

The Tie That Binds

Abiding Love Lutheran Church



7210 Brush Country Road
Austin, Texas 78749
512-892-4040



Summer Worship begins at 9:30 a.m.
NO SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL for Children! See Schedule for Youth and Adults below.



Holy Communion will be served at the 9:30 Worship Service on Sundays, July 13th & July 20th.



A woman pumping precious water into her bucket at a well in Ethiopia. Picture from Pastor Lynnae's trip to Ethiopia in June.

PENNY SUNDAY is Sunday, July 13th! Bring your penny offerings for the Capital Improvements Fund!

Love Letter No. 1204

July 9, 2008

Abiding Love Lutheran Church

Sr. Pastor: M. David Fetter, Jr.
(Office: 892-4040/Home: 892-3925)
(Office hours: T, W, TH, F—10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.)
E-mail: dfetter@austin.rr.com

Associate Pastor: Lynnae Sorensen
(Office: 892-4040/Home: 899-2870)
E-mail: lsorensen@austin.rr.com

President: Diane Albin
(Home: 301-9059)
E-mail: Diane_Albin@gwot.com

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:
9:30 a.m. - **WORSHIP** (Sanctuary)
9:30 a.m. - 11:30 — **NURSERY** (3 years & under)

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL 2 & 3 Years Old through 5th Grade

10:45 a.m.—**Coffee/Fellowship** (Reception Area)
Adult "Bible Boosters" — Classroom 1&2 (Worship Ctr.)
Adult "Confirmation Class" — Activity Center
Middle School & Sr. High — 2nd Story, Sr. High Youth Room 203

† † †

STAFF:

Office Administrator: Cindy Kunz
(Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.)
Phone: 892-4040
E-mail: abidinglove@austin.rr.com
Fax: 892-4456

Business Assistant: Joan Hokanson
E-mail: jhokanson@austin.rr.com

Music Director: Karron Lewis

Pianist: Dona Brooks

Assistant Pianist: Laurie Donovan

Nursery Supervisor: Tammy Santos

Youth Coordinator: Janea Escobedo
E-mail: allcyouth@austin.rr.com

Webmaster: Tom Hokanson
E-mail: thokanson@sbcglobal.net

Abiding Love Lutheran Church web site address:
www.abidinglove.org

Children's Center Director: Donna Eastty
(Center Hours: 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.)
Phone: 892-2777

Our Children's Center web site address:
www.main.org/allcdc

† † †

The Tie That Binds



A Mountaintop Experience!

Dear Friends in Christ:

It was good to be away, and it's good to be back from my continuing education retreat in the mountains of Colorado. Mary and I had an inspiring, restful, joyful, and challenging experience from the lectures, the fellowship, the worship times, and the beautiful scenery, weather, and wildlife.

The words of Jesus in this past Sunday's Gospel reading (Matthew 11:28) are so true: "Come to me, all that are weary... and I will give you rest."

Jesus himself identifies with us in this human need. Later in Matthew's Gospel we read (14:23): "After Jesus had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray." Thanks be to God for such special times!

While in Colorado, we were also able to spend some free time visiting some local artists and crafts persons. Mary and I have both some of the same as well as different interests. We try to respect that. So, one day I found myself in a "Quilting Store". As I was trying my best to appreciate this place, I was surprised when I came across a table that contained a variety of Christian literature, etc.! One book immediately caught my eye. It was titled "**Dear Jesus**", by Sarah Young. As I opened the book's cover, I read these words: "Seeking His light in your life... From your heart's deepest cry to life's joyful praises, you can bring everything to Jesus! Come confidently into His presence and find out what He has to say about your intimate longings and struggles. Draw closer to the One who understands you perfectly and loves you eternally. He's waiting to hear from you."

The book contains a series of prayers followed by answers from Jesus, and accompanying quotations from the Bible that support the prayer concerns.

I share one of these prayers and answers with the hope that it speaks to your need:

(Prayer...)

