

## A Day Like No Other

*Ruth Boven, Today Daily Devotional*

*Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb...*

*John 20:1*

"In the church I serve, we will greet one another this morning with the greeting 'Christ is risen!' and the response will be 'He is risen indeed!' We join centuries of Christians in marking this day as the day that changed everything. We celebrate the amazing truth that although Jesus was dead, He's now alive forevermore. Christ Jesus rose victorious over death. He is risen!

It's interesting to notice how John, the gospel writer, anchors the event of the resurrection to a day, a time, and a witness. On a particular day in history, early in the morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene saw that the stone had been moved away from Jesus' tomb. John wants to be clear. The resurrection of Jesus happened on earth's soil, in our time, for the benefit of us humans whom God created and loves. Because Jesus is risen, life for us is forever anchored in good news.

Christ's resurrection gloriously demonstrates that God's sovereign love has the last word. As a powerful hymn puts it, "No power of hell, no human plan, can ever pluck me from his hand." We now live in the joyful assurance that because Christ lives, we too will live for all eternity.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!"



## Worship with us at Abiding Savior this Easter!

### Saturday, April 4th

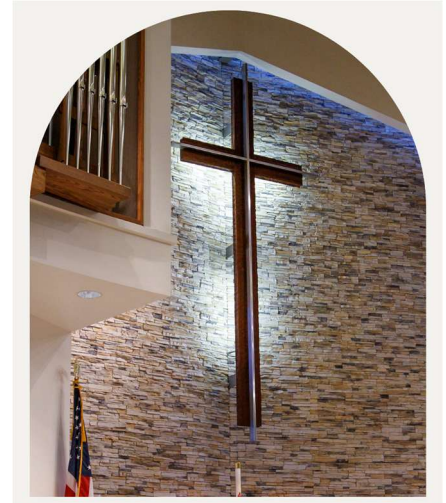
- 5:00 pm - Easter Eve with Holy Communion

### Sunday, April 5th

- 6:00 am - Sunrise Worship with Holy Communion
- 8:00 am - Festival Worship with Holy Communion
- 10:15 am - Festival Worship with Holy Communion

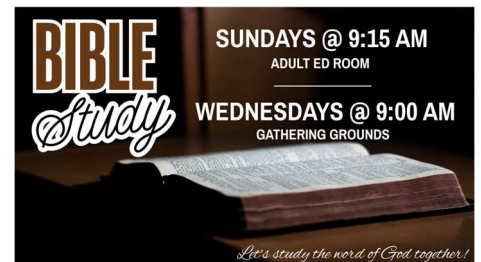
## You are Invited to Easter Brunch on the Patio!

Join us between services for an Easter Brunch on the patio and in the coffee shop. This is a great opportunity to fellowship with each other. Invite your friends and neighbors to join you on Easter Sunday...and join them for brunch!



## Worship Services

Saturday 5:00 pm | Informal Worship  
Sunday 8:00 am | Classic Worship  
Sunday 10:15 am | Praise Worship  
with Children's Church



## Adult Bible Study

Sundays at 9:15 am  
Adult Education Room

Wednesdays at 9:00 am  
Small Conference Room

 **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 Upchurch, Director of Family Ministry  
Chris Vick, IT Director  
Janet Calhoun, Church Secretary  
Lisa Taylor, Accounting  
Laura Lyons, Member Coordinator  
Stephanie Harmon, Business Administrator  
Lori Beniche, Director of Communications  
Stephanie Harmon, Editor of Day by Day

### Church Officers

Jonathon Harmon, President-  
John Parent, 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  
Emma Teeple, School Secretary  
Marika Parent, School Secretary

**Extended Care .....949.837.4289**  
Deana Hicks, Extended Care Director

### Preschool Staff

**Preschool Center .....949.837.4292**  
Celeste Cisna, Preschool Director

**Church Office Hours**  
Monday through Friday  
8:15 AM to 3:30 PM

**School Office Hours**  
Monday through Friday  
7:30 AM to 4:00 PM

**Preschool Office Hours**  
Monday through Friday  
8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Visit us at [abidingsavior.com](http://abidingsavior.com)

Follow us at:



[abidingsaviorlakeforest](https://www.facebook.com/abidingsaviorlakeforest)



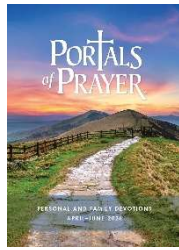
[abidingsavior](https://www.instagram.com/abidingsavior) | [aslc\\_youth](https://www.instagram.com/aslc_youth)  
[aslc\\_youngadults](https://www.instagram.com/aslc_youngadults) | [aslc\\_preschool](https://www.instagram.com/aslc_preschool)

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

Please note that Abiding Savior's Church Office will be closed on Monday, April 6.

