Office Manager
Alexis Wood, Christian Education Intern
Chris Vick, IT Specialist
Janet Calhoun, Church Secretary
Lisa Taylor, Accounting
Laura Lyons, Member Coordinator
Stephanie Harmon, Business Administrator
Lori Beniche, Director of Communications
Linda Bo, Editor of Day by Day

Church Officers

Jonathon Harmon, President
Daniel Carrillo, Vice President
Sara Helmreich, Secretary
Lynda Jacobs, 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
Celeste Cisna, Preschool Director

Church Office Hours

Monday through Friday
8:15 AM to 4:00 PM

School Summer Office Hours

Monday through Friday
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Preschool Office Hours

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

Visit us on our website at
abidingsavior.com



abidingsaviorlakeforest



abidingsavior

**CHURCH
OFFICE
CLOSED**

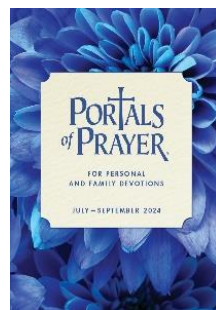
Please note, the Church Office will be closed on Tuesday, August 20, for the Staff Retreat.

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.



On Education Sunday, August 25, we will hold a Unity Service at 10:15 AM. A chamber orchestra and singers will add to the service music. Come and worship with us!

Portals of Prayer



The July, August, September 2024 edition of Portals of Prayer is now available. Pick up your copy at either the desk in the Narthex or in the Gathering Grounds.

Portals of Prayer is great for personal devotions and can be used to open church meetings or Bible studies.

Altar Flowers

The 2024 Flower Calendar still has open dates for you to sign-up for. Select the dates for your contributions in honor and remembrance of the special people and/or events in your life. Use the flower envelope and place it in the offering basket or note the Flower Fund using the online giving options. Thank you for your support!



Fourth of July Parade



Thank you to everyone who rode and walked along our float in the annual Lake Forest Fourth of July Parade!!

Sunday Morning Bible Study

God has called all believers to go and make disciples of all nations, yet there remain thousands of people groups around the world who have never heard the name of Jesus Christ. The harvest is plentiful, so why are the laborers so few?

Living on mission isn't just for "missionaries"—we all have a role in sharing Christ to the ends of the earth. In this series, Claude Hickman and Todd Ahrend of The Traveling Team help us rediscover our God-given purpose in life and examine ways that each of us can be involved in God's great mission.

Join us at 9:15 a.m. in the Adult Ed room, don't know where that is? Ask almost anyone you see at church for directions.

Food Pantry Donations Needed



Our church food pantry has been very busy this summer and is running low on several items. The food pantry needs:

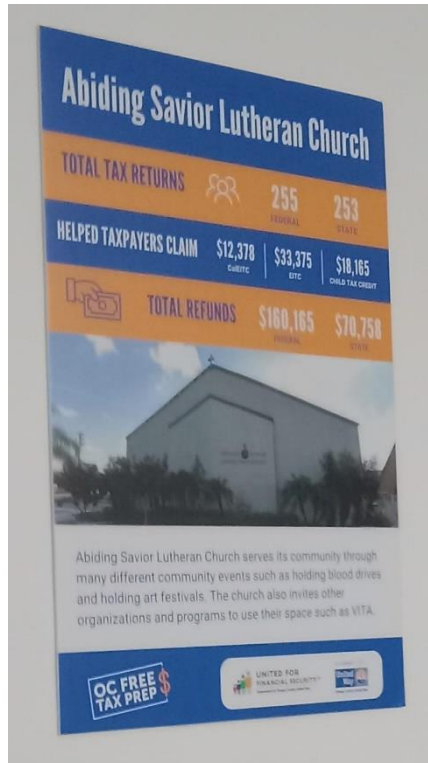
- Tomato Sauce
- Pasta Noodles
- Baked Beans
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Vegetables
- Cup of Noodles Ramen
- Applesauce containers
- Canned Soup and/or Ravioli
- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Canned Tuna
- Packaged Side Dishes (Mashed Potatoes, Rice)
- Cereal Boxes

Donations can be placed in the bins in the church Narthex or brought by the church office during business hours. Thank you for your continued support!



A dinner was held recently by United Way of OC to recognize the achievements of all the volunteer organizations that participated in the free income tax service (VITA) this past tax season. Elaborate posters depicting every site covered the walls in the banquet hall. A photo of the front of ASLC, along with statistics of our accomplishments are illustrated in our poster, seen within this article.

