



ABIDING SAVIOR

Lutheran Church and School

March 2021

Day By Day



Impossible Relief

by REV. DR. MICHAEL ZEIGLER, *Speaker of The Lutheran Hour*

With the first stars shining through the cloudless sky of a North Dakota winter night, we entered the movie knowing nothing about the impending blizzard. Two hours later, stepping out of the movie theater into the windowed entryway, I rubbed my dilated eyes. Everything outside was white. I could not even see our car in the parking lot.

Thirty years later, when I think about that night, I get a sense of the weighty decisions my parents had to make. Our home was 15 miles to the west, down a country road. Should we make the drive? Or wait it out? As a child, I remember sensing the seriousness of those decisions, but not the *weight* of them. I couldn't feel their weight because I had nothing to contribute to solving the problem. I was only a passenger. My dad drove us home at the speed of a brisk walk, with the driver's-side door open so he could see the yellow line on the highway's edge. That was the only thing keeping us on the road. I was frightened, but also relieved that he was at the wheel, not me.

Have you ever felt relief in knowing something was impossible for you? Often, when we face impossible situations, they induce panic, not relief. It's like when you're sitting in a parked car—then, out of the corner of your eye, you see yourself rolling away from the car next to you. You press on the brake, but it doesn't work! You're still rolling! Then you realize the trick of your eyes. The car *next* to you was moving. Even knowing things were not what they seemed, it still takes a moment for you to settle down.

Facing a situation impossibly out of your control usually leads to panic, but not always. It

depends on *who is with you*. If you are a child, and there is a calm, caring, capable parent with you, acknowledging that you have nothing to contribute to the solution can be a relief.

Jesus once told His disciples, "whoever does not receive the kingdom of God *like a child* shall not enter it" (Mark 10:15). Later, when they asked Jesus, "Who can be saved?" He answered, "With people it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God" (Mark 10:26-27). Jesus wants us to know what is impossible for us. We cannot save ourselves (or anyone else) for a permanent place in His coming kingdom. We cannot even enter it unless we ride with Him, trustingly, like a 12-year-old passenger in a blizzard. We cannot solve the deadly crisis that is our current situation. So, we look to the One who promised to be with us, and pray, "Thy kingdom come."

Watching my dad bring us home through a blizzard with one hand on the wheel and the other on the door, hanging halfway out

of the car—that was something to see. Even more impressive is what Jesus did to meet our impossibly out-of-control world. Hanging from the cross, rising from the dead, sending His Spirit, gathering His church, pledging His return to renew all things—that's His part. Our part is to ride along and watch. His part is to save. Our part is to serve our fellow passengers (see Mark 10:43). Secure with Jesus, sometimes our eyes still play tricks on us. But all is not as it seems. He is at the wheel. Now, isn't that a relief? †

"With people it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God."

Mark 10:26-27



Lenten mid-week services will be viewable by 12:00 p.m. each Wednesday in Lent.

There will not be any in-person mid-week services. The services will all be pre-recorded.

We will post a link to the devotional service on Wednesday morning on Facebook and our website.



Can you imagine going through your week without clean socks and underwear? Well, the most requested items from people living in homeless shelters are exactly that . . . socks and underwear.

This Lenten season, we would like to collect new socks and underwear for the Orange County Rescue Mission. All sizes welcome! The most urgent need right now is for women and children.

Please bring in NEW packages of socks and underwear to church on **Sunday, March 7** as we will collect these items on "**Undie Sunday.**"

Please help make a difference in the lives of many people in need in our area this Lenten Season.



Abiding Savior

Lutheran Church and School
23262 El Toro Road
Lake Forest, California 92630
Church: 949.830.1460

Church Staff

Reverend Glenn Lucas, Senior Pastor
Kyle Salesky, Family/Youth Ministries Director
Chris Vick, IT Specialist
Janet Calhoun, Church Secretary
Robin DeLong-Hanrath, HR/Office Manager
Karen Galas, Accountant
Laura Lyons and Jennifer Kranawetter, Admin Assistants to Pastors
Lori Beniche, Director of Communications
Linda Bo, Editor of Day by Day

Church Officers

Steve Wichmann, President
Miguel Campos, Vice President
Patricia Stroube, Secretary
John Egley, Treasurer
Erica Volz, Congregation Liaison

School Staff

School 949.830.1461
Donna Lucas, School Principal
Yesi Naber, Admissions Director
Keigh Lee Horn, School Secretary
Samantha Fitt, School Secretary
Extended Care 949.837.4289
Deana Hicks, Extended Care Director

Preschool Staff

Preschool Center 949.837.4292
Mary Wolfenbarger, Preschool Director

Church Office Hours

Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

School Office Hours

Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

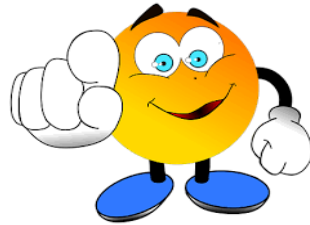
Preschool Office Hours

Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Visit us on our website at
www.abidingsavior.com



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



HEY, you . . . wherever you are . . .

