

The Tie That Binds

# Abiding Love Lutheran Church



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



Visit our website at: [www.abidinglove.org](http://www.abidinglove.org)



## Cooler Weather is Coming...and so is the Carnival!

October 31st is just around the corner and preparations are underway. **The All Saints Eve Halloween Carnival** falls on a Saturday this year, which sets the stage for a great turnout!

Mark your calendars for this thriller evening of family fun and stay tuned for additional information.

Whoooooooooooo! Oh, and though the goblins may be lurking, it's not too scary to help!



Nora Cecelia Leonard will be baptized on Sunday, September 27th, at the 8:30 a.m. Worship Service.

imagine  
MINISTRY BEYOND BELIEF

Love Letter No. 1234

September 16, 2009

## 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](mailto:dfetter@austin.rr.com)

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

**President:** Diane Albin  
(Home: 301-9059)  
E-mail: [Diane\\_Albin@gwot.com](mailto:Diane_Albin@gwot.com)

### SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

8:30 a.m. - WORSHIP (Sanctuary)  
8:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. — NURSERY (3 years & under)  
9:30 - 9:45 a.m.—Coffee/Fellowship (Reception Area)  
9:45 - 10:45 a.m.—SUNDAY SCHOOL  
**2 & 3 Year Olds** — 2nd Story, 1st room on left  
**Pre-K & Kindergarten** — 2nd Story, 1st room on right  
**1st & 2nd Grades** — 2nd Story, 2nd room on left  
**3rd, 4th & 5th Grades** — 2nd Story, 3rd room on left  
**Middle School** — 2nd Story, M.S. Youth Room, last on left  
**Sr. High** — 2nd Story, Sr. High Youth Room, last on right  
**Adult "Bible Boosters"** — Classroom 1&2, Worship Ctr.  
**Adult "Value-Packed Parenting"** — Library, Worship Ctr.  
**Adult Book Study "Giving to God"** — Activity Center  
11:00 a.m.—WORSHIP (Sanctuary)

† † †

### STAFF:

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

**Business Assistant:** Joan Hokanson  
E-mail: [jhokanson@austin.rr.com](mailto:jhokanson@austin.rr.com)

**Music Director:** Karron Lewis

**Pianist:** Dona Brooks

**Assistant Pianist:** Laurie Donovan

**Nursery Supervisor:** Sherry Petriella

**Webmaster:** Tom Hokanson  
E-mail: [thokanson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:thokanson@sbcglobal.net)

**Abiding Love Lutheran Church web site address:**  
[www.abidinglove.org](http://www.abidinglove.org)

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

**Our Children's Center web site address:**  
[www.main.org/allcdc](http://www.main.org/allcdc)

† † †

# The Tie That Binds



## The JOY of Giving

Dear Friends in Christ:

Since Pastor Lynnae and I have begun a six-week special sermon series on Giving to God—The Bible's Good News about Living a Generous Life; it is apparent that we believe Christian stewardship is a serious matter.

**I believe, however, that giving to God should also be a JOYFUL matter. God's Word, the Holy Bible, states:**

**"God loves a cheerful giver... Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion." (2 Corinthians 9:7)**

Each month at our Men's Breakfast Group, Erv Merz shares from a publication titled "Medicine for the Soul" by Dr. Jeremiah. One of these brought joy to my heart as I give to God— AS AN ACT OF WORSHIP and AS AN EXPRESSION OF FAITH.

Cheerful givers, lift up your hearts with me as you read the following vignettes from "Dr. Jeremiah":

☺ #1 A mother wanted to teach her daughter a stewardship lesson. She gave the little girl a quarter and a dollar for church. "Put whichever one you want in the collection plate and keep the other for yourself," she told the girl. When they were coming out of church, the mother asked her daughter which amount she had given. "Well," said the little girl, "I was going to give the dollar, but just before the collection the man in the pulpit said that we should all be cheerful givers. I knew I'd be a lot more cheerful if I gave the quarter, so I did."

☺ #2 A church was starting a campaign to refurbish their building. The building was in very bad repair. And so they brought the congregation together. It wasn't a large church, so they were going to have a pledge program to fix the building. The wealthiest man in the congregation stood up in the meeting and said he would like to pledge five dollars to the program. And just as he said it, a loose piece of plaster in the ceiling fell and hit the man on the head. He said, "I'd like to up that to fifty dollars."

A little old lady in the back said, "Hit him again, God, hit him again!"

☺ #3 A little girl was restless at the preacher's sermon as it went on and on. Finally, she leaned over to her mother, and she whispered, "Mommy, if we give him the money now, would he let us go?"

**"Rejoice in the Lord always!" (Philippians 4:4)**

— Pastor David Fetter



Imagine!



