



**Abiding Savior
Lutheran Church**

December 2025

Day By Day

Congregation News

"And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn."

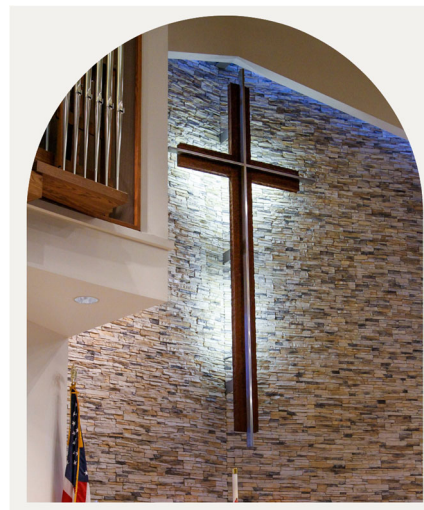
Luke 2:7

Prepare Him Room

By: *Stephanie Harmon*

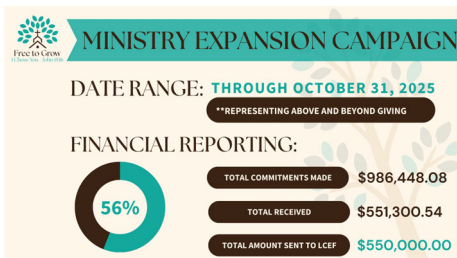
What could be a greater example of humility than the Christmas story? The King of kings, the Highest of the high, the very Son of God, stepped down from glory to be born in a barnyard animal's stable. Because there was no room for Him in the inn, Jesus began His life on earth in very humble circumstances. And this was no accident—it was actually the heart of God's plan.

God designed this humble beginning to show us what kind of King Jesus would be. He didn't come to rule over earthly nations and armies. He came to be the King who rules over the hearts of those who believe and love Him. Jesus came for the broken, the lost, the abandoned, the sinners, and the helpless. He came down to earth to be the King of our hearts. How amazing is that! This Advent season, the question is simple: Will you prepare room for Him?



Worship Services

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



ABIDING SAVIOR KINDLY WELCOMES YOU TO OUR

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES

Christmas Eve

4:00pm - Family Candlelight
6:00pm - Festival Candlelight
8:00pm - Festival Candlelight

all communion services

Christmas Day

10:00am - Christmas Service with communion

BIBLE Study

SUNDAYS @ 9:15 AM
ADULT ED ROOM

WEDNESDAYS @ 9:00 AM
GATHERING GROUNDS


Let's study the word of God together!

Adult Bible Study

Sundays 9:15 am
Adult Education Room

Wednesday Advent Studies 11:00 am
December 10th and 17th
Soup lunch following Bible Study

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 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
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 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

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)

Love | Serve | Connect

**CHURCH
OFFICE
CLOSED**

Please note, Abiding Savior's Church Office will be closed December 24th through January 2nd. Our office will reopen on Monday, January 5th.

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.



It is Finished!

God's redemptive work on the cross is finished! Jesus has died, come back to life, and is now seated on His throne. Hooray! But guess what? The float isn't finished — and neither is the work of God's people to boldly share the Gospel!

Here's how you can jump in and help make a difference: sign up to help at petalpushers.org — join the decorating team, outreach booth, or simply get involved.

Buy merchandise or give a donation to support the effort — every bit helps so that millions of people will see Jesus in the parade!

Pray for all who will see the float, experience the kindness of fellow decorators, and hear the Good News of Jesus through our Outreach Team.

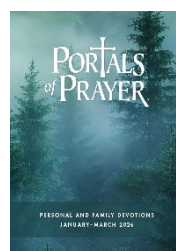
Thank you so much for your support and for helping share this

hope-filled message. Let's go together, confidently and with joy, because He is risen!

Have questions or want to learn more? Reach out to: Krista Nagy LLLSoCal3@gmail.com.



Portals of Prayer



The January, February, and March 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.



Poinsettias for Christmas Worship

Every year, we decorate our sanctuary to celebrate the Christmas Season. Poinsettias are a big part of that decoration and really adds to the beauty.

If you would like to help by purchasing a poinsettia, simply place a check specifying "Poinsettias" on the memo line in one of the gray baskets. Each poinsettia is \$12.

You will be able to take the poinsettia home after the 10:15 a.m. service on Christmas Day.

- FELLOWSHIP AND OUTREACH MINISTRIES-



Angel Tree

By: Lori Beniche

Christmas is a special time for giving. It is also a joy to receive! Become an angel to a person in need this Christmas. Just stop by our Angel Tree in the narthex and pick up a name of someone in our community and help make Christmas a little brighter. If shopping isn't for you, feel free to donate gift cards or checks, and we will do the shopping for you! All unwrapped gifts need to be returned to Abiding Savior by Sunday, December 14th.



