



**ABIDING SAVIOR
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church
9700 West Newberry Road
Gainesville, Florida 32606

Connecting Jesus to People's Hearts!!!

NONPROFIT ORG.

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We are on the web!

www.abidingsavior.info

Luther's Evening Prayer

In the evening when you go to bed, make the sign of the cross and say:

"In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus

Christ, Your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For

into your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

Then go to sleep at once and in good cheer.



**"Connecting
Jesus to People's
Hearts**

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In His Arms Preschool Phone:
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Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

HEART TO HEART

January 2008

A Note From the Church Office

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Dear friends in Christ,

It is our joy and privilege as members of the staff at Abiding Savior to serve as partners in the Gospel with you. We have been overwhelmed by your generosity and kindness to us during this Advent and Christmas season. Thank you so much for the cards, gifts, food, and other tokens of love and appreciation you have bestowed upon us. We praise God for friends like you.

God never ceases to amaze us daily with His mercy and grace. We pray that throughout 2008 your hearts and ours may be filled continually with joy in knowing that the Lord has forgiven our sins and called us to be His very own sons and daughters.. May our eyes always twinkle with wonder at what God has done by sending His Son wrapped in flesh and blood as His special gift of love to the human race.

May the Lord grant you and yours a very blessed start to the New Year!

Your brothers and sisters in Christ,

Pastor Alan, Pastor EM, Dee, Eli & Debbie

Youth News

The youth group wants to give a HUGE thank you to all who ordered cookies from us before Christmas. Thanks to you we have almost \$400 to go to our furnishing fund!!!

Heidi also wants to thank everyone who helped contribute to her very generous Christmas gift. It means more than you could ever know!

Great things are in store for January. The youth will meet each week. This Sunday (January 13) eve-

ryone is invited to join us for a free night of skating at Skate Station! See Heidi at church for your coupons. We will meet at Skate Station at 5 p.m.

We will be having a lock in at First Lutheran with their youth on Thursday, Jan. 17. Heidi can't be there, but it would be nice to have a couple volunteers to help out Jessica. Please call Heidi if

you would like to take a shift.

Pastor EN will be running youth on Sunday, Jan. 20 so Heidi can hang out with her Grandma. Please call Heidi if you could cook dinner that night.

More good news! This spring when Heidi can't be at youth because she is traveling for her job, Pastor EN will still hold youth ... so we can still meet EVERY week!



Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me".

John 14:6

Meditation Trail

Happy New Year! January is a great month for being able to see "through" the woods since many of the leaves have fallen. You may still see a few late blooming flowers including the bromeliads with the pink flower spikes (I really do need to figure out their official name one of these days), the fire-

spike plant (Odontonema strictum), and the turk's-cap mallow (Malvaviscus arboreus) - until we have a really hard freeze. If you are lucky, you may even be able to spot the red-shouldered hawk instead of just hearing its call. This month I am ordering several loads of mulch

from GRU—time to work off that Christmas dinner! If you are interested in helping spread it out, contact me or the church office and I'll make sure you are notified when we have our mulch movers party. Mike Hein (Head Mulch Mover) at 372-1500 (work), 332-0830 (home), or hein@waterandair.com.

Prayer List for January

Members and Relatives

- Sue Andes (neuromuscular)
- Ken Bates (neck surgery)
- Trudy Bauroth (heart) H. Hahn's sister
- Barbara Brault (Parkinson's) Sue Andes' mom
- Suzanne Buth (Severe weakness, legs)
- Josephine Cavuoti (heart) M. Palumbo's mom
- John Cline at home (Parkinson's)
- Roxanne Cline (recovering from surgery)
- Pearl Condit's family (her passing)
- Collin Evans (cerebral palsy and seizures) Heidi's godson
- Jimmy Fleteau (health issues)
- Helen Hahn (CAT scan and tests)
- Jasmine Ibarra (developmental/growth issues) DJ's granddaughter
- Douglas Knuth (hit deer on motorcycle and broke back)
- Frank LaRoche (on oxygen) Shirley Jackson's cousin
- Ed and Marilyn Mengerink (health issues)
- Sierra O'Neil (CAT scan headaches) H. Hahn's granddaughter
- Helen Ramsammy (general health)
- Olivia Schultz (double knee replacement July 31, rehabilitation)
- Peggy Smythe (eyesight-Diabetes) S. Mazur's sister
- Haaken Spieberg (surgery on index finger) R. Chiarell's brother
- Marlene Stieve (breast cancer) Lana's aunt
- Dorothy Tilton (cancer) April's mom
- Ian Trutt (broke both legs in a fall at school) H. Hahn's grandson
- Nancy Watterson (needs a job) J.