We're baaaaaccckkkkk!

On Sundays at 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. we are worshiping together again in the Gym. How exciting to hear someone sing! (I try but, well you know if you have sat anywhere near me during worship). So much has happened during this last year while we were physically apart.

I really want to thank those of you that kept us up to date on the happenings in your life.

If you attended Saturday evening services, perhaps you recall seeing Rocky Hewitt on the far-right side of the church. Rocky nearly lost his life to an illness several years ago, but even through that really rough time, his faith remained strong. Following is a letter from a really faithful servant that I hope you had the privilege to meet and talk to. He was truly a gift from God and will be sorely missed.



John Rocky Hewitt, Ph.D.
Assistant Sheriff Retired



January 18, 2021

Pastor Glen Lucas
Senior Pastor
Abiding Savior Lutheran Church
23262 El Toro Road
Lake Forest, Ca 92630

Dear Pastor Lucas:

I am writing you as my beloved pastor and enduring friend to let you know Carrie and I have re-located to a little farm town thirty minutes north west of Boise, Idaho. Our new home is in Star, a small community of about 5,000 people. We prayed about this move for a long time and suddenly God led us here to be close to kids and grand children. When I was in the Marine Corps one of my outfits deployed 30 times in 36 months; so moving itself is not stressful to me. What is difficult is leaving people like you who have played such an important role in my life. You were there for me when I was so ill. Your prayers were of tremendous comfort to my family in their time of need. I thank our God every day for what I went through, for I sincerely believe it brought me closer to him, to know that I can give my life completely over to him, and I am truly one of his children. It also brought you into my and my family's life; something we are so very grateful for.

The virus continues to cause people to be isolated so for now we would like to keep our membership active at Abiding Savior. Once the crisis is under control we will investigate transferring to a church in this area. Please tell everyone hello for us and please stop by if you are ever in this area.

It is with much love for you and the congregation that I send this letter in hopes it finds everyone well. May God richly bless each and every one.

In our precious Lord and Savior's name,

Your brother in Christ,
Rocky Hewitt
Rocky Hewitt

10338 W. Broadford Ct. • Star, Idaho 83669 • (208) 286-0174 • drjhewitt@gmail.com

THIS LADY WAS THERE OVER 72 YEARS AGO IN THE YOUTH CHORUS



When Dr. Walter A. Mair preached for the premier opening of the Sixteenth Season of the International Lutheran Hour during the afternoon of October 3, 1948, Dorothy Schmidt was there singing in the Youth Chorus.

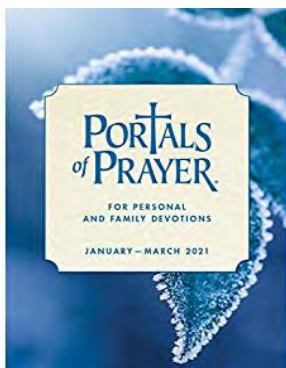
Having already listened to **The Lutheran Hour**, she was also present singing in the congregation during the January 31, 2021 morning worship at Trinity Cristo Rey Lutheran Church, Santa Ana CA, where she serves as our LHM Ambassador.

We celebrated the more than 90 years of **The Lutheran Hour** and the call of Christ carried around the world by radio waves, sharing the Good News.

It was a joyous time!



Scholarships from the Ladies Guild Scholarship Fund for the school year 2021-2022 will be available for member students studying for church related careers at LCMS colleges or Universities. Applications can be picked up in the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Jeanne Grovom at jgrovom@cox.net. **Application for the scholarship deadline is March 7, 2021.**



Portals of Prayer is great for personal devotions and can be used to open church meetings or Bible studies. Published quarterly, authors change each month.

The January, February, March 2021 edition of Portals of Prayer has arrived. Pick up your copy from the church office during office hours during the week.

Share one with your friends!!

IN CASE OF PASTORAL EMERGENCY

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.



Mite Boxes are used to further God's kingdom through the mission grants. Its name comes from the lesson of the widow's mite.

Mite Boxes are available from the church office. Place your Mite Box in an obvious place so you can "feed" it. Return your filled Mite Box to the church office and exchange it for an empty box and start filling again!

As we continue to support Mite Box projects, may God bless our efforts to spread the good news.



You may pick up your offering envelopes for 2021 in the church office during the week from 8:00 a.m. through 4:30 p.m.

You may also call the church office 949.830.1460 and we will be happy to mail your envelopes to you.