Dear Jesus,

I desperately need to learn how to live in the present moment. My mind so easily slips into the future, where worries abound. I also spend way too much time analyzing things in the past. Meanwhile, splendors of the present moment parade before me, and I'm too preoccupied to notice. Part of the problem is my tendency to strive for self-sufficiency. Help me learn to rest in Your sufficiency, depending on You more and more. Amen.

(Answer...)

Beloved, you need My grace in order to live in the present. Grace is all about My provision for you, and accepting that goes against the grain of your natural tendencies. Do you really believe My grace is sufficient for you? If so, then it makes sense to stop your anxious striving.

My grace is indeed sufficient for every situation you will ever encounter. However, you must learn to receive My provisions by looking to Me continually.

Each day you face a number of situations requiring My help. Moment by moment. I offer to you the needed assistance. Your part is to recognize your neediness and receive what I offer. My Presence is with you always, providing everything you need. Don't worry about tomorrow's needs. My sufficiency is for one day at a time—today!

"But Jesus said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me." — 2 Corinthians 12:9

—Pastor David Fetter

From
the Associate
Pastor's
Heart

From Pastor Lynnae

"Then someone came to him and said, "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?" And he said to him, "Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments." He said to him, "Which ones?" And Jesus said, "You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; Honor your father and mother; also, You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 19:16-19 NRSV)

This Sunday we Celebrate Bring Your Neighbor to Church, but actually EVERY Sunday is Bring your Neighbor to Church! And, every Sunday is a Celebration. While it may be a bit uncomfortable and even down right scary to invite your neighbor – since you are Lutheran and all, it is really quite easy. The postcard invitation that we've handed out the last two Sundays - makes it really easy. All you really have to do is to share your excitement about the life you have and the church you belong to. Tell your story. That's really all you have to do. Start with a sentence like...

"I love Abiding Love because...."

Or "I have learned through my life that I need Abiding Love because....."

There are many people who know God but don't know of a church home that they can belong to. Don't be afraid to share your story!

See you in church!

Pastor Lynnae

"Grow with Us — Evangelism Sunday"

9:30 a.m., July 13th

BRING A GUEST!

"A sower went out to sow some seeds..." (Matt. 13:1-9, 18-23)

Celebrating
Our Neighbors!



Music led by
Mixed Blessings!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to:

July 13—Larry Grimm, Elizabeth Segner

July 14—Bobby Hohmann

July 15—Dianne Davis, Taylor Lunday,

Marge Robison

July 16—Jarred Ferguson, Oran Percy, Travis Tharp

July 17—Christian Rompel

July 18—Heath Hohmann, Tricia Slovacek

July 19—Sara Carswell

July 20—Carl Schattenberg

July 21—Troy Muehring, Austin Rabb

July 22—Garrett Kunz

July 23—Alexsandra Santos, Heather Struss

July 24—Pat Dove, Karan Heidemann

July 25—Donny Vowell

July 26—Alexandria Edmundson, Daniel Glaser,

Kalea Heidemeyer, Connor & Grant Rowell



..PEOPLE.....PEOPLE.....PEOPLE..



HOME FROM DAY SURGERY: R.H. Heidemeyer

HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL: Charlie Lunday
Macey Roberts
Bill Atkinson

SCHEDULED FOR SURGERY: Janea Escobedo, July 11th
Seton Med. Ctr.

OUTPATIENT PROCEDURE: Craig Hohertz, July 9th

PRAYER-REQUESTS:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| ** Marilyn Segner | ** Joyce Kuntschik |
| ** Bill Brophy | ** Travis Koehler |
| ** Rex Medcalf | ** Blake Johnson |
| ** Kay Nicholson | ** Gene Zimmermann |
| ** Harley Fetterman | ** Judy Schlueter |
| ** Sylvia Davis | ** Meagan Prehn |
| ** Amber Karley | ** Tom Thomas |
| ** Edna Graeber | ** Christian-Charles de Plicque |
| ** Wendell Koenig | |