From Pastor Lynnae

"Imagine" Generosity Beyond Belief! As 87 families were served at our Food Pantry this Monday, it was easy to "imagine". This was our largest client family day ever, or at least that is what Hazeldean Dumler said. And she would know— she has been serving at the Food Pantry since the beginning! Abiding Love Lutheran Food Pantry is a true gift for all those involved. Today, we touched over 300 hungry souls. I saw our members helping carry loads of groceries. I saw our members chatting with women over cabbage recipes. I saw our members bent in prayer with the homeless and hurting. I imagine the clients feel like they received 'generosity beyond belief', but I believe that our members at Abiding Love got much more than they gave.

We receive God's generosity, so we give generously. It is that simple. May you recognize the ways that God has given to you so that you may live a life of generosity beyond belief.



Dear Abiding Love Family,

I would like to share with you some exciting plans that are unfolding at Abiding Love as we prepare to celebrate 30 years of ministry here in South Austin.

During this past year the leadership of Abiding Love has been working hard to lay a solid foundation for our future. With the help of Kairos, a nation wide Christian church consulting organization, we have dreamed, researched vital ministries, identified ministry priorities, assessed our finances, and focused the priority list.

Out of this work, an exciting plan for the future has been formed. The Congregation Council is invested in this plan and the boards will be leading the implementation process.

Beginning October 18th you will be hearing more about this plan, which includes an exciting 2010 vision for ministry, and a new three year Capital Appeal called "IMAGINE: Ministry Beyond Belief". This appeal will include a 6-week worship series with creative moments, special music, and guest preachers. There will be special activities for people of all ages, an all congregational gathering on November 15th, and the opportunity to make a prayerful financial response to the future mission of Abiding Love.

Over the next several weeks, teams will be preparing for the IMAGINE appeal. Please pray for these teams as well as the ministry and future of Abiding Love.

It is an exciting time at Abiding Love – God has great plans for us!

Yours in Christ,

Diane Albin  
Congregation President

## BIBLE READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER 20TH: "16th Sunday after Pentecost"

Jeremiah 11:18-20  
Psalm 54  
James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a  
Mark 9:30-37



## BIBLE READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER 27TH: "17th Sunday after Pentecost"

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29  
Psalm 19:7-14  
James 5:13-20  
Mark 9:38-50



\* † \* **STATISTICS** \* † \*

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 30TH:**

Worship - 83 (8:30) + 126 (11:00) = 209 (Total)  
\*Offerings - \$6,277.21 (General Fund) + \$455.00 (Debt Fund)  
\*Other Offerings - \$270.00 (Gifts & Memorials) +  
\$175.00 (Food Pantry) +  
\$25.00 (Water to Thrive) +  
\$525.00 (Golf Tournament sponsorship) +  
\$5.00 (Kairos Prison Ministry)

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH:**

Worship - 62 (8:30) + 82 (11:00) = 144 (Total)  
Sunday School - 73  
\*Offerings - \$11,187.45 (General Fund) + \$765.00 (Debt Fund)  
\*Other Offerings - \$105.00 (Gifts & Memorials) +  
\$100.00 (Membership Care Board) +  
\$20.00 (Capital Improvement Fund) +  
\$20.00 (Music Room Piano) +  
\$5.00 (Food Pantry) +  
\$50.00 (Evangelism & Outreach Board) +  
\$375.00 (Golf Tournament)

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH:**

Worship - 72 (8:30) + 108 (11:00) = 180 (Total)  
Sunday School - 100  
\*Offerings - \$7,851.33 (General Fund) + 920.00 (Debt Fund)  
\*Other Offerings - \$25.00 (Gifts & Memorials) +  
\$75.00 (Food Pantry) +  
\$100.00 (ELCA Hunger)

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

♥ **MEMORIALS:**

Food Pantry

For Ron Duncan by Jen Olsen Krengel, Hazeldean Dumler,  
Mary Rutter.

General Fund

For Jay Schultz by Joel & Audrey Lehman.  
For Ron Duncan by John & Joyce Kuntschik, Ron & Rose Leoni,  
Joel & Audrey Lehman, Bill & Nan Hatcher, Greta Rymal,  
B.L. & Marcie Parker, Tom & Joan Hokanson, Mr & Mrs.  
Robert Moses, Diane McGowan, Bob & Kim Thonhoff, Ron &  
Cindy Kunz.  
For Joe Lewis by Tom & Joan Hokanson, B.L. & Marcie Parker,  
Greta Rymal, Diane McGowan, Annette Smith, Emy Griggs.

Gifts & Memorials

For Marilyn Segner by Sammie Thomas.  
For Ron Duncan by Justin, Meri, Hunter & Brooke Krause, George &  
Rosa Hatfield, Marcy Cornell, Gilbert A. Matthews, Morris &  
Colleen Thompson, Bill & Di Brophy, Ronald Knight, Lloyd &  
Karin Matthys, Zolene Curlee.  
For Joe Lewis by Marcy Cornell.