Kranjovich's sister

- William Wiebold (developmental)
- June Wearstler (health problems) Len's aunt
- Sandy Wearstler (health issues) Len's cousin
- Doris Wollam (tests for serious health problems)

Friends

- Mark Alexander (prostate cancer) by Marge Evans
- Roger Augliera (esophageal cancer) by M. Palumbo
- Bob Borgman (dying of cancer) Schamens
- Matt Byler (leukemia, looking for bone marrow donor) husband of DCE Jessica Byler at First Lutheran
- Dana Cavarello (Stage four ovarian cancer)
- Trammell Dicks (serious auto accident) by M. Buth
- Bob Dillon (kidney problem) by H. Hahn
- Betty Dillon (Heart problems)
- Karl Eisenberg (non-Hodgkins lymphoma; pray that he comes to the Lord) by P. Mandeville
- Preston Green (bone marrow transplant) by D. Gravenstein
- Mary Pauli (staph) related to customer of S. Buth
- June Strong (bad fall/in nursing home) by Heidi Johnson
- Virginia Stuber (heart surgery/lung cancer) by H. Hahn

Pray for our Pastors and their families
Pray for victims of disasters (storms, fire, flood, etc.)

Pray for Divorce Ministry

Pray for our leaders and our country



PRAY

Praise God

Remember—

Jesus was sent for us

Ask

Yield—Not my will, but Yours be done

Pray for our military serving in harms way: Jonathan Traina, Karl Kuga, Jeremiah Wagner
Sympathy: Paul Schroeder family (Dian Dudeck's uncle)

Prayer requests can be phoned into the church (331-4409) or Muriel Young (332-1386).

Liturgical Ministries

| <u>Greeters</u> | <u>8:30 a.m.</u> | <u>11 a.m.</u> |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| January 6 | Mike & Gabi H. | Len & Muriel Y. |
| January 13 | Mike & Gabi H. | Steve Buth |
| January 20 | Werning family | Helen Hahn |
| January 27 | Bob & Charlene G. | Marie G. |

| <u>Ushers</u> | <u>8:30 a.m.</u> | <u>11 a.m.</u> |
|---------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| January 6 | Flateau family, Don & Derek B. | Available ushers |
| January 13 | Dudeck family, Ed & Robert | Available ushers |
| January 20 | Dudeck family, Ed & Robert | Available ushers |
| January 27 | Tom, Claude, Paul & Vicki | Available ushers |

| <u>Readers</u> | <u>8:30 a.m.</u> | <u>11 a.m.</u> |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| January 6 | Bob Engwall | Chuck Moss |
| January 13 | Beth Graeler | Bob Jacobs |
| January 20 | Kathy Prevatt | Paul Mandeville |
| January 27 | Jill Hendrickson | Kjerstin Terry |

| <u>Alcolytes</u> | <u>8:30 a.m.</u> | <u>11 a.m.</u> |
|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| January 6 | | Zoey H. |
| January 13 | Nick S. | Chris M. |
| January 20 | Kathleen L. | Loren T. |
| January 27 | John D. | |

Altar Committee

Altar Team for JANUARY Kathy Prevatt (chair) Suzanne Buth, Michelle Buth, Lois Lane

Altar Team for FEBRUARY Muriel Young (chair) Laurie Knuth, JoAnne Peterson, DeeAnn Gravenstein



For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16



Construction Update

What awesome weather we have been blessed with. Progress has become quite apparent with the exterior wood walls going up. They are 10 feet tall. The trusses are 90% complete. Plywood sheathing over the trusses is forming the final shape of the roof. The octagon looks HUGE. That's because it is. It is 20 feet tall to the top of the walls, and 30 feet across. Each segment of the octagon measures 12 feet five inches.

The Scholz Family Life Center is being built to serve our congregation for many years to come. We are using 5/8 inch plywood on the roof. An upgrade over the standard 1/2 inch sheathing.

Also, the plywood is foil backed to keep the attic cooler in the summer by 20-40 degrees thus saving on energy bills. The foil backed sheathing does cost more, yet the energy savings pays back the difference within 3 years. After that the savings continue on for the duration.

The exterior walls are 2 x 6. This allows for more insulation in the walls while making them almost twice as strong structurally. After the framing, about two more weeks, we will begin Plumbing, Electrical, HVAC and Fire Sprinkler System.