If you have a pastoral emergency when the church office is not open, you can call **661.309.3527** 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.

### Portals of Prayer



The April, May, and June 2026 edition of Portals of Prayer is now available. Pick up your copy at either the desk in the Narthex or in the Gathering

Grounds.



### Upcoming Happenings at Abiding Savior

There is a lot coming up at Abiding Savior in the next few months that you may wish to add to your calendar.

- **April 4th** Easter Egg Hunt
- **April 5th** Easter Sunday
- **April 17th** Abiding Savior Angels Game
- **May 31st** Ministry Fair and Unity Service

You will be hearing a lot more about these events over the next few weeks. So check them out!

**MINISTRY EXPANSION CAMPAIGN**  
DATE RANGE: **THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025**  
\*\*REPRESENTING ABOVE AND BEYOND GIVING

FINANCIAL REPORTING:

	TOTAL COMMITMENTS MADE	\$986,448.08
	TOTAL RECEIVED	\$624,071.20
	TOTAL AMOUNT SENT TO LCF	\$620,000.00



### Worship Through Giving

Experience the joy of worshiping through generous giving at Abiding Savior, as we unite in support of our mission and ministry.

You may give at any time or on any day of the week. Select your preferred way to give below and give your gift. You may support our General Fund, Scholarship Fund, Church Audio/Visual Fund, and many others.

[Online](#) – Give on our website

Text – Send amount to 844-374-6845

[Vanco App](#) – Download from the App Store or Google Play

Swipe – Contact the Church Office for more information on giving by swiping your credit card

Check or Cash | Offering Plate  
You can also drop off or mail your check or cash to:

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church  
23262 El Toro Road, Lake Forest, CA 92630



# - FELLOWSHIP AND OUTREACH MINISTRIES -



## It's VITA Season



Enjoy yourself (it's later than you think), enjoy yourself, while you're still in the pink, the years go

by, as quickly as a wink...

Are you of the age that remembers this ditty, which was popular back in the 50's? Not a Christian value, but it certainly applies when it comes to the tax season.

You want to be like the tortoise (in the fable) and finish the race, ie, get your taxes prepared now, and not like the hare who thought there was plenty of time.

Many clients have already had their taxes prepared by your very dedicated IRS-certified VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) Team here at ASLC! There are large, new tax deductions—especially for seniors—in the OBBB (One Big Beautiful Bill).

You can be sure that we will include in your return all benefits you are entitled to receive in the "One Big Beautiful Bill, and some of those new benefits starting for tax years 2025 are:

1. \$6000 deduction for seniors age 65+ filing single, \$12,000 married filers (Modified Adjusted Gross Income under \$75,000/\$150,000
2. Interest on new car purchase loan up to \$10,000 (some restrictions apply)
3. The potentially huge tax REFUNDS under EITC, CAEITC, CTC are back!

Attention parent/s: You really need to check this out!!!

Remember this too: We e-file both state and federal returns—absolutely FREE!

REGISTER NOW! Go to the VITA web page on the Church's website: <https://abidingsavior.com/vita> Fill out a form with a few questions, and click "submit."

You will be emailed the forms required by the IRS; bring the completed forms with you to your appointment, which will be here at church in the adult ed room across the hall from the sanctuary. If you have difficulty registering online, you can call the VITA telephone number: 949-830-1001.

Hours of Operation are

- Tuesdays, 4:00-6:30 PM
- Saturdays, 9:00 AM-12:30 PM

Please pick up one of our flyers in the narthex and offer it to someone you know who could greatly benefit from this service.



## Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship will be meeting on Monday, April 6th, for a fun night of BUNCO! No reservations are required, just invite a friend and join the fun. Our meeting begins at 6:00 with a potluck dinner (A-L salad, M-Z main dish). If you're not into potluck, eat before you come or bring your dinner with you. We always provide drinks and dessert. Our meeting ends at 7:30. Please join the fun!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>! We are having our 2nd Annual Women's Eetreat. More details coming soon!



The deadline to apply for a Ladies Guild Scholarship is Sunday, April 5, 2026. Please contact Jeanne Grovom with any questions at [jeannegrovom@gmail.com](mailto:jeannegrovom@gmail.com).

## A Stroll Through a Bygone Era Provided by the PSD Archives



We will soon celebrate 100 years of ministry in the Pacific Southwest District. Join us for a walk through the headlines and stories from our District publications that shaped our shared history of your District.

## A Stroll Through a Bygone Era

Provided by the PSD Archives

50 Years Ago (February 1976)  
The Lutheran Witness Southern California Edition,  
February 1, 1976 Vol. XCV Part 2 No. 2

In 1976, approximately 1,200 "Petal Pushers" volunteered to decorate several Rose Parade floats. The year was marked by a distinctive navy-blue sweatshirt featuring a white rose—the first of its kind—to symbolize the nation's Bicentennial celebration. All volunteers wore the signature sweatshirts bearing the three-red-rose emblem and "The Lutheran Hour" across the back. These colors change annually—from the original gray in 1969 to various yellows, greens, and blues—to help supervisors identify experienced workers.





Abiding Savior  
Lutheran Church

# EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH | 10:00 AM

OPEN FOR ALL CHILDREN THROUGH AGE 10. PARENTS CAN HUNT WITH THE LITTLE ONES.

PRAISE BE TO THE GOD AND FATHER OF  
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. 1 PETER 1:3



Abiding Savior Women's  
Fellowship  
*Presents*

## Women's Retreat

"FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT"

SATURDAY      MAY      10 AM - 2 PM  
                                 2  
                                 2026

Speaker: Mary Scott  
Ed.D Chief Executive Officer  
Orange Lutheran High School

FELLOWSHIP HALL | \$10 PER PERSON

Register in the Narthex  
before and after services, or online



*Join us for a day of Fun & Fellowship!*



# - YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES -

YOUTH YOUTH YOUTH YOUTH YOUTH YOUTH YOUTH YOUTH YOUTH YOUTH YOUTH

# YOUTH

## 4.25.26

"A ONE-DAY YOUTH CONFERENCE EXPERIENCE FOR JR HIGH YOUTH GRADES 6-8."



**901 E HEIM AVE  
ORANGE CA**

**EARLY BIRD ENDS MARCH 15 //  
POST EARLY BIRD RATE IS \$45  
INCLUDES LUNCH AND DINNER**

**\$35**




JR. HIGH STUDENTS: JOIN US FOR A FULL-DAY EXPERIENCE WITH WORSHIP, SPEAKERS, SERVICE, COMPETITIONS + MORE.

YOUTHXCOC.COM



## SPONSOR A YOUNG ADULT

THIRD ANNUAL YOUNG ADULT RETREAT  
WHERE: TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH IN BEND, OREGON  
WHEN: JULY 9TH-12TH, 2026  
COST: \$300 PER ADULT



Help support eleven of our young adults as they travel to Bend to serve, worship, and explore with fellow Christians, growing in faith and fellowship together!

To sponsor or donate, contact Alexis Upchurch at [aupchurch@abidingsavior.com](mailto:aupchurch@abidingsavior.com), or give to the Family Ministry via Vanco  Your support in any amount is greatly appreciated!




# VBS 2026



registration opens may 1st!

## RAINFOREST FALLS

Exploring The Nature of God

### July 20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>

VOLUNTEER AND DONATE TODAY!