♥ **SPECIAL GIFT:**

Water to Thrive

An anonymous donor completed the collection for one water well  
on Sunday, August 23rd! We applaud our Middle School Youth for their  
continuous efforts to raise funds for this worthy cause!

**Food Pantry**

Our current needs are for **canned meat, canned  
beans, soup, pasta, tooth paste, shampoo, and  
tooth brushes**. We also continue to need children's  
gently used books. If you would like to join our volunteer team on a  
regular basis, please contact our Food Pantry Coordinator, Diane  
McGowan, 892-4416 ,or dmcgowan3@austin.rr.com



**SEPTEMBER SERVING LIST**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH:**

Welcome Team—Men's Group  
Flowers—OPEN  
Acolytes—Katherine Albin (8:30) + Kara Titus (11:00)  
Tray Holders—Jonathan Mettke (8:30) + Austin Rabb (11:00)  
Worship Assistants—Greta Rymal (8:30) +  
Reggie Kikta (11:00)  
Communion Assistants—Amelia Mettke (8:30) +  
Irene Chiang (11:00)  
Altar Guild—Hazeldean Dumler & Margaret Dove (8:30) +  
Nan Hatcher & Denise Alaimo (11:00)  
Ushers—Willie Haas, Marvin Haddock, Morris Thompson (8:30) +  
Denis & Jill Feary, Peggy Suggs (11:00)  
Council Assistant—Jill Feary

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH:**

Welcome Team—Naomi Circle  
Flowers—Atkinson, Tate  
Acolytes—Sara Pavey (8:30) + Ben Collins (11:00)  
Worship Assistants—Vera Kirkham (8:30) +  
Reggie Kikta (11:00)  
Communion Assistants—Janea Escobedo (11:00)  
Altar Guild—Hazeldean Dumler (8:30) +  
Lenore Moltz & Ruth Shane (11:00)  
Ushers—Willie Haas, Marvin Haddock, Morris Thompson (8:30) +  
Denis & Jill Feary, Peggy Suggs (11:00)  
Council Assistant—Cindy Atwell  
Coffee Service for September—Naomi Circle



Over 20 volunteers braved the wet weather on Saturday to work at  
the home of Alisia Hardison in East Austin. This was Abiding Love's  
first "1 House at a Time" event and it was a great success. We  
worked inside and out of the house to improve its energy efficiency.  
We also learned about making a home "green" from Mike Frisch,  
the Operations Manager and Abiding Love member. And we made  
our own commitments to change our lives in at least one small way  
to help the world we live in.

For more information about 1 House at a Time, go to:  
[www.1houseatathetime.org](http://www.1houseatathetime.org).

**Lutheran Fall Festival 2009 — Marktplatz, Fredericksburg  
Saturday, September 19th, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.**

The Lutheran Fall Festival is a fundraiser for Cross Trails Ministry  
(our Lutheran camps). Funds raised this year will be used to create  
handicap accessible trails to the new cabins at Camp Chrysalis. If  
you cannot make it that day, please consider sending a check desig-  
nating it for the Fall Festival.

At the 22nd annual Lutheran Fall Festival and Family Fun Day, you  
can wander through the craft vendors and bid at the live auction fea-  
turing two weekend deer hunts at Ebert Ranch. Youth can play car-  
nival games and eat carnival food! Enjoy a BBQ lunch!

**Activities include:**  
**Jump Castle, putting green, face painting, Kiddie-  
train, washers, dunk tank, chili cook-off, auction,  
craft fair, and much more!**

Contact the camp office for questions: 830-257-6340  
or [info@crosstrails.org](mailto:info@crosstrails.org)



**..PEOPLE.....PEOPLE.....PEOPLE..**



**HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL:** Al Metz

**HOME FROM DAY SURGERY:** Annette Smith

**PRAYER-REQUESTS:**

- |                     |                                |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| ** B.L. Parker      | ** Blake Johnson               |
| ** Drenda Haddock   | ** Virginia & Angus McPhail    |
| ** Gloria Rech      | ** Jean Westmoreland           |
| ** Carolyn Johnson  | ** Ann Willman                 |
| ** Edna Graeber     | ** Christian-Charles dePlicque |
| ** Susie Brown      |                                |
| ** Harley Fetterman |                                |
| ** Amber Karley     |                                |
- \*\* For the family & friends of Elizabeth Eilers at her death.  
 \*\* For the family & friends of Noe Maza at his death  
 \*\* Marilyn Mack (Beth Frisch's mother)  
 \*\* Irma Andrews (Gary's mother)  
 \*\* Susan Vrana-Koski (Dolly Atkinson's sister)  
 \*\* Graham Matthews (Gloria Kizer's son-in-law)  
 \*\* Bill von Quintus (Annette Smith's brother)  
 \*\* Irene Habermann Howe (Annette Smith's cousin)  
 \*\* Jane Lamm (Anna Jones mother)  
 \*\* Marjorie Papke (Laurie Hohertz's mother)  
 \*\* Ursula Kutra (Amelia Mettke's sister)  
 \*\* Kenneth & Dorothy Almqvist (Diane Albin's parents)  
 \*\* Amberlyn Fett (friend of Amber Karley)  
 \*\* Phyliss Brooks (Dona Brooks' aunt)  
 \*\* Deb Robison (Marge's daughter)  
 \*\* Pat De Salvo (Joyce Kuntschik's sister)  
 \*\* Desda "Sissy" Smith (Monte Jane Buas'niece)  
 \*\* Leonard & Margaret Kriegel (Pat Koch's parents)  
 \*\* Jim West (Mary Fetter's nephew)  
 \*\* Denise Verquez (Tracy Yetter's sister)  
 \*\* David Cosner (friend of the Kikta, Ayoub & Tharp families)  
 \*\* Dawn Hudgens (Erv & Barb Merz's daughter)

