



Abiding Savior  
Lutheran Church



## Free to Grow Ministry Expansion Campaign

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You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit - fruit that will last - and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

- John 15:16



## A WORD FROM THE CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR - JOHN EGLEY



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am excited to be a part of the leadership team as we embark together on this ministry expansion campaign. Over the next three years, I am looking forward to seeing what God has in store for each of us as we continue to grow together in faith, stewardship, and spiritual discipleship. I have always believed that the Holy Spirit was working among us, and felt that we are part of a growing and vibrant ministry together. However, our collective finances as a church do not match the picture of a vibrant and growing ministry, and now is the time for all of us to help make sure that this part of our spiritual discipline lines up with many of the other things that are going so well at Abiding Savior.

This campaign takes on particular urgency because our lack of fiscal stewardship is starting to have an impact on our ability to grow as a congregation. I can think of several decisions that were made by the Leadership Board that might have been made differently if our finances as a church were different. This is why the theme for this ministry expansion campaign is “Free to Grow,” as we want to be in a position where we are truly free to grow the kingdom and free to grow our collective ministry together. As we embark on this three-year commitment, I encourage each of you to remain in prayer and work on developing the discipleship muscles that relate to stewardship.

There is a Frequently Asked Questions document that I will continue to update and circulate amongst the congregation during this campaign to make sure that questions raised by the congregation are addressed and we stay focused on our goal of this campaign. I encourage you to raise any questions or concerns that you may have, as it is important to me as well as the success of this campaign, that every member of this congregation is on board with this commitment and plan.

We all intellectually know that our focus should be on Jesus and the things that are eternal, but yet it is so easy to be distracted by the worries and stresses of everyday life that cause us to lose sight of that longer-term reality. Where we spend our time, money, and energy is the most direct evidence of where our focus lies, and oftentimes, our focus is on things other than Christ. As part of this campaign, I am hopeful that 100% of us will see improvement in our focus on the eternal ministry of Christ. Whatever your particular gifts might be that could be used to grow and serve the church, I pray for greater utilization of those gifts, including those financial gifts, over the next three years.

Yours in Christ,  
John T. Egley

# CAMPAIGN TIMELINE

Campaign Launch

Sept 8, 2024

Information Forum 1

Sept 11, 2024 | 7pm

Information Forum 2

Sept 28, 2024 | 9am

Information Forum 3

Sept 29, 2024 | 12pm

Prayer Event

Oct 5 & 6, 2024

Information Forum 4

Oct 9, 2024 | 11am

Inspire Sunday

Oct 13, 2024

Commitment Celebration

Nov 17, 2024

First Fruits

Dec 8, 2024

End of Commitments

Fall 2027

# OUR VISION...

# OUR MISSION...

## Vision Statement:

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

## John 15:16

“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit - fruit that will last - and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.”

Goal: \$1.6 Million  
Stretch Goal: \$2.0 Million

Giving shown is over 3 years, and over and above your regular giving.



“Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine...” Ephesians 3:20

*Sample Illustration*



# FIVE PILLARS



ROOTED  
IN  
CHRIST

SOUND  
FINANCIAL  
FOOTING

CARING,  
ENGAGING,  
AND  
SERVING

GROWING  
DISCIPLES

WELCOMING  
COMMUNITY

## ROOTED IN CHRIST -

Our foundation is firmly planted in the teachings and love of Jesus Christ. Every aspect of our ministry, from worship services to educational programs, reflects our deep commitment to living out the gospel. By prioritizing our spiritual growth and grounding all our actions in Christ's teachings, we seek to inspire others to develop a personal and transformative relationship with Him.

## SOUND FINANCIAL FOOTING -

We strive to build and maintain a sound financial foundation that will support and sustain our ministry for generations to come. By retiring our existing mortgage, we can redirect resources toward essential programs, services, and outreach efforts that embody our mission.

## CARING, ENGAGING, AND SERVING -

We are dedicated to creating a nurturing environment where every individual feels valued, supported, and engaged. Our ministry is characterized by acts of compassion, outreach, and service to those in need within our community and beyond.

## GROWING DISCIPLES -

Our mission is to cultivate and develop disciples who are passionate about their faith and equipped to share it with others. Through intentional discipleship programs, Bible studies, and mentorship opportunities, we guide individuals on their spiritual journey, helping them grow in knowledge, faith, and leadership.

## WELCOMING COMMUNITY -

At Abiding Savior, we embrace a spirit of inclusivity and welcome all people, regardless of their background or circumstances. We strive to create an environment where everyone feels at home and experiences the love and acceptance of Christ.

# GROWING OPPORTUNITIES FOR...

## INVEST IN OUR PEOPLE

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We can ensure our teachers and other staff are compensated competitively, following the salary recommendations set by the district. This will help us attract and retain top talent, fostering a stable and high-performing educational environment for our students.

## STRENGTHEN OUR SPIRITUAL CORE

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By allocating funds to hire a second pastor, we can begin a smooth and well-planned pastoral transition. This will provide continuity and leadership for our congregation, ensuring a bright future for our spiritual community.

## REVITALIZE OUR FACILITIES

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We can address long-overdue maintenance projects, creating a more welcoming and functional space for everyone.

