

# Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

# Day By Day



March 2024

# **Comfort and Light**

Job asked a challenging question during his time of suffering: "Shall we actually accept good from God but not accept adversity?" (Job 2:10). Evern hardship has a place in the Lord's plan.

We can find great solace in Paul's words about our loving god, who "comforts us I all our affliction so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction (2 Corinthians 1:4). Think about the kind of people you seek out when vou feel hurt. You want someone who has felt your pain, right? A person who's walked the path we find ourselves on can understand our suffering and provide wise counsel. According to the apostle, passing through a "valley experience" prepares us to be a blessing and encouragement to those who must go through something similar later. What's required is that we accept the adversity He has placed in our way and choose to learn from the situation.

God is the Lord of our life, and He has the right to use us as comforters and encouragers to those in our sphere of influence. As His servants, we must be willing to receive whatever training is necessary to complete His will, including times when it hurts. Even in suffering, we can trust that He loves us and has a plan and purpose for our life.

Jesus, the Light of World, told us (His followers) to be light as well. One purpose for us is to shine so that people will be drawn to the One who dwells within us.

Light shines most effectively when it's not hidden. As Christians, we should be transparent about our faith and dependence on the Lord. Who we are in private must match who we are in public. Eliminating sinful habits and practices will brighten our testimony for Jesus. Light reveals what's in the darkness as well as what is missing. The Holy Spirit will use our actions to shine truth into others' lives and reveal their need for the Savior.

Light also serves to guide and to warn. As we obey the Lord's leading, we will be able to help others understand who God is and how much He loves them. We also can function as lanterns to warn people of the dangers along their path. Finally, our interactions are to bring warmth through an encouraging attitude and servantlike actions.

In order to have a strong impact, we must reflect the light of God's Son. Growing in Christlikeness is the key. Become intentional about shining your light wherever you are – especially in your home, workplace, and community.



JOIN US each week for in-person and live-stream worship as we celebrate the season of Lent and Easter.



WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICES | March 6, 13, & 20 12:30 PM | Live Stream or in person



PALM SUNDAY | March 24 10:15 AM | Live Stream or in person

MAUNDY THURSDAY | March 28 7:00 PM | Live Stream or in person Service with Holy Communion with Stripping of the Altar

GOOD FRIDAY | March 29 7:00 PM | Live Stream or in person Tenebrae Service

EASTER EVE | March 30 5:00 PM | In person worship Service with Holy Communion



EASTER SUNRISE | March 31 6:00 AM | In person worship

**EASTER FESTIVAL | March 31** 8:00 AM | In person worship Service with Holy Communion

10:15 AM | Live Stream or in person Service with Holy Communion



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

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

# Church Staff

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

# **Preschool Staff**

Celeste Cisna, Preschool Director

> **Church Office Hours** Monday through Friday 8:15 AM to 4:00 PM

**School Office Hours** Monday through Friday 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM

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

Visit us on our website at abidingsavior.com



abidingsavior

Reverend Glenn Lucas. Senior Pastor

# Hoppin' Down the Bunny Trail...

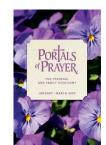


Bring your camera and kids for the annual Easter egg hunt on Saturday, March 30 at 10:00 a.m. We will hunt for eggs on the lawn again this year. Hunting for eggs will be divided by age group. The egg hunt will be open for children through age 10. Meet the Easter Bunny in person. Don't miss the fun!



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!

# **Portals of Prayer**



The April, May and June 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.



Abiding Savior Ladies Guild wants to do its part to help train and encourage young people to enter church careers.

All students studying to enter church careers at LCMS colleges, universities and seminaries and are members of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church are encouraged to pick up an application from the church office for the Ladies Guild Scholarship for the school year 2024-25.

A letter of recommendation from Pastor Lucas and a letter of recommendation from a teacher or school administrator who knows you well is also required.

The deadline for returning applications to the church office is March 4, 2024. Please contact Jeanne Grovom at jgrovom@cox.net or at (949) 413-2936 for any questions.

# Sew 'n Sews

Join the Sew 'n Sews, Saturday, March 2, upstairs in Room



E125. We meet from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

We have pillowcase kits, and we are also working on walker totes and placemats. 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!





Free income tax service (VITA) here at church is in full swing! This totally free service is open to all with only a few qualifications, which will be listed when potential clients go to our website to register and request an appointment. ASLC members are invited to sign up; some qualifications are waived for members. Members and nonmembers click on the link <u>here</u> to register.