**Prayers of safety for the following:**

- \*\* Sgt. Christy Kikta & daughter, Zoe, with the U.S. Army
- \*\* 1st Lt. Melanie Meier with the US Air Force
- \*\* MSgt Michael Eichler with the US Air Force
- \*\* Sgt Jesse Andrews with the US Marines, now deployed to Iraq
- \*\* For all those in the military services overseas.



**BIRTHS:**



**Michael Jacob Gonzalez, Jr.** was born September 5th to Nina Guerrero & Michael Gonzalez. Proud grandparents are Herman & Karen Gonzalez!



**Audrey Clair Thompson** was born on September 12th, to Christine (Heidemeyer) & Matt Thompson. Proud grandparents are R.H. & Ruth Heidemeyer!

**Susan Cavazos**, and children **Ryan and Kendra** have requested a transfer of membership to Bethany Lutheran Church. "We ask God's blessings on Susan, Ryan and Kendra in their new church family."



**Sign Up Now!**

**Our senior citizens (age 60 and older) will be honored on September 27th**, after the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service. Lunch will be provided by the Membership Care Board and served by our High School youth.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY to:**

**September:**

- 24—Grant Bellamy, Sam Collins
- 25—Dana Martinez
- 26—Scott Krabbenhoft, Jeff Kuhl
- 27—Danny Adrian, Heather Atkinson, Carly Atwell, David Davis, Joel Lehman
- 28—Kurt Armstrong, Lenore Moltz, Sarah Tate
- 29—Callie Clarkson
- 30—David Luedecke, Alice Von Bieberstein

**October:**

- 1—Kara Titus
- 3—James Santos



**SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER ACTIVITIES & EVENTS**

**"CREATING TREASURES" JEWELRY-MAKING NIGHT—**  
Fri., Sep. 18, 7:00 p.m.

**NIA CLASS—**Sat., Sep. 19, 9:00 a.m.  
Sat., Sep. 26, 9:00 a.m.

**KAIROS MEETING WITH PASTOR JEFF KJELLBERG—**  
Sun., Sep. 20, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**GAMES & FELLOWSHIP—**Mon., Sep. 21, 9:30 a.m.

**"CHIP IN FOR CHILDREN" GOLF TOURNAMENT—**  
Mon., Sep. 21, 12:00 Noon

**FOOD PANTRY—**Mon., Sep. 21, 1:30 p.m.  
Mon., Sep. 28, 1:30 p.m.

**SARAH CIRCLE—**Mon., Sep. 21, 7:00 p.m.

**BOY SCOUT TROOP 555—**Mon., Sep. 21, 7:00 p.m.

**WOMEN ALIVE! BIBLE STUDY—**Tue., Sep. 22, 7:00 a.m.  
Tue., Sep. 29, 7:00 a.m.

**BIBLE STUDY—**Tue., Sep. 22, 10:30 a.m.  
Tue., Sep. 29, 10:30 a.m.

**CONGREGATION COUNCIL—**Tue., Sep. 22, 7:00 p.m.

**LEGEND OAKS HOMEOWNERS ASSOC.—**  
Tue., Sep. 22, 7:00 p.m.

**CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILY MINISTRY BOLD STEP TEAM—**  
Wed., Sep. 23, 7:00 p.m.

**FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY—**Wed., Sep. 23, 7:00 p.m.  
Wed., Sep. 30, 7:00 p.m.

**"GIVING TO GOD" BOOK STUDY—**Wed., Sep. 23, 7:00 p.m.  
Wed., Sep. 30, 7:00 p.m.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY—**Thu., Sep. 24, 9:30 a.m.  
Thu., Oct. 1, 9:30 a.m.