**WE STARTED AT SCHOOL.
NOW WE'RE HERE FOR YOU.**

**SEEDS is now offering mental
health services for the whole family.**

Through our **community private practice**, we
have quality therapists providing services for:

- Adults
- Couples
- Families
- Child/Teen

seedstherapy.org



SCAN TO REQUEST AN INTAKE
OR EMAIL US AT
INFO@SEEDSTHERAPY.ORG.



YOU'RE INVITED!

1ST ANNIVERSARY FIRST FRUITS GIVING!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7TH IN BETWEEN WORSHIP SERVICES

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL TIME OF FELLOWSHIP!

WE WILL SHARE A CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST ON THE PATIO
AS WE CELEBRATE THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF OUR
FIRST FRUITS GIVING FOR THE FREE TO GROW CAMPAIGN.

COME AND REJOICE WITH US AS WE REFLECT ON GOD'S FAITHFULNESS
AND LOOK AHEAD TO ALL HE HAS YET TO DO!

- YOUTH MINISTRY -



Youth Ministry

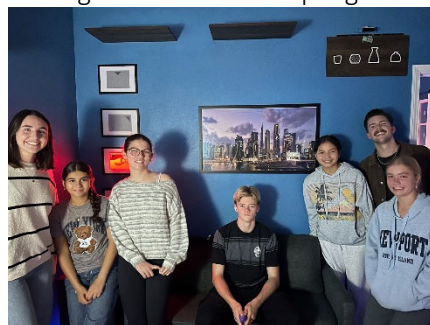
By: Alexis Upchurch

Our 5th–8th-grade youth had a wonderful opportunity to bless our community by creating handmade cards for the Thanksgiving boxes we distribute to families in need. Their creativity shone, and their heartfelt messages will surely help share the love of Christ with others this season!

High School Ministry

By: Alexis Upchurch

Twelve of our high school students teamed up for an exciting night of escape rooms! One group successfully broke out—while the other... gave it their best shot and had a ton of fun along the way. It was a fantastic evening of fellowship, laughter, and connection. We're already looking forward to our December ice skating event and worship night!



Family Ministry

By: Alexis Upchurch

Join us for our annual Abiding Savior Advent Activities on December 7th, 14th, and 21st, following the 10:15 AM service in the Adult Ed Room! Each week will feature festive activities, meaningful devotions, a complimentary hot cocoa bar, a fun photo booth, and engaging experiences for all ages. Enjoy Christmas Bingo on December 7, DIY Advent punch calendars on December 14, and Birthday Cakes for Jesus on December 21. Bring your lunch or reserve a meal for \$8 per person. RSVP by December 4th to help us prepare—though you're always welcome to join the activities even without one. Come celebrate Advent with us in a season filled with faith, fun, and fellowship!



JOIN US FOR ABIDING SAVIOR

ADVENT ACTIVITIES

DECEMBER 7TH
CHRISTMAS BINGO

DECEMBER 14TH
DIY ADVENT CALENDARS

DECEMBER 21ST
BIRTHDAY CAKES FOR JESUS

FREE HOT CHOCOLATE BAR
PHOTO BOOTH
LUNCH AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
RSVP BY DEC. 4TH



- MUSIC MINISTRY -



CHRISTMAS CAROL FESTIVAL

Sunday, December 14, 2025 | 3:00 pm

Join us for a joyful afternoon celebrating the music of Christmas — a Festival of Carols and song featuring the Festival Chapel Choir, Orchestra, and Soloists; Praises Ring Handbells; Kingdom Ringers Student Handbells; Abiding Praise musicians; the After School Choir; and inspiring narration.

Free admission; offerings encouraged and will offset music event costs.

 Abiding Savior
Lutheran Church

LOVE | SERVE | CONNECT

Emmanuel! A Concordia Christmas

Celebrate the Christmas season with the voices and instruments of Concordia University Irvine. This year, we are once again blessed to share our annual celebration of the Christmas season. Under the theme Emmanuel! A Concordia Christmas, Concordia's critically acclaimed choirs, handbells, and orchestra celebrate the season of hope and the birth of the world's long-awaited Savior! This year's concerts showcase more than 200 performers from eight vocal and instrumental performing ensembles under the masterful direction of Dr. Michael Busch, Dr. Jeff Held, Dr. Daniel Wessler, and Erik Der. Enjoy festive carols and Christmas favorites, old and new. Tickets are available for purchase [here](#).