Stop by and check out the interior rooms in the building. They are generally 20 by 30 feet. Look for the door frames and windows being installed soon.

See You at The Site,

Ed Herder



Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19



OWLS Outing

AN OWLS NEW YEARS GET TOGETHER!

WE ARE GOING OUT TO DINNER

JOIN US ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 17TH AT THE IVY HOUSE IN ALACHUA AT 6:00PM



For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.

Ephesians 2:8



1. I will need people to carpool for those who don't like to drive at night. Please let me know where you can pick people up at (church, home, & how many you can take?)
2. I will need to know your menu choices
 - 1) *Oven baked crispy chicken*
 - 2) *Southern fried shrimp (baked potato or fries)*
 Also choose: a) *honey mustard or raspberry vinaigrette salad dressing.*
3. I will need to have your correct amount of money paid to me by Sunday, January 13th. They can not take separate checks or cash for large groups. The amount includes tax and gratuity. Please make the checks to Marjorie Evans- so that I can write just one check to the Ivy House.
4. Both menus are the same price and include tax and gratuity- \$17.58

Call me if you have any questions-332-4616
-Marj

Fellowship Opportunities

Young At Heart

Bible Study on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday Every Month at 10AM at the church. They are continuing their study on Luther's Small Catechism.

JOY (Just Older Youngsters)

When: The first Friday each month at 11:30 Why: To meet new people, make friends, celebrate friendships and play games. Bring a sandwich. Contact Fran Jacobs at (386) 462-4558

High Spring Bible Study

3rd Tuesday of Every Month

Come join us for fellowship and Bible study in a relaxed atmosphere. We'd love to have you!

Contact Laurie Knuth for directions or questions (386) 454-4360

OWLS (Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors):

This month the OWLS are meeting at the Ivy House in Alachua for dinner. See insert on page 4. Contact Fran Jacobs at (386) 462-4558 for the latest information on OWLS activities.

Men's Bible Study

Join your brothers in Christ for bible study and fellowship on the last Saturday of each month at 8 a.m. Contact Pastor Nevis for more information.

Youth Meal and Bible Study

All youth sixth grade and up join together for games, Bible study (we are currently talking about water in the Old and New Testament and how it relates to us today) and dinner. Con-

tact Heidi Johnson at hider_j@hotmail.com for more information.

Wednesday Night Meals

Kjersten Terry and Susan Moss are preparing meals for all that are taking part in Wednesday night activities. Wednesday nights include music ministry rehearsals, confirmation classes and Bible studies! Call the church office for more information.

Divorce Care

Divorce care will start a new session on February 6, 2008. Please contact Tom Tappy for more information.

Thursday Morning

Join Pastor Nevis every other Thursday mornings at 9:00am for a Parenting Bible Class.



In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:1



| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | 1 | 2 MUSIC MINISTRY BIBLE STUDY | 3 | 4 11:30 JOY | 5 |
| 6 Services 8:30 a.m. 11 a.m. Youth 5-7 | 7 | 8 Young at Heart 10am | 9 MUSIC MINISTRY BIBLE STUDY | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 Services 8:30 a.m. 11 a.m. Youth 5-7 | 14 8:30 am Preschool Team Mtg. | 15 High Springs Bible Study | 16 MUSIC MINISTRY BIBLE STUDY | 17 6:00pm OWLS AT THE IVY HOUSE. | 18 | 19 |
| 20 Services 8:30 a.m. 11 a.m. Youth 5-7 | 21 | 22 10:00 am Young at Heart | 23 MUSIC MINISTRY BIBLE STUDY | 24 Parenting Bible Class 9:00am | 25 10:00 am Helping Hands Ministry | 26 8:00am Men's Bible Study |
| 27 Services 8:30 a.m. 11 a.m. Youth 5-7 | 28 | 29 | 30 MUSIC MINISTRY BIBLE STUDY | 31 | | |

Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

- 1/1-Amy & Sandy Eugene
- 1/3- Edith Young
- 1/4-Susan Moss
- 1/5-Chris Annis & Matthew Gustafson
- 1/6-Terry Heinser, Kenna Prins
- 1/7-John Knuth
- 1/9-Betty Holland
- 1/11- David Buth
- 1/12- Jan Banks
- 1/13-Sara Riley
- 1/14-Spencer Nevis
- 1/16-Corrienne Werning
- 1/18-Olivia Schultz, Paul Witte
- 1/19- Linda Bowen
- 1/22-Kenny Bates, Martin Goode
- 1/23-Kathy Floyd
- 1/24-Lenny Terry
- 1/26-Gabriele Hein
- 1/27-Dustin Banks, Judith Buchanan
- 1/28-Jenny Bolick
- 1/31-Richard Sankey