**CHILDREN'S CENTER CHAPEL—**Thu., Sep. 24, 9:45 a.m.  
Thu., Oct. 1, 9:45 a.m.

**CHOIR REHEARSAL—**Thu., Sep. 24, 7:30 p.m.  
Thu., Oct. 1, 7:30 p.m.

**COMMUNICATIONS TEAM—**Thu., Sep. 24, 7:00 p.m.  
Thu., Oct. 1, 7:00 p.m.

**BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN'S CENTER STAFF—**  
Sun., Sep. 27, 11:00 a.m.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS—**Sun., Sep. 27, 4:30 p.m.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH FAMILY SUPPER FOR YOUTH & PARENTS—**Sun., Sep. 27, 6:00 p.m.

**BOY SCOUT TROOP 555 COURT OF HONOR—**  
Mon., Sep. 28, 7:00 p.m.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE—**Tue., Sep. 29, 7:00 p.m.

**THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The Nominating Committee has begun the process to fill Congregation leadership positions for 2010/2011. Your prayers are requested that the Holy Spirit would guide decisions of both the Committee, and those being asked to serve.

**Committee members are:** Bill Brophy, Pat Dove, Jan Haas, Karan Heidemann, and Annette Smith.



- ◆ From Janice Duncan & family: *“I thank all of you for your prayers and kindness during Ron’s illness. It was greatly appreciated. Also, I thank you for all the help I received from my church family during this very difficult time.”*
- ◆ To Dave Trostel for repairing blinds in the Worship Center.
- ◆ To all who have supported the upcoming “Chip In For Children” ALLC Golf Tournament with sponsorships, raffle prizes, goodie bag items, player fees, and other donations. We appreciate you!
- ◆ From the Golf Committee to our church staff for their additional time given to organize accounts and publish our communications about the golf tournament. We appreciate your help!
- ◆ From Kim Thonhoff to all those who are serving on the Kairos Bold Step Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Team. The tasks are very challenging and time consuming. The efforts given have been heartwarming. We also thank our Advisory Team, church staff, and Pastor Jana Swenson for their encouragement. We appreciate you!
- ◆ From Bob & Kim Thonhoff to the friends at Abiding Love for all the cards, letters, flowers, prayers, etc. that were shared when Kim was in the hospital. We are truly blessed by your friendship and kindness. We thank you for all the loving support shared. We are doing very well and Kim improves as each day passes. Thanks!
- ◆ To those serving on the Golf Committee for this upcoming 2009 “Chip In For Children” Golf Tournament. Your time, your loving efforts, and your devotion to this fund raiser are greatly appreciated. Thank You!
- ◆ To our South Travis County Thrivent Chapter 30901 for granting \$1600 of matching funds toward this 2009 “Chip In For Children” fund raiser for our ALLC Children’s Center. We also thank Hal Schultz, Karen Huddleston, and Huntis Dittmar for coordinating this “Care Abounds in Communities” opportunity.
- ◆ To the very dedicated “Children, Youth, & Family Ministry” Kairos Bold Step Team members. They stayed past our deadline hour to complete the Christian Values portion of our task which is included in the Kairos portion of this newsletter. Kim Thonhoff appreciates your thought provoking ideas. Thanks to all of you for your continued contributions.
- ◆ To Barbara “Gink” Luedecke for making the awesome “Faith Weaver—Weaving Faith into Families” banner, and for completing “The Weaving” banner from Sunday School Rally Day! Thanks to Bruce & Cindy Atwell for hanging “The Weaving” banner on the wall in the Second Story Commons Area!
- ◆ To Steve Kikta and Amelia Mettke for their extra help with our “Sunday Morning Welcome Fellowship Refreshments” during the summer. And, thank-you to the other “Welcome Teams” that are continuing this ministry each week.
- ◆ To our “2009 Vacation Bible School Music Team — The Cabooses” for leading the music at our “Kindermass” Worship Services on Sunday, August 30th: Tom Hokanson, Craig Hohertz, Tim & Beth Sump, Katherine & Emma Albin.
- ◆ To Lars Dove (son of Pat & Margaret Dove) for acquiring and framing the new door at our Activity Center, and to members of our Church Properties Board (Paul Atkinson, Director) for all their work with this project.



## BULLETIN BOARD

**THE NEXT NEWSLETTER** will be mailed on Wed., Sep. 30th. Please get your articles to the Church Office by Mon., Sep. 28th. Articles may be sent via e-mail to [abidinglove@austin.rr.com](mailto:abidinglove@austin.rr.com) or to [jhokanson@austin.rr.com](mailto:jhokanson@austin.rr.com), brought by the office on a CD or handwritten. Thank you notes or short announcements may be called in to Joan or Cindy, 892-4040.

**College students and graduates**, please send us your postal mailing and email addresses so that we can keep in touch with you!

**Ushers needed!** Please contact Jill Feary, 292-3465, if you would like to help out!

**Please check that the doors to the Worship Center catch the latch** whenever you are leaving the building. We’re having trouble with the doors remaining “ajar” when they should be closed. Thank you!

The new **LUTHERAN STUDY BIBLE** is available from the Church Office for \$28.50. Make checks payable to Abiding Love.