MORE EXCITING NEWS! The City of Lake Forest has agreed to post our free tax service on their website. All residents in the city and residents in the surrounding areas may learn of our free service. You can find our listing at: Free Income Tax Prep | Lake Forest, CA - Official Website (lakeforestca.gov)

Remember, ASLC members and your friends can partake of this service, with a distinct advantage that certain qualifications are waived for you.

Your information is confidential, in accordance with IRS rules that govern volunteers.

#### Ladies Night Out Janice Trumbauer

We are scheduled to meet Monday, March 4, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the Adult Ed Room. Potluck: A-L salad - M-Z main dish. We have planned an Easter craft prepared by Heidi, please bring a pair of scissors. We would love to know how many are coming, so RSVP by Sunday, March 3. Contact Janice Trumbauer @ krafter@cox.net.

# Special Called Congregation Meeting

ASLC has called a Special Congregation Meeting on March 3 at 11:20 a.m. to consider calling our DCE Intern, Ms. Alexis Wood, to serve as Director of Family Ministry at Abiding Savior Lutheran Church & School.

The congregation will be asked to vote on extending a Divine Call to Alexis during this meeting. We are presenting this matter to the congregation at this time so that we can complete the Call Process for a first-time call of an eligible candidate from one of our Concordia Universities as prescribed by the Council of Presidents in conjunction with the Universities.

# Take Me Out to the Ballpark



Mark your calendars for **Friday, April 26**, and join us for Abiding Savior Night with the Angels. The game begins at 6:30 p.m. against the Minnesota Twins. This is also Star Wars Light Show Night. There will be a post-game light show featuring 800 drones.

Tickets are available until March 10 in the church office, the school office and at church on Sunday. Don't miss this opportunity to take your family to the ballpark!

#### ASLC Ladies Guild Sheila Grossman

A blessed Valentine's Day was shared between ASLC Ladies Guild, Sunday School students and homebound. Our students created heartfelt greetings to warm the hearts of our homebound members. Thank you students for your designs! Thank you Miss Sharon, Miss Stephanie and Miss Heidi for overseeing our young crafters. And thank you Ladies Guild members for addressing, labeling, stamping and mailing!



"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 5:16

Our next meeting will be April 10 in the Adult Ed Room. Please contact Sheila Grossman for additional information at aslc.sheila.grossman@gmail.com.

### **Flower Donations**



The 2024 Flower Calendar has open dates for you to select. Select the dates for your contributions in honor of special people and events. Use the envelope provided and place it in the offering basket or note the Flower Fund using the online giving options. Thank you for your support!



Looking for a Christian community to be a part of and meet some new people? Contact DCE intern Alexis Wood to get more information on Bible studies, fellowship, and recreational activities! She can be reached at awood@abidingsavior.com.

# **Proclaiming God's Word**



At Lutheran Hour Ministries, we have dedicated ourselves to equipping Christians to gain a hearing for the gospel in natural and fruitful ways.

For more than 90 years, the call of Christ via The Lutheran Hour https://www.lutheranhour.org/ser mon.asp has been carried around the world by radio waves to share

the Good News. The weekly sermons dive into sections of Scripture that tell the story of our Savior.

Time Magazine April 7, 1958, featuring Lutheranism on its cover, speaks of The Lutheran Hour radio program as the best-known denominational broadcast on the air.

You can access The Lutheran Hour at:

- 8:00 a.m. Costa Mesa KBRT 740 AM
- 1:30 p.m. Glendale KKLA 99.5 FM
- 7:00 a.m. Sirius XM Family Talk131

And also via email subscription here https://www.lhm.org/newsroom/de

fault.asp on the LHM Daily Devotions app.



An LHM Lenten/Holy Thursday and Good Friday resource https://www.lutheranhour.org/holy

week/ is hosted by Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, Speaker of The Lutheran Hour. These half-hour specials feature multi-voice character portrayals, re-enacting the tragic events of Jesus' betrayal, death, and resurrection as recorded in Matthew 26-28. The specials invite the listener into the Passion of Jesus' and prompts the listeners to consider the questions: Who is this Jesus? And why does He matter?





We will be holding youth group every Wednesday from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Join us for fellowship, a devotional, games, and a snack! I hope to see you there! Anyone in 5th-8th grade is welcome so bring a friend whether they go to Abiding Savior or not! We will meet in the gym.

In a few months, we are hoping to have the High School Ministry back and going so if you or anyone you know is interested, please reach out to Alexis Wood to get more information on that!

If you have any questions or would like to learn more, please contact Alexis Wood at awood@abidingsavior.com.

# Vacation Bible School

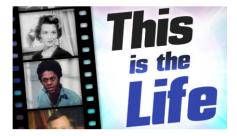
SAVE THE DATE | July 29 - August 2



At SCUBA (Super Cool Undersea Bible Adventure) kids will take a deep dive into an amazing underwater world to experience the everflowing, never-ending love of God. At Scuba

VBS, kids will be immersed in the Word as they learn about building friendships with God and discover what "living water" is all about! For kids ages 5 through Grade 5th. Volunteers and donations are needed too! Registration coming soon!