- SCHOOL AND PRESCHOOL MINISTRY -

Be Part of Making a Lasting Impact – Abiding Savior Lutheran School Scholarship Fund

By: Donna Lucas

50 years ago, Abiding Savior decided to open a Lutheran school with the purpose of providing a Christian education to the families of Lake Forest. The school has grown and flourished and remains a primary mission of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church. Many children have been blessed by the teachers sharing the Gospel message with them daily. Four of our teachers are alumni of Abiding Savior. We have many students who are children of alumni. They want for their children what they received as a student at Abiding Savior.

The cost of operating a school remains a significant challenge. As a mission, we want to ensure that finances are not hindering a student from attending and hearing the Gospel message daily. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." He did not specify if they had enough money to come to Him. It is through donations that we can help families afford the cost of a Lutheran education. It is through the scholarship program that a child's life can be impacted for eternity. We presently are helping 25 families with a portion of the cost of tuition.

Help us continue to make an impact on the lives of children with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Please consider a one-time or a regular contribution to our scholarship fund.

Scholarship Fund

Help More Students Experience the Blessings of a Christian Education at Abiding Savior Lutheran School!

Together, we can make faith-based learning accessible to more families.

Pray. Share. Give. Every gift makes an eternal impact!

Scan the QR code to give today!



Advent
Mid-Week Worship

Wednesday, Dec. 10 | 6 pm
Grades 1-2 Christmas Program
Christmas Tree Lighting

Wednesday, Dec. 17 | 6 pm
Grades 3-5 Christmas Program

"Rejoice: The Lord Is at Hand"

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

Abiding Savior Lutheran School & Preschool

COOKIE

Decorating with MOM VIP

DECEMBER 9 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

LOCATION: COURTYARD

We are thrilled to invite you to a special evening for you and your child.

Preschool, TK, and Kinder Only
*please no siblings

PIZZA DINNER, COOKIES AND SUPPLIES PROVIDED

PLEASE RSVP DECEMBER 2ND

SCAN ME

Jesus
IS THE
REASON
FOR THE
Season



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 8:15a – Parents in Prayer 9a- Bible Study 5:30p-Confirmation 6p- Jr. High Youth Group 6p –TK/K Midweek Advent Service	4 7p- Young Adult Bible Study	5	6 9a-Altar Guild Prep 10-Altar Guild Meeting 10a-Sew and Sews 5p-Praise Worship Service 6p- Advent By Candlelight
7 Worship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar 9a – FTG Breakfast 11:15a – Advent Activities 1:15p – All Youth Ice Skating	8 7p-Boy Scout Meeting 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	9 6p – Elder Meeting 6p- Cookie Decorating with Mom (Preschool, TK, and K)	10 8:15a – Parents in Prayer 11a- Bible Study 5:30p- Confirmation 6p –Grades 1-2 Midweek Advent Service 7p – Tree Lighting 6p- Jr. High Youth Group 7:45p-AA	11 7:30 p.m.- Abiding Praise Practice	12 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	13 9a-Altar Guild Prep 5p-Preschool Christmas Performance
14 Worship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar 9:15a – Adult Bible Study 11:15a – Advent Activities 11:45a-Life Group, Glenn and Debby Amick 3p – Christmas Carol Fest	15 7p-Boy Scout Meeting 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	16	17 8:15a – Parents in Prayer 11a- Bible Study 5:30p- Confirmation 6p- Jr. High Youth Group 6p –Grades 3-5 Midweek Advent Service 7:45p-AA	18 7p- Young Adult Bible Study 7:30 p.m.- Abiding Praise Practice	19 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	20 9a-Altar Guild Prep 5p-Praise Worship Service
21 Worship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar 9:15a – Adult Bible Study 11:15a – Advent Activities	22 7p-Boy Scout Meeting 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	23	24 Christmas Eve 4p – Family Candlelight Service 6p - Candlelight Service 8p - Candlelight Service	25 Christmas Day 10a – Christmas Service 7:45p-AA	26 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	27 9a-Altar Guild Prep
28 10:15a – Unity Service 9:15a – Adult Bible Study	29 6p-Bible Study 7p-Boy Scout Meeting 7:30p-Narcotics Anonymous	30	31			

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**



YOU'RE INVITED!



4th Annual
CHRISTMAS
Tree Lighting

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10
7:00 PM | IN THE COURTYARD

HOT CHOCOLATE & CANDY CANES FOR ALL!
UKELELE CLUB PERFORMANCE!
CHEERLEADERS LEADING THE COUNTDOWN!

Let's celebrate together!