The **September issue of The Vista** is available at [www.swtsynod.org](http://www.swtsynod.org), under Congregational Resources. The September issue is a web-only issue and will not be printed and mailed to subscriber addresses.

### Thank You Notes continued...

- ◆ To all who participated in the “1 House at a Time” Christian Service Event on Saturday, Sep. 12th. The home owner was most appreciative for the improvements and repairs to her home, and for the energy/environmental benefits. For more information on this ongoing, monthly program, talk to church member Mike Frisch (301-1451), or go to the website at: [www.1houseatatime.org](http://www.1houseatatime.org)
- ◆ To the Mixed Blessings for their continued musical leadership at our second and fourth Sunday 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Services.
- ◆ To all who served at the Funeral Service and Reception for Ron Duncan on August 29th.



## ABIDING LOVE

### **Vision Statement**

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

### **Mission Statement**

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

### **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.





**Senior High Youth Group  
"The R.O.C.K."  
(Reliers on Christ the King)**

**R.O.C.K. sponsors:**

Jared & Callie Clarkson  
Angela Renfro  
Jeff Roberts

**September 19—5:00-11:00 p.m.—Sponsoring "Parent's Night Out" in Activity Center:**

The R.O.C.K. will care for children one year old and older. The children will be entertained with games, crafts, and a movie. Please bring a sleeping bag or blanket, and a pillow for each child for watching the movie.

Pizza will be provided for dinner.

The cost is \$10 per child; \$5 per additional child for the whole evening!

Please RSVP via email at:

[abiding.love.rock@gmail.com](mailto:abiding.love.rock@gmail.com)

If you need additional information, please contact a sponsor via email:

Callie Clarkson, [callie.clarkson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:callie.clarkson@sbcglobal.net)  
Angela Renfro, [momof3@austin.rr.com](mailto:momof3@austin.rr.com)

**September 27—Immediately following 11 a.m. Worship Service— Serving at luncheon honoring senior citizens with talent show**

**October 25—Service project collecting items and making "Homeless Goodie Bags"**

Will be requesting items from congregation. Collecting bottled water, 1 gallon Ziplock bags, pop-top Vienna sausages, white socks. Take donated items to the Sr. High Youth Room or hand to youth when you see them. Thanks in advance for your help!



**FIRST FRIDAY FREE MOVIE NIGHT!**

Our next **First Friday Free Movie Night** is **October 2nd** in the Activity Center! Make your plans to be there for free popcorn, hotdogs, and lemonade!

**Guess the name of this 1978 Disney movie after reading Wikipedia's description—**

"Reverend Michael Hill (Edward Herrmann) arrives in a mid-sized city as the new minister at North Avenue Presbyterian Church, filling the vacancy caused by Anne Woods' father's retirement. He is joined by his daughter Carmel (Melora Hardin). The secretary/music director for the church, Anne (Susan Clark), is wary of changes for the congregation intended by Hill. Hill wants to get people involved, and asks Mrs. Rose Rafferty (Patsy Kelly, in her final movie role) to handle the church's sinking fund.

At the first Sunday, Hill learns from Mrs. Rafferty that her husband Delaney (Douglas Fowley) bet all the sinking fund money on a horse race. Hill delivers a sermon less than 15 seconds long, then rapidly escorts Mrs. Rafferty out the church as astonished worshippers watch. She leads him to the bookie, hidden behind a dry-cleaning shop, and meets Harry the Hat (Alan Hale, Jr.), who recommends that Hill let the bet ride, at which point the race begins. Hearing other bettors cheering their horses, Hill urges on his horse, which loses. The bookie and his people lock Hill outside, without his pants. Hill summons the police, but the booking joint has been skillfully removed..."

**Can you name it?**

**Children's Choir Update**



The Alleluia Children's Choir has a willing director and will be starting up again soon. Heather Leonard, a music and drama education major, will be organizing this group in the very near future.

Watch for details in the newsletter and bulletin.

**Children's Center Corner**

I occasionally hear children whose emotions have gotten the best of them, and they will blurt out, "I'm not your friend anymore!" or "You can't come to my birthday party!"

However, what amazes me the most is how quickly they forgive! Children teach us (adults) valuable lessons every day! May the Lord grant each of us quick and unconditional forgiveness, like that of a child.

—Donna Eastty, Director



**Please note:**

We will celebrate our Children's Center staff with a blessing at the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service on September 27th!

Also, the Center is starting up it's "Grandparents" Program again! If you would like to help out with story time, crafts or other activities, please contact Donna Eastty or Terry Carnline at 892-2777.