#### Lutheran Layman's League Lou Marting



The pioneer of the Christian television series, *This is the Life*, first premiered in September 1952 under the title The Fisher Family. This ground-breaking Christian program was produced by the LCMS and ran through 1988. Initially the sessions centered around The Fisher Family, a strong, loving, multigenerational, midwestern family. The series looked at difficult life issues, which were ultimately resolved with Biblical solutions.

The subjects were quite daring for the time the program was originally broadcast. Among these were race relations, marital infidelity, drug abuse and war.

It's surprising how many actors appeared in these early episodes of *This is the Life* who later went on to big or super-sized careers in film and television.

Here's TV from television's "Golden Age." Check out episodes of *This is the Life*. Watch stars like Jack Nicholson, Leonard Nimoy, Angie Dickinson, and Lawrence Hilton-Jacobs cut their teeth on their craft - long before they hit the "big time."

These *This is the Life* episodes have been selected from among dozens produced by Lutheran Television Productions, during the 50s, 60s, 70s, and 80s. Viewers will find the subjects and story lines aren't the stuff of sitcoms or even family-oriented shows that always went for the happy ending. Here are stories of faith-healing gone awry; a married couple's loss of their daughter; a pastor whose legalism was driving his members away; the bitter animosity of a father against his daughter's suitor; and more. In the end, each episode has one thing in common: God reigns through every event in our lives, and it is by faith in His Son following and honoring Him - that our lives find their fullest meaning.

If you choose to use this resource in a small group study, Discussion Guides are included.

For the promo video and for securing the DVDs go to: <u>https://www.lhm.org/studies/study</u> video.asp?id=29174.

#### MEETING PEOPLE RIGHT WHERE THEY ARE Megan McDaniel



What if every Christian saw his or her neighbor as a gift from God with gifts to share?

In today's increasingly polarized society, it is often easy to feel discouraged and disconnected from others, even those closest to us. We may feel divided by politics, race, or religion. What if every Christian saw his or her neighbor as a gift from God with gifts to share? How would that change how we view, interact with, and serve our neighbors?

During a time when people are searching for hope, community is more important than ever. Lutheran Hour Ministries is answering the question, "How can I bring hope to my neighborhood?" We can use our individual gifts to make a real difference right where we are, among the neighbors we know and those we have not yet met but see every day. Our faith, put into action on a local level, can make an immediate and personal impact in our neighborhood and beyond. It starts with one person in their place, and spreads one by one, until it blankets first neighborhoods, then communities, towns, and regions, and then the whole world is covered in personal connections and meaningful actions that bear witness to the love our God has for His people and the good He wants for the world. Can you imagine what would happen if Christians rediscovered this call to share the Gospel in deeds?

If history is an indicator, God could use our good deeds to gain a hearing for the Gospel and, according to His will, draw our non-Christian neighbors to the faith. This concept is really nothing new for us at LHM. Gathering at the local level and building genuine relationships with people close to us have been in the DNA of our organization since we were founded more than a century ago. This 21st century approach will allow us to bring people together in an age of division while sharing the Gospel both in word and deed.

For those who do not know Jesus, we Christians come alongside them to meet Jesus again, at the cross, where faith in ourselves ends and simple trust in Jesus begins again. Life with God begins again.

Visit **Ihm.org/together** to find valuable resources that help us as Christians be a welcome influence in our neighborhoods. Understanding our giftedness and using those gifts to bless others can help us build strong connections with those around us. It is exciting to think about the impact of millions of Christians around the world loving their neighbor.

At LHM, we believe that God is sending us on a mission of hope and love. The goal of this mission is clear: to share the Gospel with all who would hear and to equip other Christians to do the same.

#### **Preschool** Celeste Cisna Preschool Director





Registration for the 2024-2025 school year began for new families on February 1 and we were full for the year in no time! We have a waitlist of over 60 children who are wanting to be a part of our wonderful school and hope that we will be able to serve them one day. We have already begun planning our summer camp and are hoping to plan some new and exciting things in order to have more children join us this summer.

We have lots of events planned in March. On March 2, we will be hosting the Early Childhood Equipping Conference here at Abiding Savior. This conference brings early childhood educators from the Pacific Southwest District together to engage in a day of fellowship and professional development.

We are also hosting a Grandparents/VIP Tea for our students and their VIP's on March 9. Students and their VIP's will get to have tea and treats together in the gym and then they will get to tour their classrooms.