You can view it up close and personal as it hangs in the Adult Ed Room, at the far end opposite the kitchenette. It might be worth noting that our neighbors to the south--Laguna Woods Village--took home some first place trophies, including most dollars saved on behalf of their clients...\$2M+, and most clients served. They do have a "captive" clientele as they serve only residents of the Village.



On Saturday, September 28, from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Abiding Savior will be holding the 10th annual Great Giveaway in our church gym. We are looking for gently used items that you would like to donate that could find a home with someone else. We will in turn offer these items for free to all who attend the Great Giveaway.

Your items must fit in the trunk of a car. No books will be accepted this year.

We are looking for volunteers to help with sorting, setting up and helping the day of the event.

Items can be dropped off beginning on August 5. Please contact Samantha Fitt at SFitt@abidingsavior.com to schedule your items for drop off. Help us provide our community with a FREE garage sale.

Ladies Guild

Sheila Grossman

Ladies Guild is not meeting during summer season, but blessings continue. Thank you once again to our Sunday school partners who blessed our homebound members with greeting cards for Independence Day. God bless America! God bless our seniors! And God bless our Sunday school students and teachers!



Ladies Guild will resume meetings in September. We will begin our new season with our preschool prayer partner tea. Watch for details. And mark your calendar for our Annual Trivia Night on November 2. Lots more to look forward to!



THE SMALL CATECHISM

How did Luther want the Catechism to be used?

Luther wanted the Catechism to be used by the head of the household to teach the family the Christian faith and life.

Also included with the Small Catechism are daily prayers, a table of duties for Christians in their various callings in life, and a guide for Christians to use as they prepare to receive Holy Communion

<https://www.faithlutheranconning.org/the-small-catechism#:~:text=Luther%20wanted%20the%20Catechism%20to,prepare%20to%20receive%20Holy%20Communion.>

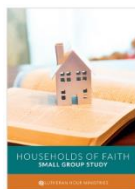
HOUSEHOLDS OF FAITH

HOME :: BARNA PARTNERSHIP :: HOUSEHOLDS OF FAITH

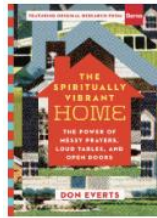
Households of Faith, produced in partnership between Lutheran Hour Ministries and Barna, presents a vivid portrait of the domestic lives of U.S. practicing Christians. Check out the following on our website (<https://www.lhm.org/households/>)

Households of Faith

In this four-session video study, you will explore the research in the Households of Faith monograph and learn how to apply it to your household. The sessions highlight three characteristics that LHM's Barna-based research found were active in vibrant households. According to the research, spiritually vibrant households apply spiritual disciplines, extend



hospitality, and engage in spiritual conversations.



The Spiritually Vibrant Home *The Power of Messy Prayers, Loud Tables, and Open Doors*

What do spiritually vibrant households look like? And can households armed with that knowledge strive to become more spiritually vibrant? In his book titled *The Spiritually Vibrant Home*, author Don Everts uses research to answer those questions.

Households of Faith Monograph *The Rituals and Relationships that Turn a Home into a Sacred Space*

Do you know that the way Christians go about their days and connect with the members in their household is a critical aspect of spiritual growth? In addition to research and data visualizations, *Households of Faith* presents vital principles that strengthen followers of Christ and their homes, which ultimately strengthens the family of God.



30 Days of Household Devotions Booklet

Are you interested in starting a devotion in your home, but don't know where to begin?

The *30 Days of*

Household Devotions Booklet opens with several tips on doing devotions in your home before leading into 30 daily devotions that can be used consecutively or occasionally per time and topic based on your household's needs.

Booklets for Parents

Parents often have high hopes for their children's faith, but don't always know how to help them get there. These booklets will equip parents to help their children in three areas including their child's relationship with God, encouraging spiritual conversations, and promoting hospitality toward others.



Booklets for Children

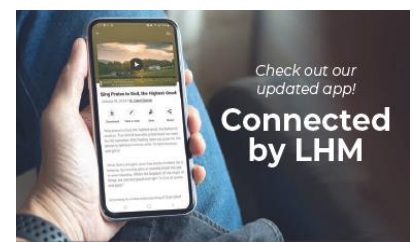
These booklets will encourage your pre-school

to third-grade children to spend time with God in prayer, learn how important it is to welcome others, and remember to look to the Bible for guidance on living a life for God.