If you are now using one of the online methods of giving and no longer need offering envelopes, please let us know. Email jcalhoun@abidingsavior.com.



DRIVE and DROP Produce Drive

Drive up, pop the trunk, and we collect!
Social distancing guidelines followed at all times.

Saturday, March 27th from 9am to 11am
Abiding Savior Lutheran Church
23262 El Toro Rd, Lake Forest, CA 92630

Most Needed Produce Items

- Onions (yellow, white, red)
- Peppers (red, green, yellow)
- Bags of potatoes
- Bags of carrots
- Tomatoes
- Bags of apples
- Bags of oranges
- Tangerines
- Bananas (as green as possible)



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



Food need is up over 90% from 2019 and our
inventory is down 40%. We need your help!

Contact: Food Pantry Team · foodteam@sco-oc.org
7 Whatney, Suite B, Irvine, CA 92618 · Ph: (949) 380-8144 x203
www.sco-oc.org · TAX ID #33-0330233

PRESCHOOL

Mary Wolfinbarger
Preschool Director



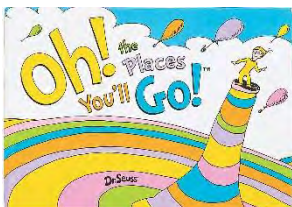
Miss Emily's class is photographed here during National Lutheran Schools Week. The children all received capes that say Abiding Savior Lutheran Preschool. We titled the day, "Jesus is our Superhero!"

Registration for the 2021-22 school year has begun. If you know of anyone who would benefit from our Christ-centered developmentally appropriate program, please have them contact our Admissions Director, Yesi Naber, for more information on the center or to schedule an appointment for a tour, at (949) 830-1460 x 2113 or ynaber@abidingsavior.com. You can also visit our website at:

www.abidingsavior.com

Upcoming March dates include:

1-5 Dr. Seuss Week



Our preschool rooms got a beautiful upgrade in February. We thank Jeff and the whole crew from Newport Flooring for all of their hard work and we thank our church for dedicating funds to make this happen for us. We have always felt like an extension of your home, and now we look like it!



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Donna Lucas,
School Principal



Sent to Serve

We are blessed to be part of over 1900 Lutheran schools across our nation. We celebrated Lutheran Schools Week at the end of January under the theme "Sent to Serve". During this year of COVID, it is easy to feel isolated and alone. One of the best ways to combat those feelings is to serve others. Abiding Savior continues to encourage and provide for opportunities to help our community, country and world. We continue to have chapel weekly with our TK-8th graders and collect chapel offerings for various organizations. We have a pod of students in the gym for in-person chapel and stream the chapel service to the rest of the classrooms. The pod of students rotates from week to week, giving all the students the opportunities to worship in-person once a month.

We thank God for all His blessings and the ability to share the love of Jesus each day with all our students and families.



Scrip is a gift certificate program that provides a variety of gift cards for purchase. The gift certificates are purchased by the scrip program at a discount and sold to participants at face value. The difference is profit. This profit is split (50/50) between the school and the family purchasing the scrip. We use these funds for non-budgeted items, and families will receive a tuition credit for the following school year.



The elementary school is hosting a Jog A Thon in March which is our big fundraiser for the year, and we would like to spread the word.

Abiding Savior will kick-off our Jog-A-Thon Program on March 15! Our goal is to raise \$12,000 for new rubber flooring for our outdoor playground and to strengthen our school community. This year more than ever, we need additional funds to provide an excellent educational experience for our students. All students will participate in the Jog-A-Thon. We will also be following our school safety guidelines to ensure a safe and fun experience for everyone. Please look out for ways to donate. The date of the Jog-A-Thon is March 26.



**Abiding Savior Lutheran
School & Preschool**

NOW ENROLLING 2021 - 2022 School Year Preschool - 8th Grade



Christian & Faith Development

21st Century Technology

Academic Excellence

Developmental Preschool



Welcoming † Loving † Nurturing † STEAM




Learning Disabilities
Specialist on Staff


Spanish taught Preschool-8th

AM/PM Extended Care

Half & Full Day Kindergarten



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**Building
Christ-Centered
Leaders**



Preschool Ages 2-PK | Elementary School Grades TK-6th | Jr. High Grades 7th-8th | International Student Program
23262 El Toro Road • Lake Forest, CA 92630 • 949-830-1461



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

Return Service Requested
Time Dated Materials



Abiding Savior
Lutheran Church

ADULT BIBLE STUDY SUNDAYS IN MARCH

Led by Lydia Woods

9:15 AM | ADULT ED ROOM



DESIGNATE ABIDING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
AS YOUR NON-PROFIT
OF CHOICE AND AMAZON WILL DONATE TO US!