** Prayers for the family & friends of retired Pastor Glenn Bundy of Comanche, TX at his tragic death.

- ** Margaret Sanders (Kay Martin's mother)
- ** Rick Herre (friend of Bobbie Sawtelle)
- ** Neta Collins (friend of Annette Smith)
- ** Junior Quintero (Armstrong's nephew)
- ** Billy Ballard (Brad's father)
- ** Betty Boes (Charlotte Ballard's mother)
- ** Margaret Wills (Jo Ann Metz's aunt)
- ** Floyd & Margaret Vowell (Donald's parents)
- ** Denise Verquez (Tracy Yetter's sister)
- ** Caed Hollingsworth (B.L. & Marcie Parker's great-great nephew)
- ** David Cosner (friend of the Kikta family)
- ** Betty & James Koetting (Reggie Kikta's mother & stepfather)
- ** Walt Fuchs (Kenneth's brother)
- ** Marlene Quintara (Gisela Armstrong's cousin)
- ** Jim West (Mary Fetter's nephew)
- ** Dawn Hudgens (Erv & Barb Merz's daughter)

Prayers of safety for the following:

- ** Sgt. Christy Kikta & daughter, Zoe, with the U.S. Army
- ** LCpl Matt Hohertz with the Marines at Camp Lejuene, NC
- ** 2nd Lt. Melanie Meier with the Air Force
- ** MSgt Michael Eichler with the Air Force
- ** Chris Glaser serving in Iraq with the U.S. Army
- ** For all those in the military services overseas.



Your Prayers are Requested for Audrey Lehman as she participates in a Conversational English Evangelism Mission Trip with Michael Gott International to Zaporozhye, Ukraine, from July 17 to August 3. If you would like to support this ministry, love-offerings may be given through Abiding Love Lutheran Church.



"Want to serve our elderly?"



Would anyone like to participate in worship services at Regency Village? If you are interested, please contact Pastor Lynnae Sorensen, Isorensen@austin.rr.com or 892-4040.

JULY ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

PROPERTY WORKDAY—Sat., July 12, 8:00 a.m.
(We need your help!)

NIA CLASS—Sat., July 12, 9:00 a.m.
Sat., July 19, 9:00 a.m.

ROBERTS/BERRY WEDDING—Sat., July 19, 5:00 p.m.

CONFIRMATION CAMP AT EBERT RANCH (near Harper)—
Sun., July 13—Fri., July 18

YEARLING CAMP AT CHRYSALIS (near Kerrville)—
Sun., July 13—Fri., July 18

FOOD PANTRY—Mon., July 14, 1:30—3:30 p.m.
Mon., July 21, 1:30—3:30 p.m.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 555—Mon., July 14, 7:00 p.m.

MEN'S BREAKFAST—Tue., July 15, 6:20 a.m. (Jim's Restaurant
at the corner of Hwy 290W & Hwy 71W)

WOMEN ALIVE! BIBLE STUDY—Tue., July 15, 7:00—8:30 a.m.
Tue., July 22, 7:00—8:30 a.m.

BIBLE STUDY—Tue., July 15, 10:30—11:30 a.m.
Tue., July 22, 10:30—11:30 a.m.

PRIORITY LIST COMMITTEE—Wed., July 16, 7:00 p.m.

CHILDREN'S CENTER CHAPEL—Thu., July 17, 9:45 a.m.
Thu., July 24 9:45 a.m.

SPECIAL STUDY CLASS—Thu., July 17, 7:00 p.m.
Thu., July 24, 7:00 p.m.

VBS TRAINING & WORKDAY—Sat., July 19, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

VBS STAFF INSTALLATION—Sun., July 20, 9:30 a.m.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL—July 20—25, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

FELLOWSHIP, GAMES & LUNCH—Mon., July 21, 9:30 a.m.