[vbs.aslc.church](http://vbs.aslc.church)





# CONGREGATION MEETING

SUNDAY,  
APRIL 26

AFTER 10:15 AM  
PRAISE WORSHIP SERVICE

Abiding Savior  
Lutheran Church

LOVE | SERVE | CONNECT



## Senior Organ Recital *Olivia Thaelke*



Saturday, April 25 | 2:00 PM | Free Admission  
Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

Abiding Savior  
Lutheran Church



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> 8:15a – Parents in Prayer 11a- Bible Study 7:45p-AA	<b>2</b> 7p - Maundy Thursday Service	<b>3</b> 7p – Good Friday Service 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	<b>4</b> <b>Easter Eve</b> 9a-Altar Guild Prep 9a- VITA 10a-Sew and Sews 10a- Easter Egg Hunt 5p-Praise Worship Service
<b>5</b> <b>Easter Sunday</b> 6:00a – Easter Sunrise Service 8:00a – Easter Festival Service 10:15a – Easter Festival Service Easter Brunch between all services	<b>6</b> ASLC Closed 6p – Women’s Fellowship 7p-Boy Scout Meeting 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	<b>7</b> 4p -VITA 6p – Elder Meeting	<b>8</b> 8:15a – Parents in Prayer 9a- Bible Study Lent Service 7:45p-AA	<b>9</b> 7:30 p.m.- Abiding Praise Practice	<b>10</b> 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	<b>11</b> 9a-Altar Guild Prep 9a- VITA 5p-Praise Worship Service
<b>12</b> Worship Schedule- See chart 9:15a – Adult Bible Study 11:45a-Life Group, Glenn and Debby Amick 5p- High School Youth Group	<b>13</b> 7p-Boy Scout Meeting 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 8:15a – Parents in Prayer 9a- Bible Study 6p- Jr. High Youth Group 7:45p-AA	<b>16</b> 7:30 p.m.- Abiding Praise Practice 7p- Young Adult Bible Study	<b>17</b> Abiding Savior Angels Game 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	<b>18</b> YouthX Event 9a-Altar Guild Prep 5p-Praise Worship Service
<b>19</b> Worship Schedule- See chart 9:15a – Adult Bible Study	<b>20</b> 7p-Boy Scout Meeting 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 8:15a – Parents in Prayer 9a- Bible Study 5:30p - Confirmation 6p- Jr. High Youth Group 7:45p-AA	<b>23</b> 7:30 p.m.- Abiding Praise Practice	<b>24</b> 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	<b>25</b> PTL Mixer 9a-Altar Guild Prep 2p – Olivia Thaelke Organ Recital 5p-Praise Worship Service
<b>26</b> Worship Schedule- See chart 9:15a – Adult Bible Study 11:15a- Congregation Meeting	<b>27</b> 7p-Boy Scout Meeting 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 6p- Jr. High Youth Group 7:45p-AA	<b>30</b> 7p- Young Adult Bible Study		

**WORSHIP AND COMMUNION SCHEDULE**

- In Person Informal Worship | Saturday 5:00 PM | Communion Offered Weekly
- In Person Classic Worship | Sunday 8:00 AM | Communion Offered 1st and 3rd Weeks
- In Person Abiding Praise Worship | Sunday 10:15 AM | Communion Offered 2nd and 4th Weeks
- Live Stream Abiding Praise Worship Via YouTube | Sunday 10:15 AM



**Abiding Savior  
Lutheran Church**

23262 El Toro Road  
Lake Forest, CA 92630

**Return Service Requested  
Time Dated Materials**

**3/28 PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND | SATURDAY WORSHIP**  
IN PERSON WITH HOLY COMMUNION | 5:00PM

**3/29 PALM SUNDAY**  
IN PERSON | 8:00AM

**3/29 PALM SUNDAY**  
LIVESTREAM OR IN PERSON | 10:15AM

**4/2 MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
LIVESTREAM OR IN PERSON, WITH HOLY COMMUNION | 7:00PM

**4/3 GOOD FRIDAY**  
LIVESTREAM OR IN PERSON TENEBRAE SERVICE | 7:00PM

**4/4 EASTER EVE**  
IN PERSON WITH HOLY COMMUNION | 5:00PM

**4/5 EASTER SUNRISE**  
IN PERSON WITH HOLY COMMUNION | 6:00AM

**4/5 EASTER FESTIVAL**  
IN PERSON WITH HOLY COMMUNION | 8:00AM

**4/5 EASTER FESTIVAL**  
LIVESTREAM OR IN PERSON WITH HOLY COMMUNION | 10:15AM

# JOIN US FOR HOLY WEEK WORSHIP