**Middle School Youth Group**

**Sunday, September 27 at 6:00-8:00 p.m. — The Middle School Youth Group will be off and running with our first meeting —** Sixth, seventh, and eighth graders should join us in the Activity Center for a meal, and an evening of fun and games. We will also be planning some ideas for the coming year and deciding on a group name, so be sure to bring some ideas! See you there. Â Â

--Jill Hokanson and LuAnn Glowacz  
Middle School Sponsors



### What is Financial Peace University (FPU)?

FPU is the most important step to changing your financial future. It is your Total Money Makeover Program. It takes the knowledge from God and turns it into real action in our lives through a step-by-step process taught by best-selling author and financial counselor Dave Ramsey.

FPU is a 13-week life-changing program that empowers and teaches you how to make the right money decisions to achieve your financial goals and God's plan for your life. The course includes practical lessons on eliminating debt, building wealth, giving like never before, and much, much more!

### Who is Financial Peace University for?

It's for EVERYONE!...from the financially secure to the financially distressed. Over 650,000 families and individuals have attended Financial Peace University. Applying God's Word radically changes your life. On average, FPU graduates have paid off over \$5,300 in debt and saved \$2,700 during the 91-day program!

### What Will I Learn?

In this life-changing program you will learn:

#### 1. Step-by-Step Cash Flow Planning

Luke 14:28: "For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it."

#### 2. Debt Snowball Plan Technique to Eliminating Debt

Proverbs 22:7: "The borrower is slave to the lender."

#### 3. How to Invest Wisely

Ecclesiastes 11:2: "Give portions to seven, yes to eight, for you do not know what disaster may come upon the land."

Get Started Now!

### Testimonials:

#### Here's what people just like you are saying about FPU:

"We've actually relieved ourselves of over \$50,000 worth of debt in two years just from using these principles." - Russ and Mary Lee  
"It made us sit down as a couple and communicate... and it gave us an instant pay raise!" - Paul and Lynesa Benson

Next class begins Wednesday, September 16 at 7:00 p.m. It's not too late to sign up even if you missed the first class!

Thanks,  
Philip Drake  
philip.drake@gmail.com

**Parents' Class (New!)**  
**Meets in the Library at 9:45 a.m. on Sundays**  
**Taught by Ken & Diane Albin**  
**Value-Packed Parenting—**  
**Raising Rock-Solid Kids in a Pleasure-Driven World**  
**By Dr. Kevin Leman**

Seven Inspiring & Entertaining Video Lessons:

- 1) The Ten Best Gifts You'll Ever Give Your Kids
- 2) How to Listen So Kids Will Talk and How to Talk So Kids Will Listen
- 3) Discipline Isn't Spelled P-U-N-I-S-H-M-E-N-T
- 4) Ten Ways to Improve Your Child's Self-Confidence
- 5) Caution: Anger Ahead!
- 6) Birth Order – What You Need to Know About It
- 7) Standing Up to the New Goliath – Helping Kids Overcome the Negative Influences of the Internet, The Media, and Technology

### Adult Sunday School Class

**Meets in the Activity Center at 9:45 a.m.**  
**Taught by Pastor Lynnae Sorensen**  
**Giving to God—**  
**The Bible's Good News About Living a Generous Life**  
**Written by Mark Allan Powell**

### "Bible Boosters" Adult Study

**Meets in the Downstairs Classroom (1&2) at 9:45 a.m.**  
**Taught by Pat Dove, J.D. Lewis, and Paul Mettke**  
**Covenant Communities by Augsburg Fortress Publishers**

About our new Sunday School curriculum (Pre-K through 8th)...

### Group's FaithWeaver Sunday School – How FaithWeaver Works? Get Families Talking About Their Faith.



Ever notice? People talk about what's important to them. FaithWeaver® gets every member of the family talking about – and applying – the Bible Point to life. How? By having all ages explore the same Bible Point in separate classes. Families are on common ground when they talk about and live out their faith:

Daily Challenge® activity choices help family members put their faith into action each week.

One Bible Point simplifies teacher training and devotions, and provides a common theme for decorating.

Age-appropriate resources make Bible lessons memorable for each age level.

### SERMON SERIES for Abiding Love

Based on the book 'Giving to God' by Mark Allan Powell

#### Sept. 6: Introduction - Getting Completely Wet – Baptismal Stewardship

Key verse: Isaiah 35:6b-7

#### Sept 13: Belonging to God - An Act of Worship and An Expression of Faith

Key verse: Mark 8:34

#### Sept. 20: Spiritual Discipline

Key verse: James 3:13

#### Sept. 27: Our Duty and Delight – Faithful Living/Faithful Giving

Key verse: Mark 9:49-50

#### Oct. 4: Our Duty and Delight – Support and Sacrifice

Key verses: Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12

#### Oct. 11: Our Duty and Delight – How Much?

Key verses: Mark 10:17-31

About our new high school Sunday school curriculum...

### CoreTruth™—

**Is for high school youth groups serious about digging deeper.**

- \*\* When your teenagers are asking the hard questions...
- \*\* When easy Sunday school answers don't cut it any longer...
- \*\* When you're serious about equipping teenagers to stand strong... You're ready for CoreTruth.