LHM Learn Courses

LHM Learn has three FREE courses

based on the *Households of Faith* research. All LHM Learn courses offer self-paced learning, time for reflection and journaling, easy access on any digital device, and much more! [Click here](#) to get started on these FREE courses.



LHM's Daily Devotions mobile app just got even better! In addition to being able to read and listen to our Daily Devotions, you can now read and listen to The Lutheran Hour sermons.

To explore all of the app's new features, head over to the app store on your phone to get the latest version of **Connected by LHM** for FREE today!

[LHM.ORG/APPS](https://www.lhm.org/apps)



Volunteer Registration is NOW open for decorating 2025 ROSE PARADE floats!

It's time to start thinking about the 2025 ROSE PARADE **Best Day Ever!**

Volunteer Registration is NOW open. Sign up below:

<https://signup.com/go/ufnUnKL>

Join us, making it possible for us to have the only Christian float in the ROSE PARADE with this year's float titled **Behold! Jesus the Savior is Born.**



A wide majority of Americans are glad about their most recent spiritual conversation with someone who does not share their faith. This,

based on research conducted by Barna.

Evangelism has changed in the past 25 years. Technology and rapid cultural shifts, including the impact of social media, have redefined the ways we communicate. Spiritual Conversations in the Digital Age focuses on this shifting definition of evangelism and the perceptions of faith sharing from both sides of the conversation: the sharer and the hearer. Through this research, church leaders can coach Christians to be effective in sharing the unchanging Good News in the digital age.

For the message by Rev Keith Haberstock go to:

<https://media.lhm.org/lutheranhour/mp3s/big/9144.mp3>

Click here for resources on the subject:

<https://www.lhm.org/conversations/#sermonhelpers>

BRINGING CHRIST TO THE NATIONS —AND THE NATIONS TO THE CHURCH

Youth Ministry at Abiding Savior

Club 56 and JHM Youth Group - We will take a pause on meeting weekly for Youth Group over the Summer but check out our [Summer youth calendar](#) for the events we will be doing.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Looking for a Christian community to be a part of and meet some new people? Contact Alexis Wood to get more information on Bible studies, fellowship, and recreational activities! She can be reached at awood@abiding Savior.com. Check out our [Young Adult Ministry summer calendar](#).



The apostle James writes, "You do not have because you do not ask God" (James 4:2). This statement is so simple yet very powerful. We often frustrate ourselves trying to make something happen in our strength and ability, and we fail to simply ask God for what we want or need. But, when we do make requests of Him, we need to ask in the right way, with the right attitude in our heart.

Scripture tells us to enter His gates with thanksgiving and come into God's presence to ask Him anything, we should always come with thanksgiving. To come into His presence with praise is to declare His goodness, magnify His name, and boast, rave about, and speak well of Him. Every time we say that God is good, we are giving Him praise. It is important for us to talk about God's goodness as often as we can and to thank Him for all He has done, is doing, and will do in our lives.

In John 14 through 16, we are told seven times to ask (14:13, 14; 15:7, 16; 16:23, 24, 26). We can speak to God reverently, yet also as a friend. When we pray, we don't have to try to sound spiritual or be in a certain posture; we simply need to be sincere.

Just think for a few minutes about the amazing privilege of being able to go to the God who created and maintains all things – the God who loves you – and simply ask for His help and tell Him what you want or need. If your request is in accordance with His Word, you can be assured that at just the right time and in the perfect way He will answer your prayer.

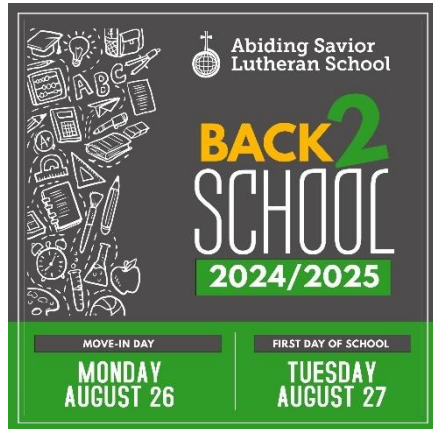
Elementary School

Donna Lucas,
School Principal



NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Preparations are underway for the new school year! The first day of school is August 27.



MEET OUR NEW TEACHERS

We are so excited to welcome these amazing teachers to our Abiding Savior School! We are so blessed!