## THIS COULD INCLUDE

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- Modernizing restrooms with new fixtures and finishes.
- Upgrading preschool cabinetry for improved storage and organization.
- Repairing and replacing damaged roofing to prevent leaks and ensure safety.
- Giving the building a fresh coat of paint to create a more inviting atmosphere.

**BUT THAT'S JUST THE BEGINNING!** By achieving this financial milestone, we open the door to even greater possibilities. **We can explore:**

## EXPANDING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

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Offering new elementary school electives, after-school enrichment activities, or even specialized courses to meet the diverse needs of our students.

## ENHANCING TECHNOLOGY

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Investing in new equipment and software to create a more dynamic and engaging learning environment for the digital age.

## SUPPORTING COMMUNITY OUTREACH

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Providing resources to help those in need or launching initiatives to strengthen the bond between our organization and the wider community.

**Retiring our mortgage is not just about financial security – it's about unlocking a future brimming with possibilities. With your continued support, we can make a profound and lasting impact for generations to come.**



# A WORD FROM THE SENIOR PASTOR- GLENN LUCAS



Dear Friends,

I'm excited to invite you to join our ministry expansion campaign, Free to Grow. This campaign will help us grow our ministry as we live out our guiding statement together: Abiding Savior is a loving community rooted in Christ that welcomes, engages, and cares for all people and generations through service and discipleship.

As I reflect on our journey together over more than a decade, I realize how blessed I am to serve here at Abiding Savior. During those years, we have enjoyed growing membership in worship after the pandemic. Our schools have grown in enrollment while proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ. We introduced the Rooted Experience, which has helped people connect with God, their purpose, and other members of the church. We have a new Director of Family Ministry, Alexis Upchurch, DCE. We have completed important projects, including the complete remodeling of our gym and fellowship hall, new light fixtures, new theater lighting, a new audio, video, and lighting booth, and two new quieter HVAC units in the sanctuary. We are richly blessed by God.

While we can point to the many blessings we have enjoyed over the years, a significant challenge we are facing is the lack of financial resources we need to care for our facilities properly and expand mission opportunities. Two contributing factors to our financial challenge are our significant debt coupled with the insufficient giving of a significant portion of our membership. I am certain that we can overcome these challenges as we together continue to be a vibrant ministry in Lake Forest.

I pray that you will take the opportunity to grow your giving as you support this ministry expansion campaign with a generous pledge to help us raise an additional \$2,000,000 over the next three years to pay off our debt, invest in our faculty and staff, and care for our facilities.

Let's expand our ministry together!

Yours in Christ's service,

Rev. Glenn A. Lucas  
Senior Pastor  
Philippians 3:12

# CAMPAIGN LEADERSHIP TEAM

## EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

Glenn Lucas | Senior Pastor  
glucas@abidingsavior.com

John Egley | Campaign Director  
jegley@calljensen.com

Sara Helmreich | Campaign Manager  
sara.helmreich@gmail.com

Marika Parent | Communications Manager  
mparent@abidingsavior.com

## COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

Communications Leader | Yesi Naber

Graphic Designer | Jonathan Gifford

Prayer Co-coordinator | Donna Lucas

Prayer Co-coordinator | Mary Wolfinbarger

Financial Coordinator | Lisa Taylor

Connection Coordinator | Laura Mehrley

Visitation Leader | Randy Trumbauer

Youth/Children's Leader | Alexis Upchurch

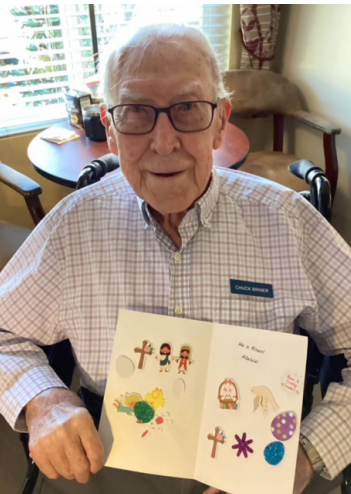
Community Leader | Audrey Henry

School Coordinators | Haley Babineau & Kim Randall

Hospitality Coordinator | Lori Beniche

Fulfillment Coordinator | John Egley





# Life at Abiding Savior!





Gracious Heavenly Father,

We come before You in humble gratitude, remembering the words of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who said, “You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide.”

Lord, as we embark on this “Free to Grow” journey, we pray that You will grant us wisdom and discernment to steward the resources You entrusted us. Help us build a solid financial foundation to support Your mission through our church. Deepen our roots in Your Word and Sacraments. May we abide in Christ as branches to the vine, drawing strength and nourishment from Him alone. Empower us to love one another as Christ has loved us. Guide us in caring for our neighbors, engaging our community, and serving those in need with compassion and grace. Equip us to be disciples who make disciples. May Your Holy Spirit work through us to nurture faith and spiritual growth in ourselves and others. Help us create a warm, inviting atmosphere where everyone can experience Your love and grace. May our congregation be a place of genuine fellowship and spiritual nurture.

Father, we trust in Your promise that if we abide in You and Your words abide in us, we may ask what we wish, and it will be done for us. We ask that You bless our “Free to Grow” campaign so that it may bear much fruit for Your kingdom.

In Jesus’ name, we pray, Amen.



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