"Community Service Week"

Sunday, July 20th through Sunday, July 27th

The Christian Service Board is challenging each of us to donate children's books, food, clothes and/or money during our **Community Service Week**. Collection baskets will be available in the Narthex before and after Sunday Services, and also during Vacation Bible School. **Our goals for this week are:**

100 books for children

250 pounds of gently used clothing

300 school supplies

500 pounds of food

\$1000—And, if we reach our \$1000 goal, Thrivent Financial will match it with an additional \$500!



Here is what you can do to help!!

1. Tell your friends.
2. Be an example by bringing a few items.
3. Get involved with Vacation Bible School where we will encourage the children to "Give Back the Blessings".
4. Offer any ideas that will improve our chances of success.
5. Pray for our Congregation that they will be moved to action.

Each night at the Vacation Bible School opening and closing sessions, we will announce our progress towards the above goals so the children will get excited about how they can contribute!

Benefits will go to the following agencies:

- Abiding Love Food Pantry
- Austin Area Interreligious Ministries
- South Austin Assistance Ministries
- Foundation for the Homeless

Also, please watch for Pam Lee's posting on Ark Almighty about the upcoming **"Community Service Week"** July 20-27! You can get to **Ark Almighty** by going to www.AbidingLove.org and clicking the Ark Almighty picture.

Let's be the church that acts, not just talks!
"Give Back the Blessings"



BIBLE READINGS FOR JULY 13TH: "Ninth Sunday after Pentecost"

Isaiah 55:10-13
Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13
Romans 8:1-11
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23



BIBLE READINGS FOR JULY 20TH: "Tenth Sunday after Pentecost"

Isaiah 44:6-8
Psalm 86:11-17
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

* † * **STATISTICS** * † *

SUNDAY, JUNE 29TH:

Worship - 144

*Offerings - \$5076.00 (Current) + \$440.00 (Debt Fund) +
*Other Offerings - \$5.00 (Gifts & Memorials)
\$95.00 (Food Pantry) +
\$150.00 (Good Samaritan) +
\$20.00 (Kairos)

SUNDAY, JULY 6TH:

Worship - 132

*Offerings - \$7097.50 (Current) + \$585.00 (Debt Fund) +
*Other Offerings - \$25.00 (Capital Improvement Fund) +
\$55.00 (Food Pantry) +
\$230.00 (Good Samaritan Fund)

*NOTE: These offerings include those given through Simply Giving.



SERVING, SUNDAY, JULY 13TH:

Flowers—Cornell, Segner
Greeters—Herman & Karen Gonzalez
Acolyte—Aaron Schaffer
Worship Assistant—Dale Sump
Communion Assistants—Paul & Dolly Atkinson, Karen Gonzalez
Altar Guild—Amelia Mettke, Zolene Curlee
Ushers—Paul Mettke & Kurt Rech
Council Assistant—Mary Fetter

SERVING, SUNDAY, JULY 20TH:

Flowers—Dove
Greeters—Hal & Elaine Schultz
Acolyte—Ben Collins
Tray Holder—Sam Collins
Worship Assistant—Drenda Haddock
Communion Assistant—Karen Gonzalez
Altar Guild—Zolene Curlee & Nan Hatcher
Ushers—Paul Mettke & Kurt Rech
Council Assistant—Tammy Santos
Coffee Service is Hannah Circle for July.



♥ MEMORIALS:

Gifts & Memorials Fund

For Lillian Carr by Peggy Suggs.

Kairos Ministry

For Alice Carmichael by Annette Smith (Kairos Ministry)



♥ SPECIAL GIFTS:

General Fund

In honor of Royce Abrahamson's Retirement and Birthday by B.L. & Marcie Parker.

In honor of Pastor & Mary Fetter's Wedding Anniversary by B. L. & Marcie Parker.

In honor of Royce Abrahamson's Retirement and Birthday by Morris & Coleen Thompson.

In honor of B. L & Marcie Parker's 50th Wedding Anniversary by Morris & Coleen Thompson, Joel & Audrey Lehman.