Lastly, our preschoolers will be singing at the 5:00 p.m. church service on March 23.



#### Elementary School Donna Lucas, School Principal

Our annual Father/Daughter dance was nothing short of enchanting, reminiscent of a fairy tale straight from the pages of a storybook. A heartfelt thank you to Mrs. Robertson and all the dedicated volunteers who worked tirelessly to transform our gym into a magical fairy tale dream. Your efforts made the evening truly unforgettable!







Sunday School has a new look. Instead of children being dismissed during the second service to attend classes, Sunday School is now being conducted between the first and second services. Classes begin by gathering all the children into the gym for a brief opening program. Afterwards they are dismissed to their classrooms for biblical teaching. The highlight of the month was probably a deviation from individual classes to one combined class where they engaged in making valentines for homebound members of the church. You can see their handiwork in the picture.



A new feature of Sunday School is to invite parents to gather together in the teachers' lounge for fellowship. Parents can also consider attending the Adult Bible Class, which is conducted during the same hour as the children's Sunday School.





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1</b> 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	<b>2</b> 9a-Altar Guild Prep 9a-VITA Income Tax Preparation 10a-Sew and Sews 5p-Praise Worship Service
<b>3</b> Norship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar 10:30a-Praise and Nurture	<b>4</b> 3p-Girl Scout Meeting 6p-Women's Fellowship Night 7p-Boy Scout Meeting 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	<b>5</b> 4p-VITA Income Tax Preparation 5p-Pickleball	<b>6</b> 8:15a-Parents in Prayer 11:15a-Wed Bible St 12:30p-Lent Worship 3p-5/6 & 7/8 Grade Youth Group 6p-Confirmaiton 7:30p-Chapel Choir 7:45p-AA	<b>7</b> 8a-Gathering Grounds Fellowship 6:30p-Praises Ring Practice 7p-Young Adults Ministry	8 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	<b>9</b> 9a-Altar Guild Prep 9a-VITA Income Ta Prep 9a-Preschool Grandparents/ VIP Day 5p-Praise Worship Service
<b>10</b> Worship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar 11:45a-Life Group: Glenn/Debbie Amick 1p-Pack Meeting: Pinewood Derby 3p-Piano/Voice Recital		<b>12</b> 4p-VITA Income Tax Preparation 5p-Pickleball	<b>13</b> 8:15a-Parents in Prayer 11:15a-Wed Bible St 12:30p-Lent Worship 3p-5/6 & 7/8 Grade Youth Group 6p-Confirmaiton 7:30p-Chapel Choir 7:45p-AA	<b>14</b> 8a-Gathering Grounds Fellowship 7p-Young Adults Ministry 7:30p-Abiding Praise	<b>15</b> 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous 7:30p-Youth Ministry Lock-In	<b>16</b> 9a-Altar Guild Prep 9a-VITA Income Tax Preparation 5p-Praise Worship Service
<b>17</b> <b>St. Patrick's Day</b> Norship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar 10:30a-Praise and Nurture	<b>18</b> 3p-Girl Scout Meeting 7p-Boy Scout Meeting 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	<b>19</b> 4p-VITA Income Tax Preparation 5p-Pickleball	20 8:15a-Parents in Prayer 11:15a-Wed Bible St 12:30p-Lent Worship 3p-5/6 & 7/8 Grade Youth Group 6p-Confirmaiton 7:30p-Chapel Choir 7:45p-AA	21 8a-Gathering Grounds Fellowship 6:30p-Praises Ring 7p-Young Adults Ministry 7:30p-Abiding Praise	22 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	23 9a-Altar Guild Prep 9a-VITA Income Ta Preparation 5p-Praise Worship Service
<b>24</b> Norship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar 10:30a-Praise and Nurture	<b>25</b> 7p-Boy Scout Meeting 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	<b>26</b> 4p-VITA Income Tax Preparation 5p-Pickleball	27 8:15a-Parents in Prayer Group 11:15a-Wed Bible Study 3p-5/6 & 7/8 Grade Youth Group 7:30p-Chapel Choir 7:45p-AA	28 Maundy Thursday 8a-Gathering Grounds Fellowship 6:30p-Praises Ring 7p-Young Adults Ministry 7p-Maundy Thursday Worship 7:30p-Abiding Praise	29 Good Friday 7p-Good Friday Tenebrae Service 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	<b>30</b> Easter Eve 9a-Altar Guild Prep 9a-VITA Income Ta Preparation 5p-Easter Eve Worship Servic
31 Easter aster Worship – See		TREAM	Alle	eluia RISEN		

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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Weeks Communion Offered 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Weeks



Return Service Requested Time Dated Materials