Each quarter, CoreTruth explores three core beliefs—three truths your teenagers must address to have a solid faith foundation. Your students will experience Bible truth, and discover how it impacts them... and draws them closer to Jesus.



**Children, Youth, and Family Ministry  
Bold Step Team Update**

The Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Bold Kairos Step Team (CYF Team) continues to move forward on their tasks. We now have a list of Christian Values that we would like to see emphasized in our Family Education and Ministry programs at Abiding Love Lutheran Church. We would like to share them with you below:

**1. Trust in God.**

- . Revere God as the one and only God.
- . Believe God is the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- . Know that we are children of God.
- . Accept God’s everlasting love and care.

**2. Believe Jesus Christ is our Savior.**

- . Know the unconditional love of Jesus Christ.
- . Recognize that we need forgiveness.
- . Accept the gift of eternal life.
- . Rejoice and give thanks for our salvation.

**3. Pray Constantly.**

- . Learn multiple ways to pray.
- . Talk to God in good times and in bad times.
- . Relate intimately to God.
- . Pray with expectation.

**4. Study God’s Word.**

- . Believe the Bible is the Living Word of God.
- . Learn and apply Bible stories to daily living.
- . Find tools and truths to make wise choices.
- . Connect with the Scriptures every day.

**5. Learn to Follow Jesus.**

- . Study the teachings of Jesus.
- . Model the attributes of Jesus.
- . Proclaim the “Good News”.
- . Go and make disciples of others.

**6. Grow in the Spirit.**

- . Welcome the Holy Spirit as your guide.
- . Celebrate the gift of grace.
- . Seek spiritual renewal.
- . Enjoy the fruits of the Spirit.

**7. Live out your Faith.**

- . Weave yourself into church community.
- . Welcome others without judgment.
- . Devote yourself to a life of service.
- . Make choices based on Christian values.
- . Respect and care for God’s creation.
- . Be generous and give back your blessings.
- . Share God’s love boldly.

The CYF Bold Step Team will meet again on Wednesday, September 23, at 7:00 pm. We will begin to revise and edit our measurable goals and action steps which were outlined in our Vision statement.

We ask for your prayers as we continue to move forward through this challenging process. We thank you for the support that you have shared for the Kairos experience.



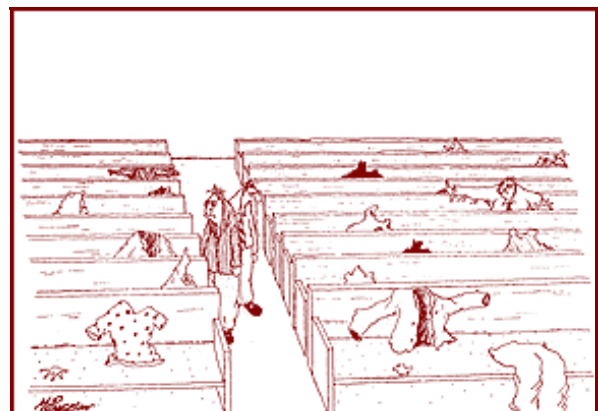
**ABIDING LOVE ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Thanks to all who have supported the upcoming “Chip In For Children” ALLC Golf Tournament with sponsorships, raffle prizes, goodie bag items, player fees, and other donations. Also, a big note of thanks to our South Travis Country Thrivent Chapter 30901 for donating matching funds— \$1 for every \$5 earned, up to \$1600! We appreciate all of you!

The Golf Committee would like to remind you that we will only be able to accept checks made out to “Abiding Love Lutheran Church” with “Children’s Center” on the byline or cash for payment of player fees, purchase of raffle tickets, or “Buy a Drive” options at the golf tournament on Monday, September 21. Also, we cannot accept any bills over \$50. We appreciate your cooperation. We do need your fees paid on or before Monday, September 21. Also, if you already know who is playing on your team or you are planning on playing on a team, please submit your team player names or your name as soon as possible. If we have your names before the tournament, you will be able to register quickly on Monday.

We have some amazing raffle prizes and a large number of prizes. If you are planning to donate raffle prizes or goodie bag items, please bring them to the church before Friday, September 18. If you would like to participate in the raffle but cannot attend the golf tournament, feel free to give your money to anyone on the Golf Committee or anyone in attendance who will purchase your raffle tickets and pick up your prize on Monday, September 21. The raffle tickets are 1 ticket for \$5 or 5 tickets for \$20. Join the fun and support our Children’s Center.

If you signed up to be a volunteer, Kim Thonhoff or Monica Lunday will be contacting you this week to confirm your attendance. Thanks, in advance, for your time and support. We believe the Closing Ceremony will begin around 5:30 pm or 6:00 pm. Feel free to join us at Grey Rock for the Closing activities and participate in the fun. Thanks again for support our Children’s Center!



Scandal rocked the Maple Valley Church when it was discovered that the choir had been lip-synching for the last six years.