Food Pantry

In honor of B. L & Marcie Parker's 50th Wedding Anniversary by Annette Smith, Diane McGowan, Ken & Diane Albin.

Good Samaritan Fund

In honor of Royce Abrahamson's Retirement and Birthday by Ron & Rose Leoni.

Food Pantry

We are still in need of substitutes to help pick up and unload the Capital Area Food Bank food on Monday mornings from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. Please contact Diane McGowan, 892-4416, if you are able to help.



As always, the Food Pantry needs to stock its shelves with **protein items, canned vegetables, canned soups, canned fruits, pasta sauce, spaghetti, dried beans & rice, peanut butter, and cereal.**

If you want to contribute with a monetary donation, just make your checks out to "Abiding Love Lutheran Church" with "Food Pantry" on the byline. If you can't decide what foods to bring, the Food Pantry's greatest needs are usually **protein items and cereal!**

Give Back the Blessings!

Additional Food Pantry Needs

Many of the parents who come to the Food Pantry struggle to put food on the table and cannot afford to buy books for their children or grandchildren. We like to give them the chance to pick out books for their children, but our children's book supply is low. **Please donate new or gently used books for the children.**



We will also be distributing school supplies at the Food Pantry during August. **We would appreciate donations of school supplies such as notebook paper, notebooks, colors, markers, pencils, scissors, rulers, glue, glue sticks and folders.** We would also like to distribute new or gently used backpacks if you have used ones or find a good sale on backpacks. You may put your donations in the Food Pantry box.

† MISSION STATEMENT: Growing in the Holy Spirit to serve God and celebrate the love Jesus Christ has for all people. †



- ◆ To Mixed Blessings for providing and serving the meal for Interfaith Hospitality Network at Shepherd of the Hills Presbyterian on June 26th; and to Joel Lehman for being the overnight host.
- ◆ To Brent Karley and Charlotte Ballard for sponsoring our Group Work Camp Mission Trip to Hobbs, New Mexico; and also to John Urban for working on the Work Camp staff.
- ◆ To the youth who represented our congregation and participated in the Group Work Camp mission trip to Hobbs, New Mexico: Logan Davis, Emily Hohertz, Lesley January, Andie Jones, Rachel Karley, Austin Rabb, Alyssa Ramirez, Tim Sump, Emily Tharp, and Jay Urban.
- ◆ To everyone who donated goodies for the Work Camp participants' goodie bags, and to Janea Escobedo for collecting and distributing the bags and their contents.
- ◆ To Karron Lewis for her solo, "Love of God" at our Worship Service on Sunday, June 29th.
- ◆ To the "Summer Choir" for the special music, "Prayer for Peace", at our Worship Service on Sunday, July 6th.
- ◆ To Morris Thompson for remaking some wooden "Care Notes" holders for the youth, children, and parents who meet in the Second Story.
- ◆ To Erv Merz for checking on some recent air conditioning problems at the Children's Center.
- ◆ From the Southwestern Texas Synod Assembly Food and Beverage Team: "We want to thank all the Austin Conference congregations who responded to our request for help. We asked for cookies and cash donations... We received cash and an abundant amount of cookies which everyone went on about how wonderful they were. Some of the cookies left at the end of the Assembly went to the Camping Ministry and others were taken by Assembly attendees who left a donation to the Costa Rica Synod in their place. We thought this was a great way to spread the goodness!"

BULLETIN BOARD

THE NEXT NEWSLETTER will be mailed on Wed., July 23rd. Please get your articles to the Church Office by Mon., July 21st. Articles may be sent via e-mail to abidinglove@austin.rr.com or to jhokanson@austin.rr.com, brought by the office on a CD or hand-written. Thank you notes or short announcements may be called in to Joan or Cindy, 892-4040.

RECYCLE, AND INK OUT HUNGER!

Keep up the good work, and keep bringing in those printer cartridges, used cell phones and used eye glasses! The Christian Service Board recently recycled 154 printer cartridges, 78 cell phones with lots of cell phone accessories, and 45 pairs of eye glasses!