Ms. Christina Stretz – Transitional Kindergarten



My name is Christina Stretz and I am so excited to be one of the TK teachers this year! I am an Abiding Savior alumnus, and this place feels like my second home. I graduated from Concordia University in 2010 with a Liberal Studies major and a minor in Early Childhood Development. I taught Pre-K for 10 years before I had my kids. I have

been married to my husband, Robby for 8 years and we have two children. Addi will be attending kindergarten this year at ASLS and Cameron will be attending preschool here too. We live in Laguna Niguel and you can usually find us at the beach! It is full circle for me to be teaching and having my kids attend this special school! I am so excited to see what God has in store and I can't wait to meet you all.

Ms. Laura Siegert – Second Grade



My family and I started attending church at Abiding Savior in 2020 when I began teaching in the preschool program. We love the focus on Biblical theology, the wonderful, helpful people, and the many opportunities to worship and serve God that we have found here. I hold a multiple-subject California Clear Teaching Credential, a Lutheran Teaching certificate, and a master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction, and, since 1993 have been teaching in several Southern California Lutheran schools in most grade levels from preschool through high school. I spend my time hiking, reading, learning guitar, ringing handbells, and exploring the visual arts. I am excited about bringing my passion for these things to the second-grade classroom and look forward to learning and teaching the new curriculum while getting to know new students and their

families this year. May God bless our time together.

Ms. Ana Singleton – Fourth Grade



I am thrilled to join the Abiding Savior community as a fourth-grade teacher, bringing a wealth of experience in teaching history, science, mathematics, language arts, and Bible. Growing up in a small town in Missouri, I developed a strong sense of community and a passion for education, which I bring into my classroom. My dedication to creating a positive and inclusive environment ensures every student feels valued and motivated to achieve their best. Having played sports throughout high school and some in college, I also have a background in athletic coaching, promoting physical fitness, teamwork, and healthy lifestyle choices. Outside the classroom, I am an avid runner and boxer who loves the outdoors and stays active. I also have a great love for animals and enjoy spending time with my pets. Additionally, I am a passionate reader who enjoys exploring various genres and sharing my love for books with my students. Guided by my strong Christian faith, I feel called to mentor and inspire young people, helping them grow academically, socially, and personally. I look forward to collaborating with colleagues, students, and parents to ensure a successful and enriching school year.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 9a-VBS	2 9a-VBS 5:30p-VBS Family Movie Night 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	3 9a-Altar Guild Prep 5p-Praise Worship Service
	4 Worship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar 10:30a-Praise and Nurture	5 7p-Boy Scout Meeting 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	6 5p-Pickleball	7 7:45p-AA	8 7:30p-Abiding Praise Practice	9 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous
	10 Worship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar 10:30a-Praise and Nurture	11 7p-Boy Scout Meeting 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	12 5p-Pickleball	13 7:45p-AA	14 7:30p-Abiding Praise Practice	15 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous
	16 Worship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar 10:30a-Praise and Nurture	17 7p-Boy Scout Meeting 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	18 5p-Pickleball	19 7:45p-AA	20 7:30p-Abiding Praise Practice	21 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous
22 Worship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar 10:30a-Praise and Nurture	23 7p-Boy Scout Meeting 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	24 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous 5p-Pickleball	25 7:45p-AA	26 7:30p-Abiding Praise Practice	27 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	28 9a-Altar Guild Prep 5p-Praise Worship Service
29 Worship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar 10:30a-Praise and Nurture	30 7p-Boy Scout Meeting 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	31 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous 5p-Pickleball	32 7:45p-AA	33 7:30p-Abiding Praise Practice	34 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	35 9a-Altar Guild Prep 5p-Praise Worship Service
36 EDUCATION SUNDAY UNITY SERVICE 10:30a-Praise and Nurture	37 7p-Boy Scout Meeting 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	38 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL 5p-Pickleball	39 7:45p-AA	40 7:30p-Abiding Praise Practice	41 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	42 9a-Altar Guild Prep 5p-Praise Worship Service

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

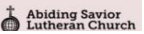
**Return Service Requested
Time Dated Materials**

**CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION SUNDAY**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

Celebrate with Us!
**Join us at the 10:15 am service as we install
our new staff members and honor those
reaching ministry milestones!**

JOYFULLY AND INTENTIONALLY MAKE AND NURTURE DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES

 Abiding Savior
Lutheran Church