ANNIVERSARIES

- 1/1-Walter & Alice Crosby
Matt & Nicole Forester
James & Robyn Greco
- 1/12-Robert & Kathy Prevatt
- 1/26-Len & Muriel Young

Music Ministry News

Well, the first half of the current Music Ministry “season” is over, and it’s been another great experience – at least for me. I continue to be amazed at the depth of talent and commitment exhibited by folks in all our choirs. Even the children this year have been particularly consistent in attendance, and quick to learn their songs. It’s been a delight to work with all – both young and old.

I was especially pleased with this year’s Christmas programs. The Choristers added so very much to “A Lamb’s Tale” – Heidi’s awesome production of this year Children’s Christmas Pageant. We loved it so much we decided to “reprise” one of the songs at the Dec 19 mid-week Advent Service AND the 6:00pm Christmas Eve Service. Hope all of you enjoyed it as much as we did. And, of course, those Services

would not have been as inspiring without our little Cherubs telling us in song that “Christ is Born! Christ is Born! Noel, Noel!”

And what can I say about the combined efforts of the Senior Choir and the Praise Band in their presentation of “GOD/MAN” – this year’s Christmas Cantata. It’s been one of my favorite Christmas cantatas since I first presented it over 30 years ago! And I’ve had the opportunity to present it a number of times since then at various churches. But I have never felt the spirit of the music more than I did this year – a direct result of the talent and dedication of the members of our music ministry. Thanks to all of you for giv-

ing me the pleasure of directing your efforts.

But . . .we certainly can’t take any time to rest on our laurels (or should I say holly). Believe it or not, Lent begins Feb 6 – just a few weeks from now! And Easter, that most holy day of the church year, falls on Mar 23! (Pastor En has said that’s the very earliest it can happen given the various considerations the church uses to select the date.) So, we’ll actually have started preparing our Easter Cantata before you get this newsletter! It’s a good thing we love our “work”! See you around the Lord’s vineyard. And let’s all keep singing as we work that vineyard together.

-Eli



All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. 2 Timothy 3:16



Divorce Care News

This is a 13-week support group for the divorced or separated. Some of those attending were not married, but were in long term relationships. This is a hybrid program that combines a 35-minute video of experts (psychologists, councilors, authors, theologians and pastors) on divorce recovery. There is also a workbook that the group uses for notes and discussion. The facilitators work to keep the group on topic. The program is open so anyone can join regardless of what session or topic we are covering.

Our next session begins Wednesday, February 6th and continues every Wednesday through May 21st. We're off for Spring Break and for Easter.

The facilitators for the adult group are Paul and Julianne Witte and Tom Tappy. Ritzy Ettinger will be facilitating the Divorce Care for Kids program. We are always looking for new facilitators who we can train to join use in this very rewarding ministry.

Over the past four years we have seen the Holy Spirit change peoples lives. Watching people move from anger, depression, or unforgiveness and return their focus on Christ. We have even had participants join our church and witnessed the restoration of two marriages. More than 60 people have benefited by this outreach program.

Abiding Savior offers a safe place to find help, discover hope and experience healing. Please consider joining us as a facilitator. It really isn't difficult. We also ask that you spread the word to those in need of a support group. We have had people attend who were divorced or separated years ago, but have yet to heal in Christ.



That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Romans 10:9



General Announcements

Watch this space for general announcements, help wanted, address changes, thank yous, etc. if you have something for this section please email to hider_j@hotmail.com by the 20th of each month

Helping Hands

The Alachua County Volunteer Office recently lost its funding and will be closing. This creates greater need than ever before in our community. In order to help with some of this need, Helping Hands will continue to collect food items. Our food cabinet is almost bare and we need to fill it up! We will also use some food and monetary donations to help put together holiday

baskets for needy families.

We will also have an ongoing school supply collection with donations going to Lake Forest Elementary.

We will also again ask for donations for Coats for Kids, to provide area children with coats when the weather cools down. This project also includes high school stu-

dents, so all sizes are needed.

Thank you to everyone who purchased items for our families on the Star Tree! You helped to make many people's holidays much brighter! We are proud to belong to such a giving congregation.



But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Acts 1:8