Thanks to Annette Smith for her diligent work and support on this recycling/save the environment/help the needy project!



*Women
Alive!
Bible Study*

Our Women Alive! Bible Study meets at 7:00 a.m. every Tuesday! On July 15th, we will be studying chapter 8 in Romans. It's not too late to join us—just come! Bring your Bible and a journal or spiral notebook!

Call Joan Hokanson, 892-4139, for more details.

**Mark your Calendars Now!
Sunday, August 31st**

5th Sunday Fellowship—

"Rally Day Picnic Bar-b-que & Games"!

Worship: 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

On Sunday, August 24th, our Sunday School will resume at 10:45 a.m., following the 9:30 a.m. Worship Service for "class organization/registration", and meet your teachers!

When Bad Things Happen to Good People— by Harold Kushner

On Thursday, July 10th, 7:00 p.m., Mary Fetter will continue facilitating the discussion of the book, When Bad Things Happen to Good People. Classes will meet through August 7th to complete the last 5 chapters of this book.

Journey of Hope: Holistic Care of the Cancer Patient

Saturday, July 19

Registration: 7:30—8:00 a.m.

Workshop: 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

(Registration Fee includes lunch and breaks)

First English Lutheran Church

3001 Whitis, Austin, TX 78705

Topics Include:

Reaching out to cancer patients and their families
Treating the whole person and patient empowerment
Etiology and pathophysiology of cancer
Preparing spiritually for hospital visitation
Ministering effectively to cancer patients
Prevention
Twelve common factors of faith
Responding to life-threatening diseases and anticipated losses
Communicating effectively

Registration forms are available on the bulletin board in the hallway by the Church Office, or call 892-4040 for more info.

ABIDING LOVE VISION STATEMENT AND CORE VALUES

Vision Statement

Growing together in God's love and sharing that love with our community.

Core Values

The people of Abiding Love Lutheran Church will serve God and others by:

- Establishing a strong, unique, and focused ministry by giving joyfully and freely to the Lord;
- Inviting, welcoming, accepting and encouraging others by showing respect and love for all;
- Fostering fellowship among members by building Christian relationships;
- Striving to learn and equip themselves by being grounded and strengthened in faith through Christian education;
- Nurturing children and youth towards responsible, confirmed membership;
- Demonstrating love through actions;
- Being excited for Jesus; and
- Praying frequently.





**Come one, come all
to the Sun Harvest County Fair!
2008 Vacation Bible School**

July 20—25, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Celebrate the harvest of the **Fruits of the Spirit** with us. Join us for the **Love** of Christ that grows in us as we make new friends. Be a harvester of **Joy** in our salvation as we sing songs to God. Help us plant the seeds of **Peace** as we listen to the stories sent from God. Explore the **Patience** of God with fun arts projects and pick a bushel of **Kindness** as we learn new and exciting games. Don't forget to share the harvest with a friend or two.

Childs name: _____

Age: _____ Grade completed: _____

Parent's name: _____

Phone number: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Childs name: _____

Age: _____ Grade completed: _____

Childs name: _____

Age: _____ Grade completed: _____

Childs name: _____

Age: _____ Grade completed: _____

For more information, call Tammy Santos, 282-6372.

To sign up by phone, call the Church Office, 892-4040.



**VOLUNTEERS Needed
for Vacation Bible School!**

How would you like to help?

Please circle your preference—

Donations:

Snacks for volunteers

Snacks for kids snack time

Craft supplies

Decorating supplies

Other (specify) _____

Registration

Publicity

Decorations

Music

Arts and crafts

Story telling

Games

Snacks

Nursery

Guides

Assistant guides

Opening and closings

Participating in skits

Providing props for skits

Anywhere needed

Other (specify) _____

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

**To sign up by phone, call Tammy Santos, 282-6372, or the
Church Office, 892-4040.**

